The Politics of Transformative Research
T2S Mid-term Workshop
June 2020
Migration as transformation
Concepts that underpin MISTY

• Migration is transformative of individual’s lives
  • Economic opportunities, cross-generational mobility, identity

• Migration is transformative of societies
  • Convergence of behavior in migration destinations
  • Place identity and incentives for sustainable places

• Models of sustainability transitions underplay migration and demographic transitions

• Migration governance, in parallel with climate governance, has been securitized
Measuring and modelling migration-sustainability for 130 countries
What does a sustainable city mean?
How secure do you feel?
Does the city work for you?
Do you love this place?

Sample of 90 migrants – intensive research methods
Sample of 1500 migrant and non-migrant participants

Sustainable practices
Evolution of social norms in cross-cultural settings
Lifecourse decisions and return migration
How does the COVID19 crisis affect practices perceptions, attitudes and behaviours: related to security, mobility, distance and isolation, sustainable consumption, and community in migrant and non-migrant populations?

Re-interview of 90 migrants – intensive research methods
What are the connections between the governance of migration and the governance of sustainability?

How do local policies address the role of migration in the transformation towards sustainability?
Global, e.g.:
- UNFCCC & COP
- GCM
- SDGs

Local, e.g.:
- Mayors Migration Council
- C40
- City officials and civil servants
Conclusion

• Next steps
• Impact and policy engagement in the critical upcoming years
• Post-COVID pathways to sustainability –
  • mobility and migration contested
  • Inequality revealed and the need for inclusive multi-dimensional transformations
  • Political conflation between mobility and migration as constraint on positive pathways to sustainability