

# Cities' transition governance practices for sustainable urban freight systems

**WORK IN PROGRESS BY**

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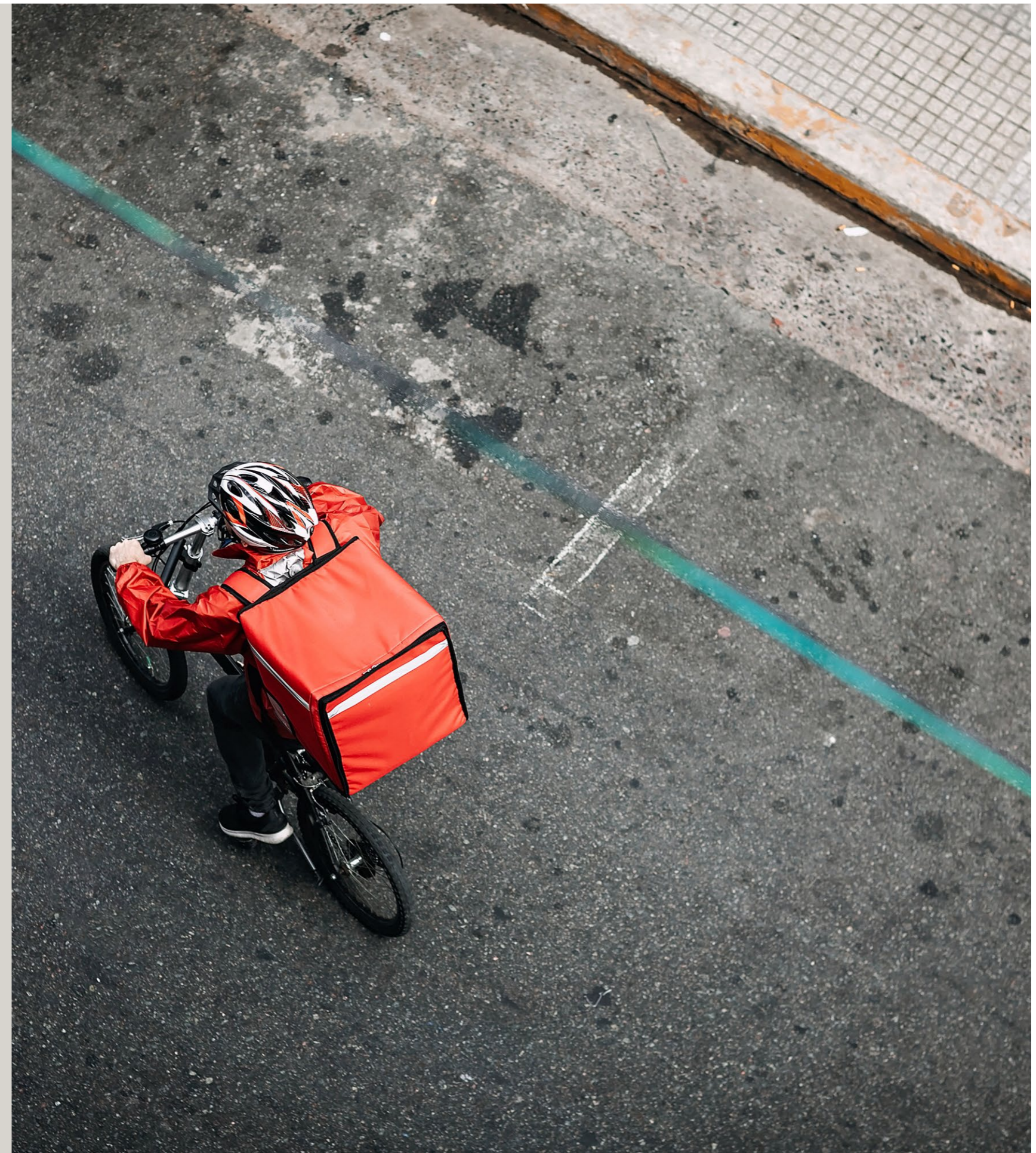
# Background

- Urban freight activities grow, provide value but also negative externalities
- Cities and municipalities commit to sustainability goals
- Urban freight must develop toward these goals
- Cities have difficulties guiding the development of urban freight systems



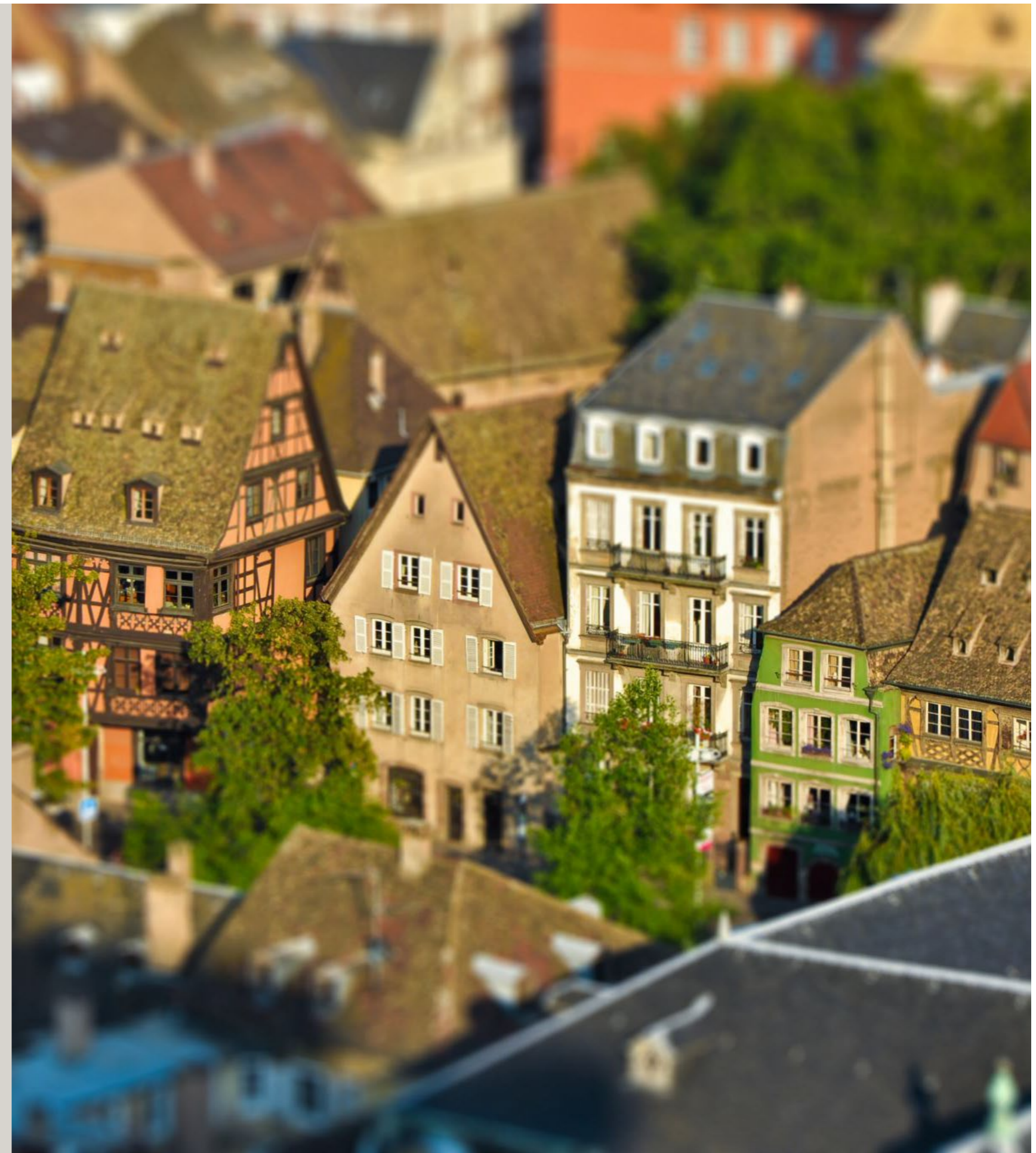
# Purpose

- Explore how city managements govern their urban freight systems toward sustainability
- Understand why they use approaches
- Identify practices which support transitions



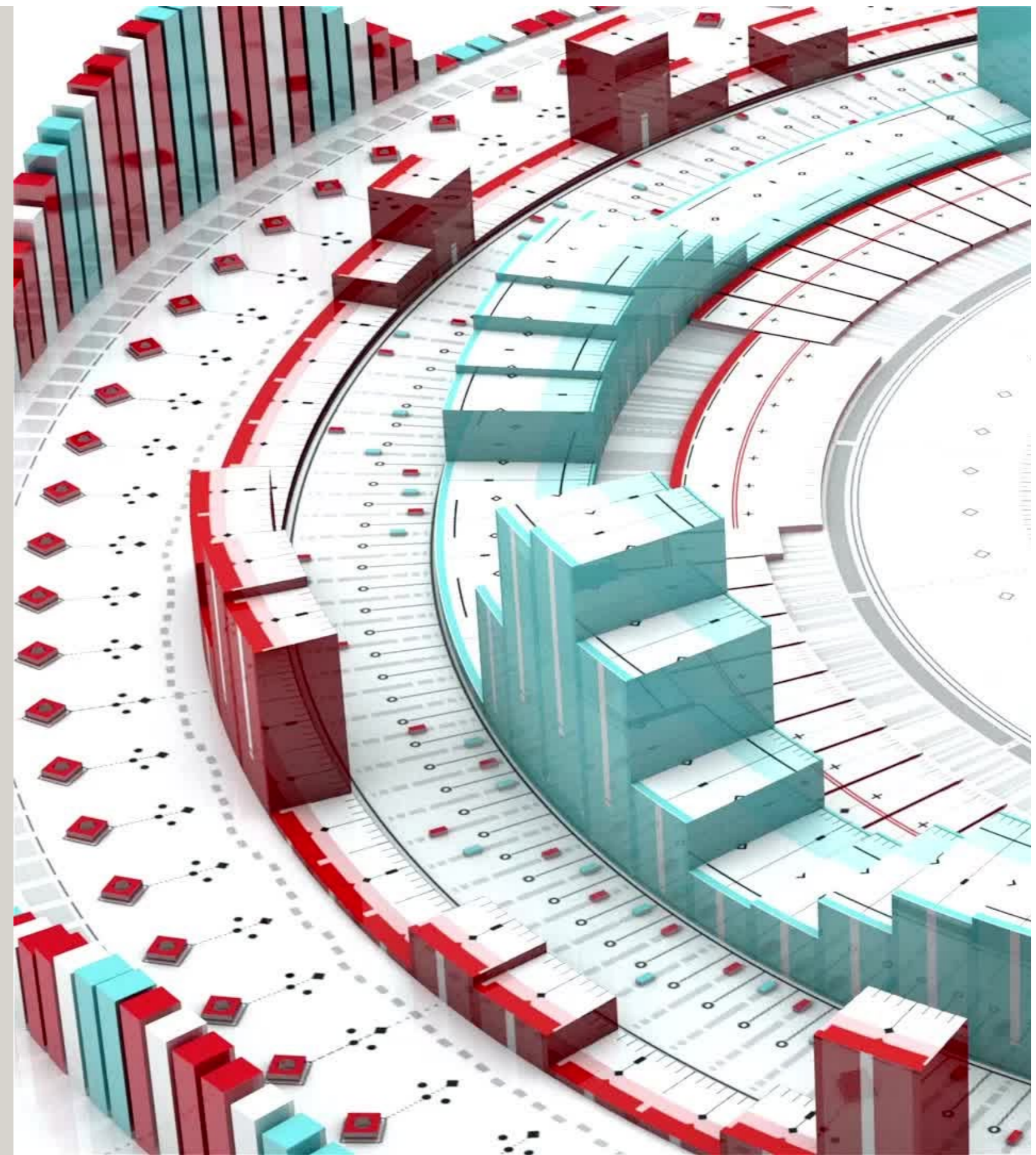
# Method

- Study governance practices
  - Focus on sustainable urban freight (SUF) transitions
  - Six Swedish cities with 50-200k inhabitants
  - Geographically dispersed
  - Climate neutral 2030 commitment
  - Identified top location in Sweden by logistics industry
- Semi-structured interviews
- Analytical framework



# The analytical framework

1. A multi-level perspective on transitions (Geels, 2011)
2. The transition management framework for sustainable development (Loorbach, 2010)
3. Model for managed change processes in urban freight systems (Kervall and Pålsson, 2022)

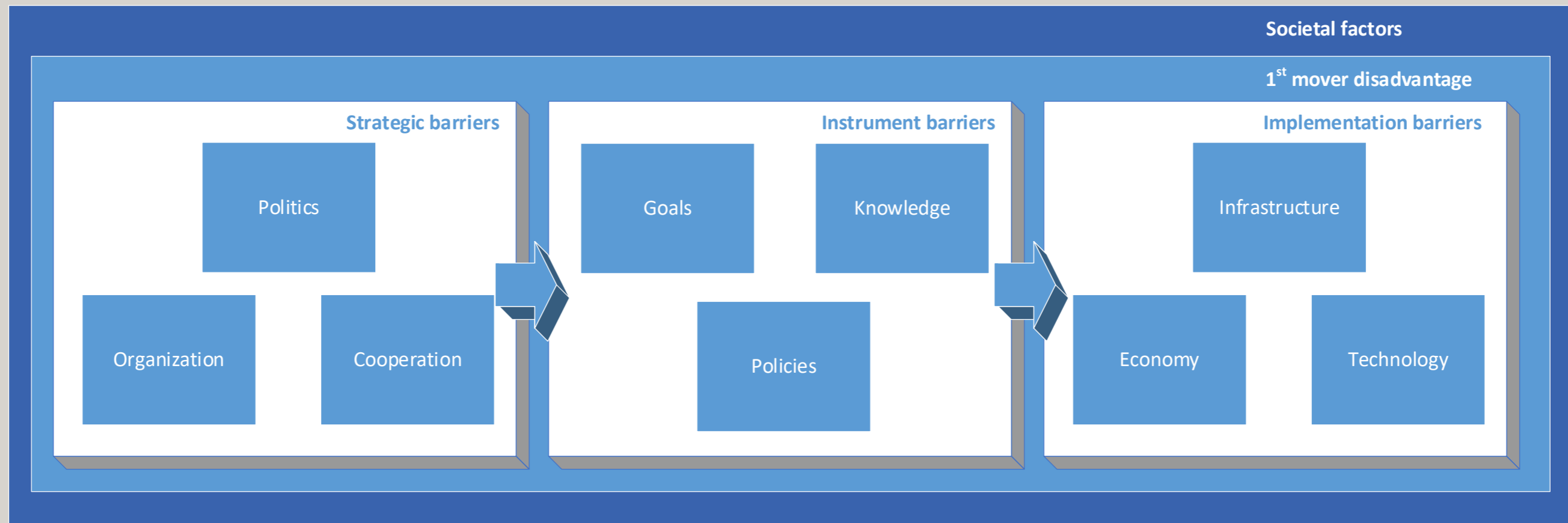


# The transition management framework



Adapted from LOORBACH, D. 2010. Transition Management for Sustainable Development: A Prescriptive, Complexity-Based Governance Framework. *Governance*, 23, 161-183.

# Managed change processes in urban freight systems



From KERVALL, M. & PÅLSSON, H. 2022. Barriers to change in urban freight systems: a systematic literature review. *European Transport Research Review*, 14, 29.

# Transition management for SUF (city 1&2)

## Structure problem, envision, establish transition arena

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Societal context.<br>Unsystematized<br>monitoring. | Societal context.<br>Unsystematized<br>and systematized<br>monitoring. |
|--|--|

## Develop coalitions and images

|  |   |
|--|---|
| None for SUF (but for<br>growth as logistics node) | Cooperates with actors<br>on all governance levels<br>for sustainable transport.<br>Attractive climate neutral<br>growth-oriented city. |
|--|---|

## Develop transition agendas

|  |   |
|--|---|
| None for SUF (but for<br>growth as logistics node) | Sustainable transport<br>incl. SUF. Passenger 1st,<br>freight 2nd priority. |
|--|---|

## Monitor, evaluate, learn

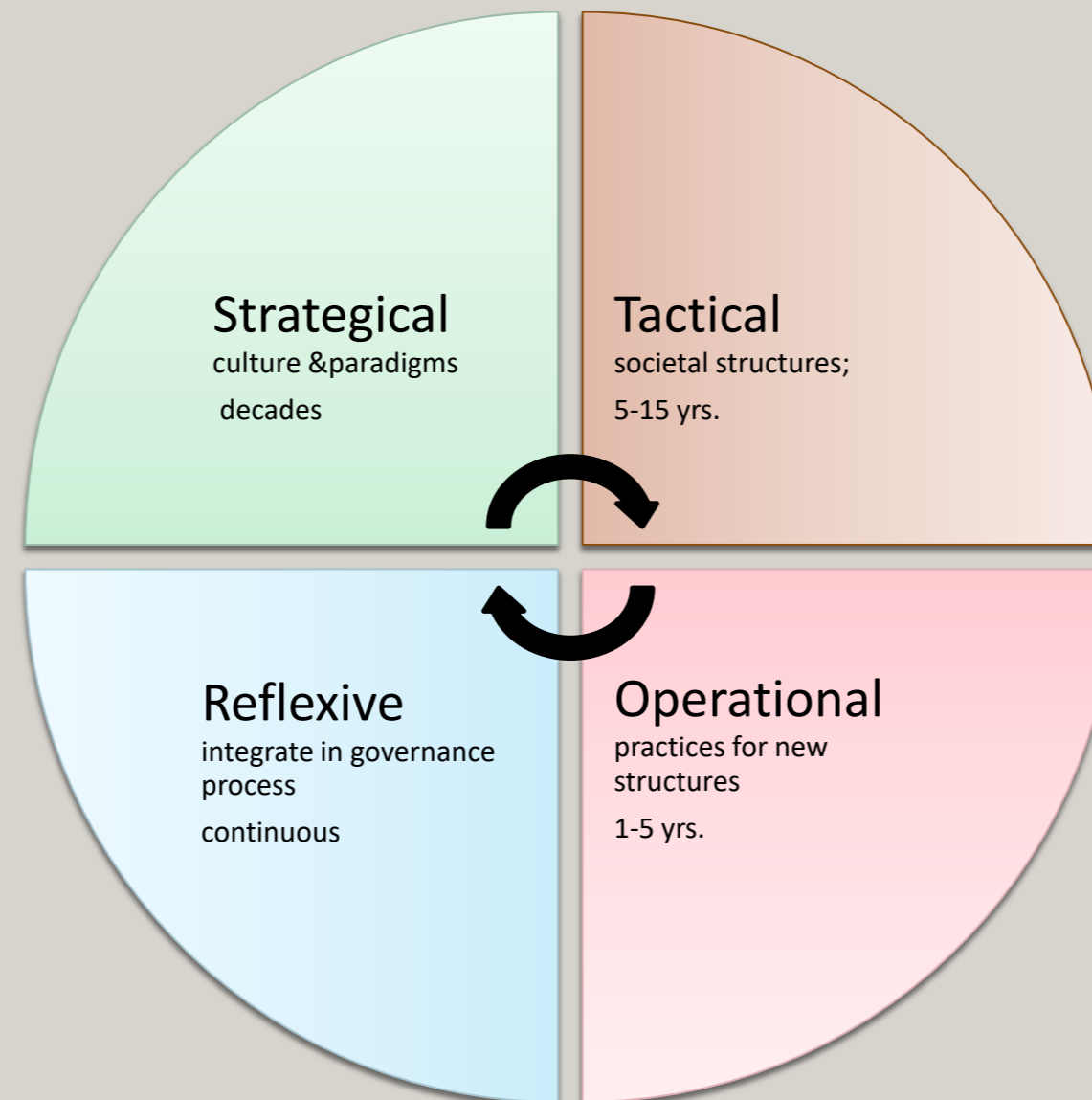
|   |   |
|---|---|
| None with focus<br>on SUF.<br>Hierarchical and<br>within function<br>reporting. | None with focus<br>on SUF.<br>Hierarchical,<br>cross-function<br>and cross-border<br>dissemination.<br>Cross-functional<br>coordination of<br>freight and traffic<br>matters. |
|---|---|

## Mobilize actors

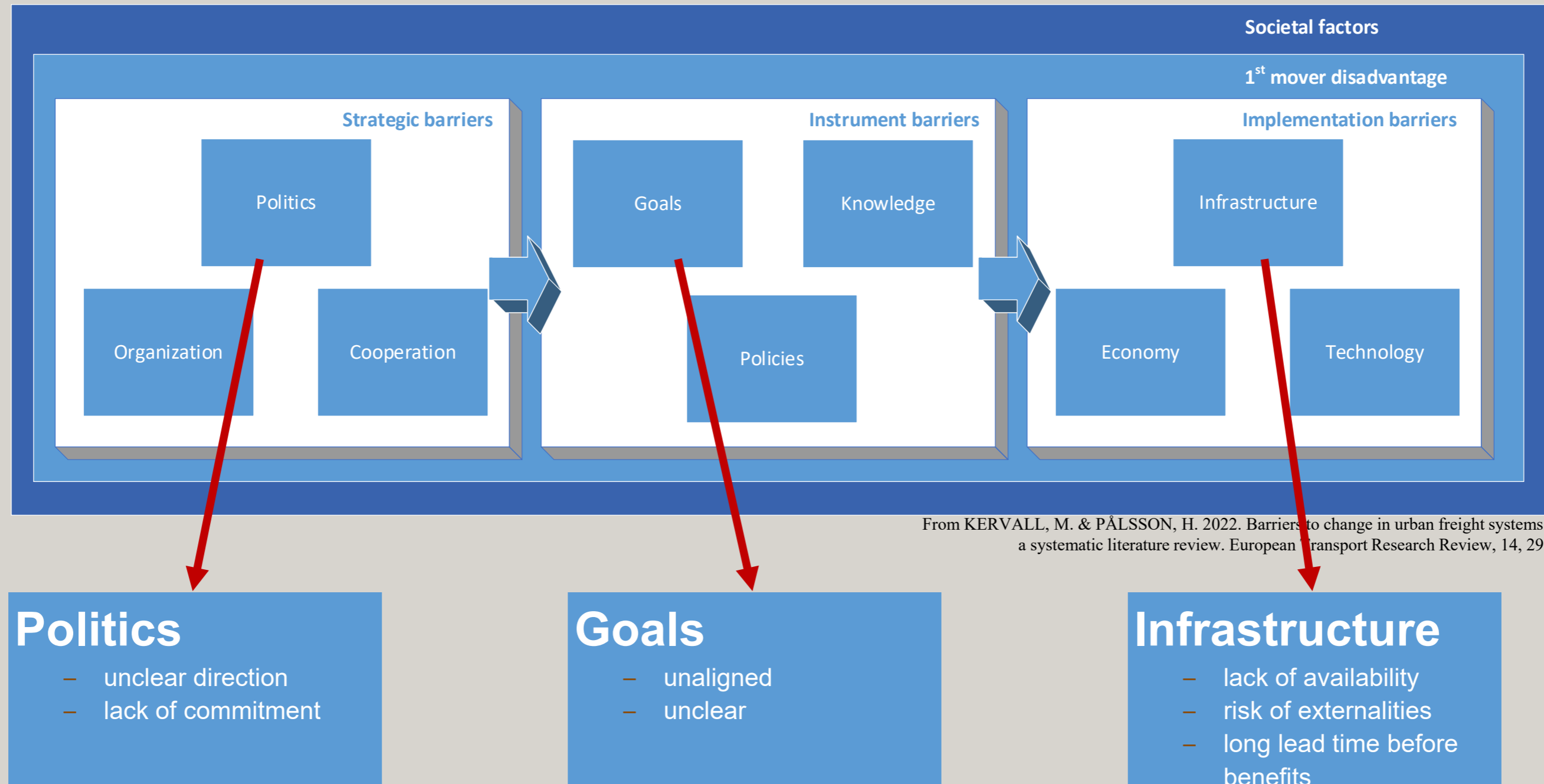
|                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| None for SUF (but for<br>growth) | For sustainable<br>transport (incl. SUF). |
|----------------------------------|---|

## Execute projects

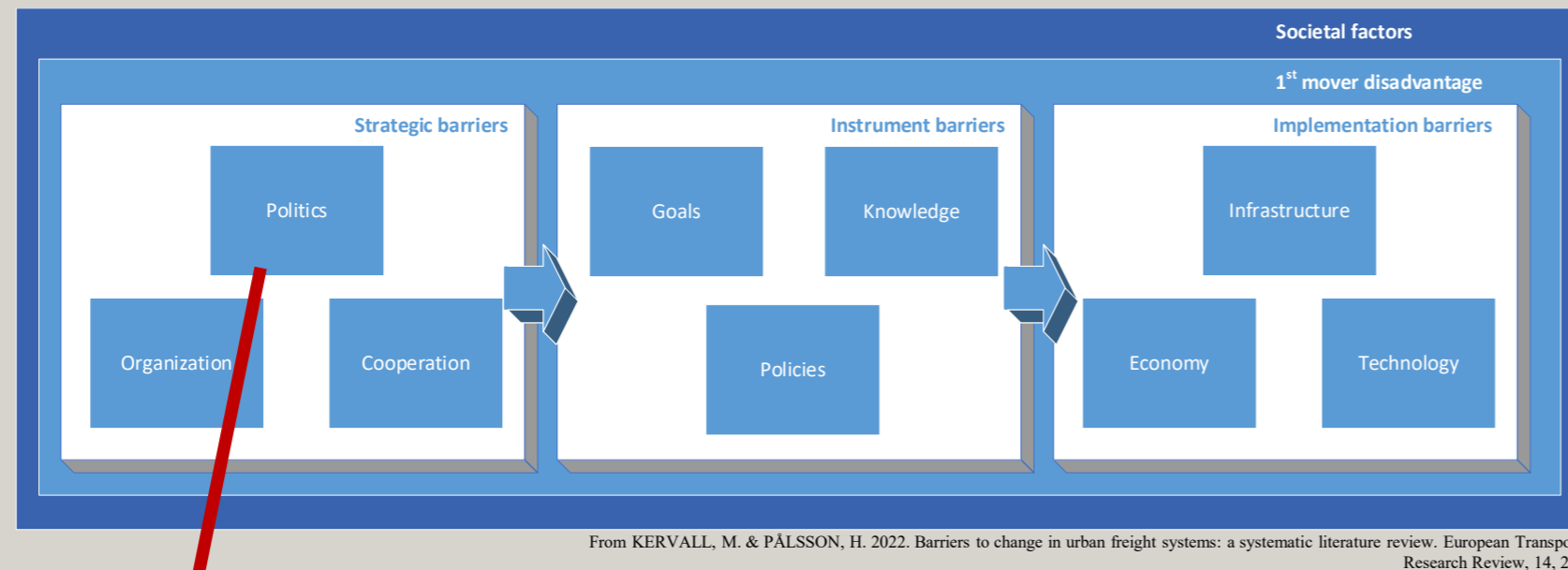
|                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| None for SUF (but for<br>growth) | Infrastructure projects<br>which give positive side-<br>effects for urban freight;<br>modal shift, re-location<br>of flows, jobs in less<br>developed areas etc. |
|----------------------------------|--|



# Barrier management for SUF



# Barrier management for SUF (city 1&2)



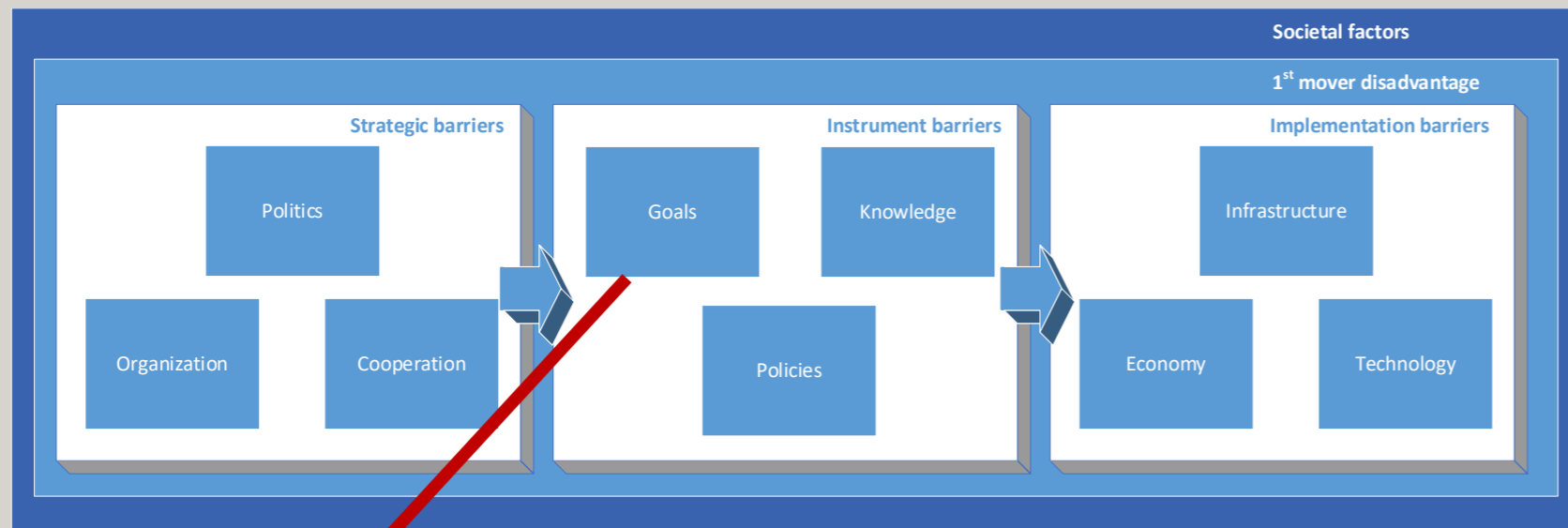
## Politics

- unclear direction
- lack of commitment

C1: No direction nor commitment for SUF.

C2: Direction toward climate neutral transport (incl. freight). Commitment to 1<sup>st</sup> a fossil-free city organization and 2<sup>nd</sup> a climate neutral city in 2030.

# Barrier management for SUF (city 1&2)



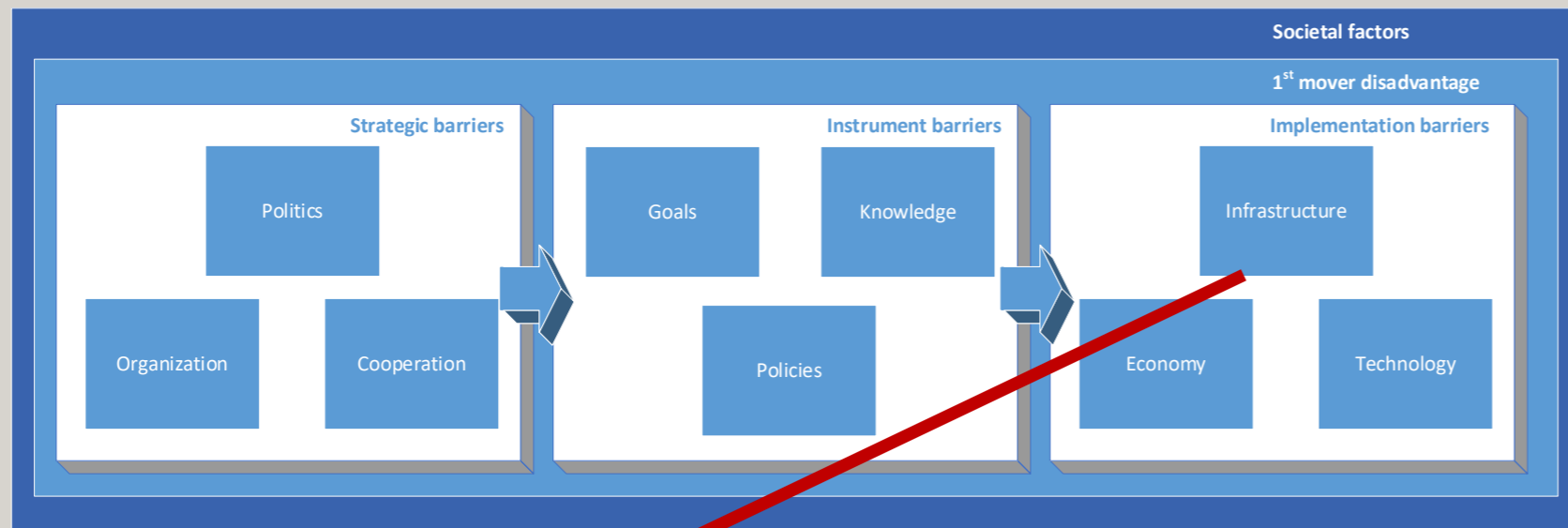
From KERVALL, M. & PÅLSSON, H. 2022. Barriers to change in urban freight systems: a systematic literature review. European Transport Research Review, 14, 29.

## Goals

- unaligned
- unclear

C1: No activities to align or clarify goals toward SUF. C2: Align and clarify city goals toward sustainable transport (incl. SUF).

# Barrier management for SUF (city 1&2)



From KERNÉLL, M. & PÅLSSON, H. 2022. Barriers to change in urban freight systems: a systematic literature review. European Transport Research Review, 14, 29.

## Infrastructure

- lack of availability
- risk of externalities
- long lead time before benefits

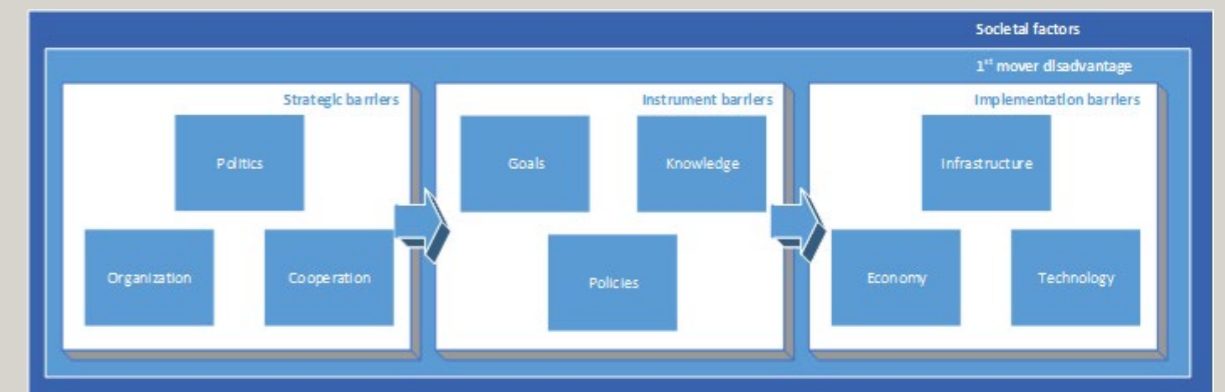
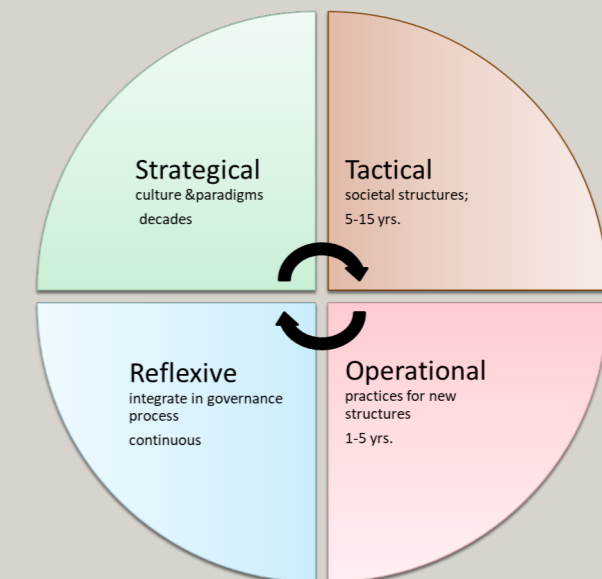
C1: No activities.

C2: Several infrastructure activities to develop sustainable transport (incl. freight).

# Early results

(two of six cities, preliminary analysis)

- Similar strategic context
- Similar high-level commitments
- Different tactical and operational priorities and practices



# Next

- Develop the analysis with performance indicators for sustainability
- Collect and structure data from six cities
- Consider
  - Adding frameworks?
  - Sustainability indicators?
  - Data sources?
  - Other comments?





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# Next

- Consider
  - Adding frameworks?
  - Sustainability indicators?
  - Data sources?
  - Other comments?

