

It's easy to walk around cities looking for buildings and spaces – but there's also a sense that things are changing underneath. When a bus-stop is an internet café, or when a quiet rural village is a global urban hub, we have to rethink – what are cities or rural areas, what is their role, and for who? Such questions are the start of the Integrated Envisions program of BEMINE. These Integrated Envisions help to explore cross-cutting, inter-connecting forms of knowledge. They aim towards new insights on urban systems and urban challenges, beyond the horizon of any one study or scientific field. The Envisions aim to look beyond current knowledge, to map alternative futures, to generate new ideas in response, and then to plan the actions needed for positive outcomes. Each Envision contains four parts:

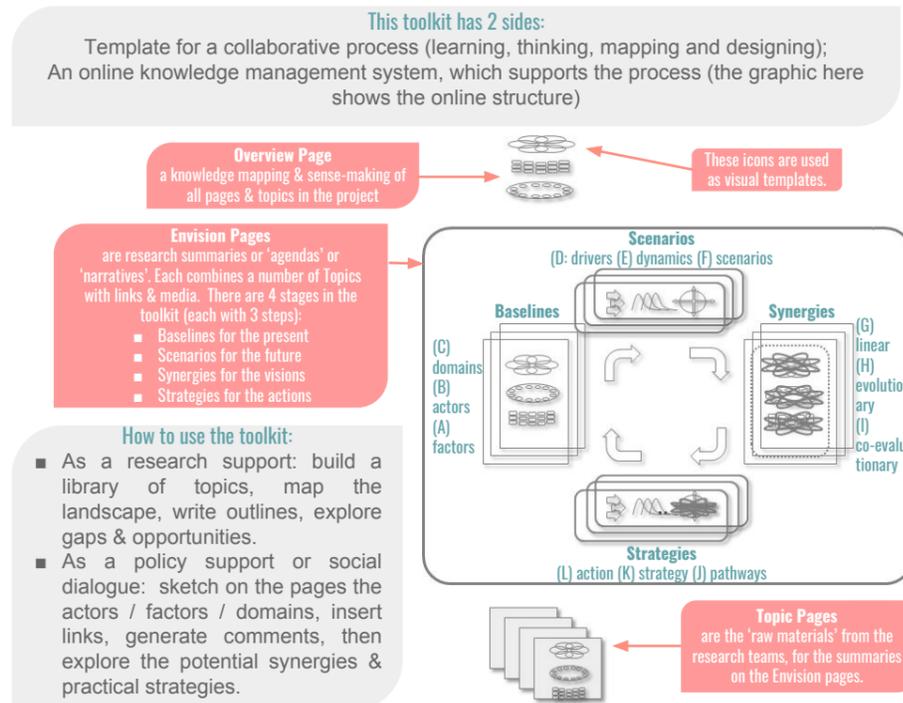
- **'Baselines'** – problems, challenges, and the underlying systems, in the present; (on this 1st poster)
- **'Scenarios'** – forces of change, uncertainty, and alternatives in the future; (on the 2nd poster).
- **'Synergies'** – opportunities, innovations and inter-connections, for the future; (in 2019).
- **'Strategies'** – pathways and roadmaps for action which links the future to the present; (in 2019).

The Integrated Envisions are cross-cutting, inter-connecting forms of knowledge in the Bemine project. They aim towards new insights on urban systems and urban challenges, beyond any one study or scientific field. The Envisions aim to explore beyond current knowledge, to map alternative futures, to generate new ideas in response, and then to plan the actions needed for positive outcomes. This poster is an outline of the first stage of the Envision Toolkit, the 'Baselines' for the current situation.

HOW ARE THE BASELINE ENVISIONS PRODUCED?

This method is based on the Synergetics methods and tools (www.manchester.ac.uk/synergetics). The BEMINE project provides a kind of laboratory to develop these ideas. For the Baselines, we started with a knowledge mapping of 66 topics (i.e. 'units of knowledge'), supplied by all the project partners. Each topic was put on a template from the synergistic method, i.e. 'actors / factors / domains'. These were processed by network analysis, to produce a simple 'knowledge mapping' of the field: the 'areas of search' are explored further by interactive discussion.

INTEGRATED ENVISION TOOLKIT



'BASELINE' ENVISIONS

The Baselines are the first stage of four in the synergistic process: they point towards the Scenarios, Synergies and Strategies. These are the preliminary Baseline Envisions, each suggesting a space 'beyond' that of present-day knowledge:

- **'BEYOND SMART: CITIES BUT NOT AS WE KNOW THEM'**: new urban systems are emerging, with the catalyst of digital technology, which change the structures of economy and society.
- **'BEYOND MOBILITY: SOMEWHERE VERSUS ANYWHERE'**: there are powerful forces for globalization and networks, but also powerful reactions for local economies and landscapes.
- **'BEYOND THE TECHNICAL: SERVICE VERSUS EXPERIENCE'**: most urban policy aims to provide services, such as health, education or housing: but what if the people are more interested in 'experiences'?
- **'BEYOND THE URBAN: METRO-VILLAGE PLANET-IZENS'**: new patterns of rural-urban living and working, lead towards new peri-urban / peri-rural settlement patterns, a challenge for spatial planning.

