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## System design for sustainability for all: S.PSS design applied to distributed economies

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# RSD7

## CHALLENGING COMPLEXITY BY SYSTEMIC DESIGN TOWARDS SUSTAINABILITY

Politecnico di Torino

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# System Design for Sustainability for All

## Sustainable Product-Service System (S.PSS) Design applied to Distributed Economies (DE)

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LeNS - Learning Network on Sustainability

coordinator LeNSin - international Learning Network of networks on Sustainability (EU erasmus+)



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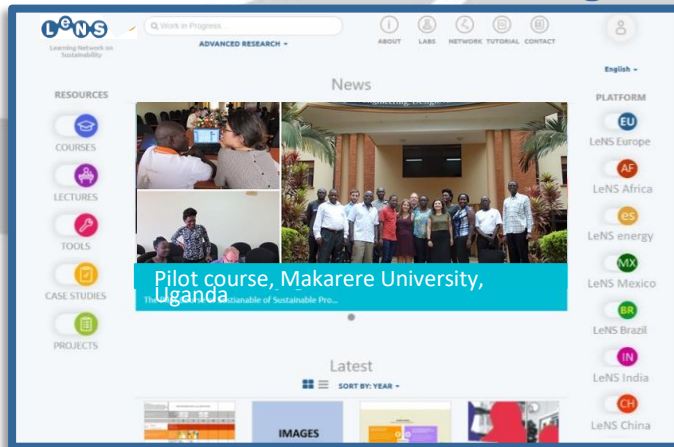
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2. Distributed Economies (DE)
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# 1. THE RESEARCH CONTEXT: LeNSin EU ERASMUS+ PROJECT

the **international Learning Network of networks on Sustainability**  
 Multipolar and open network of network for curricula development on **Design for Sustainability**, focused  
 on **Sustainable Product-Service Systems (S.PSS)** applied to **Distributed Economies (DE)**.

[www.lens-international.org](http://www.lens-international.org)



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 Cape Craft and Design Centre, Cape Town, South Africa

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## 2. DISTRIBUTED ECONOMIES (DE)

*... since ~ 2005 have been studied as a promising model for locally-based sustainability*





MANY PROCESSES OF CENTRALISATION RESULTED IN BEING  
ENVIRONMENTALLY, SOCIOETHICALLY (AND ECONOMICALLY)  
UNSUSTAINABLE



# DISTRIBUTED ECONOMIES (DE): A CLASSIFICATION

(LeNSin Erasmus+ project consortium, 2018)

## HARDWARE/RESOURCE-BASED DE



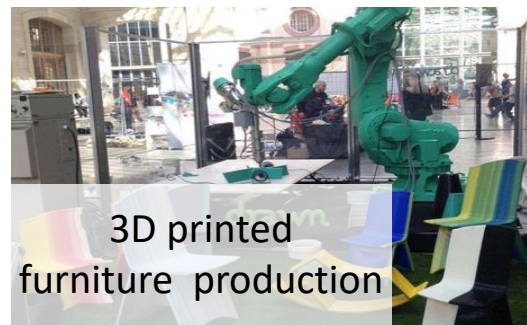
**Distributed energy  
Generation (DG)**



**Distributed production  
of Food (DF)**



**Distributed Water  
management (DW)**



**Distributed  
Manufacturing (DM)**

## KNOWLEDGE/INFORMATION-BASED DE

**Distributed Software  
development (DS)**

open source  
software



open  
encyclopaedia

**WIKIPEDIA**  
The Free Encyclopedia

**Distributed  
Information/knowledge  
generation (DI)**

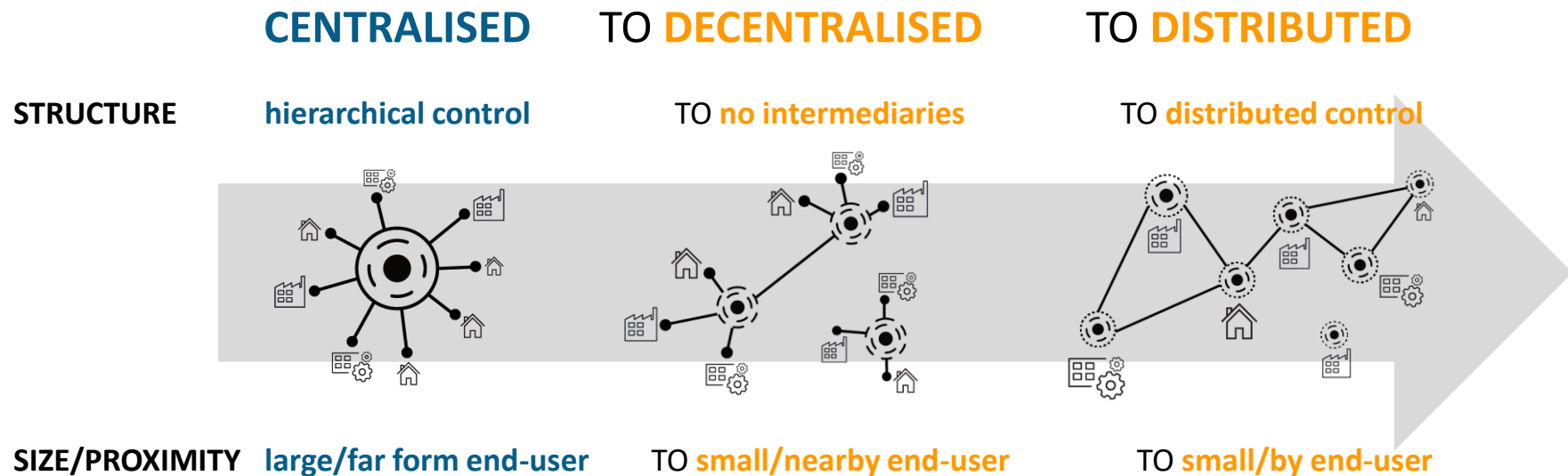
**Distributed  
Design (DD)**





# DISTRIBUTED ECONOMIES (DE):

a paradigm shift from **centralized large** production unit and distribution system to ...



... **small scale locally-based** production units empowering end-user control on essential activities

+ (eventually) peer-to-peer **network-structured** to optimise production and consumption by sharing resources and/or goods and/or information/knowledge + to improve system resilience

## DISTRIBUTED ECONOMIES: LOCALLY-BASED SUSTAINABILITY BENEFITS

(LeNSin Erasmus+ project consortium, 2018)

### ENVIRONMENTAL POTENTIAL BENEFITS

- . DE engage **local** users directly interested to **safeguard** the **environment** and the **resources availability** of the context in which they leave/work
- . DE **reduce** overall goods **distribution**

### SOCIOETHICAL POTENTIAL BENEFITS

- . DE gives to **local** users **direct access** to resources + increasing their **participation** in the **extraction, production, use** and **disposal**

### 3. S.PSS APPLIED TO DE: SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL



# SUSTAINABLE PRODUCT-SERVICE SYSTEM (S.PSS)

## A DEFINITION

“an offer model providing an integrated mix of products and services that are together able to fulfil a particular customer demand (to deliver a “unit of satisfaction”), based on innovative interactions between the stakeholders of the value production system, where the provider/s retain the ownership of the product/s and/or offer all inclusive life cycle services, so that the economic interest of the provider/s continuously seeks environmentally and/or socioethically beneficial new solutions”

[LeNSin, 2018]

## OFF GRID Electric

M-POWER (provider)

Tanzania

## example of S.PSS APPLIED TO DE (DG)

The M-POWER company offers to Tanzania rural people a **Solar Home System (SHS)** which includes: the hardware to generate solar energy (**Solar panel + Storage + Wires**) + Energy Using Products (EUP) (**two lights + phone charger**). Customers pay as a **pay per period** (daily fees). Off Grid Electric retains **ownership** of **SHS** and **EUPs**.

**Cutting initial and life cycle costs** of DE hardware make it accessible and sustainable in time to low-income people (to all).

M-POWER is **economically interested** to offer **long lasting, efficient and easy recyclable** products.



# S.PSS APPLIED TO DE: WIN-WIN OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL

SELLING

PRODUCT

TO "UNIT OF SATISFACTION"

INNOVATION

cut initial + life cycle costs of DE hardware >

Product-oriented

Result-oriented

Use-oriented

CUSTOM VALUE

extending DE access + sustainable use to low-income (all)

end-users and entrepreneurs

STRUCTURE

CENTRALISED

TO DECENTRALISED

AND DISTRIBUTED

increase market opportunities (BoP) > increase local entrepreneurship, hence employment and skills

DE  
Energy  
DProduct  
DSoftware  
DInformation  
DDesign

ownerless DE and/or all-inclusive life cycle services > foster low environmental impact DE design

IN LOW/MIDDLE-INCOME (ALL) CONTEXTS

## 4. DESIGN OF S.PSS APPLIED TO DE: A NEW SYSTEM DESIGN ROLE

# SYSTEM DESIGN FOR SUSTAINABILITY FOR ALL: APPROACHES AND SKILLS

## 100K GARAGES

### . “SATISFACTION-SYSTEM” APPROACH

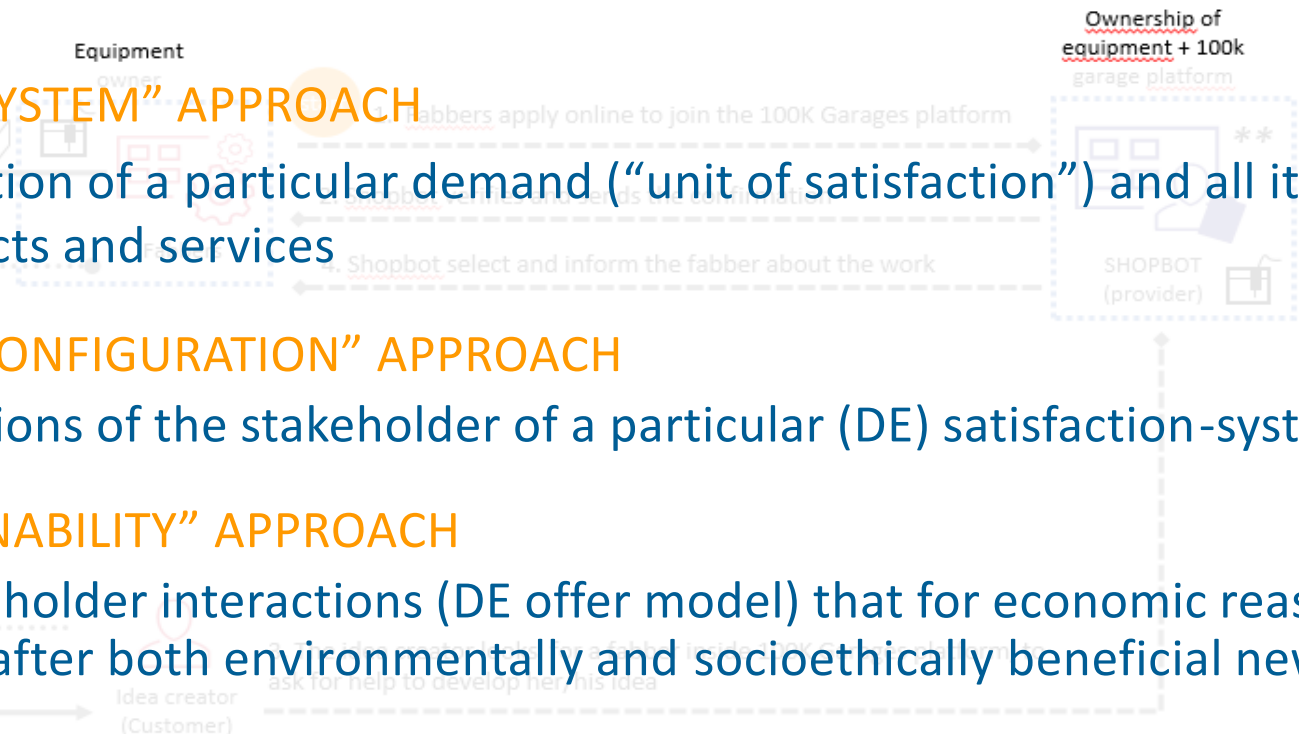
design the satisfaction of a particular demand (“unit of satisfaction”) and all its related (DE) products and services

### . “STAKEHOLDER CONFIGURATION” APPROACH

design the interactions of the stakeholder of a particular (DE) satisfaction-system

### . “SYSTEM SUSTAINABILITY” APPROACH

design such a stakeholder interactions (DE offer model) that for economic reasons continuously seek after both environmentally and socioethically beneficial new solutions



Flows Legend Information ■ ■ ■ Labor — Finance • • • Materials —

Product ownership

Partnership of providers

# SYSTEM DESIGN FOR SUSTAINABILITY FOR ALL



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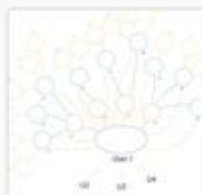
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MX LeNS Mexico

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S.PSS&DE concept description form

Interaction Storyboard S.PSS\_DE (EN)

SDOScenario for S.PSS and DE (EN)

IEIOU Mapping

system map S.PSS&DE (EN)

ICS-q1\_en

Sustainability Design-Orienting (SDO) toolkit for S.PSS\_DE (EN)

Interaction Table (EN)

**IMAGES**

gethor Analysis

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150 CASES



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