Sustainable transitions in the water sector: Results from three case studies
Anja Peters, Claudia Hohmann, Katharina Eckartz, Jutta Niederste-Hollenberg, Thomas Hillenbrand

Project aim:
- Analysis of niches with sustainable potential in the research fields of energy, water and accommodation
- Identification of promising niches and measures to promote diffusion while considering synergies

Niches in the water sector
- New sanitary systems to reuse resources and close material and water cycles
- Sustainable and integrated rain water management
- Centrally organized decentral water sewage treatment plants

Research questions of case study
- Driving and inhibiting factors?
- Sustainability goals and effects?
- Potential future development and measures?

Preliminary results: relevant factors
- Financial incentives and funding enable realization
- Legal framework often impedes, sometimes promotes implementation depending on its design
- Significant efforts of persuasion necessary to gain relevant stakeholders’ acceptance and support
- Early integration of stakeholders ensures successful realization
- Chance of financial savings motivates implementation
- Availability and training of service staff
- Path dependency due to durable infrastructure

Preliminary results: sustainability effects
- Increased energy efficiency, reuse of energy, nutrient recovery, reduced water consumption
- Implementation of close-to-nature water cycle, reduced risk of floods, better climate in urban areas
- Reduced water pollution, higher comfort for users, (lower costs)

Next steps
- Analysis of future development and measures
- Scenario workshops and experimental games
- Synthesis: Comparison of three case studies
- Cross-sectoral guidance for relevant stakeholders

Further information: http://transnik.de
Contact person: Claudia.Hohmann@isi.fraunhofer.de