

The Domestic Nexus

interrogating the interlinked practices
of water, energy and food consumption

What is 'The Nexus'?

- interdependencies, tensions and trade-offs between food, water and energy
- highlights the need for interconnected thinking between different resource flows and systems
- research dominated by physical sciences and engineering in relation to supply side responses to resource scarcity
- growing recognition of role of social sciences – but remaining supply side focused

Why bring the nexus to the home?

- the nexus of food, water and energy are as apparent at the domestic scale as anywhere else
- dynamics of consumption are fundamental to an holistic understanding of the nexus
- opportunities to draw together burgeoning work on the making of demand in the home, in relation to the different 'domains'

Consequently, worth bringing into focus
the household as a critical junction where the provisioning of resources connects with everyday practices

The Domestic Nexus: interrogating the interlinked practices of water, energy and food consumption

- UNDERSTANDING DOMESTIC PRACTICES AND THEIR DYNAMICS ACROSS THE NEXUS** October, Sheffield

- RESHAPING THE DOMESTIC NEXUS: ANALYTICAL INSIGHTS AND METHODOLOGIES** November, Manchester

- SCOPING OPPORTUNITIES FOR INCREASED SUSTAINABILITY: POLICY AND PRACTICE** December, London

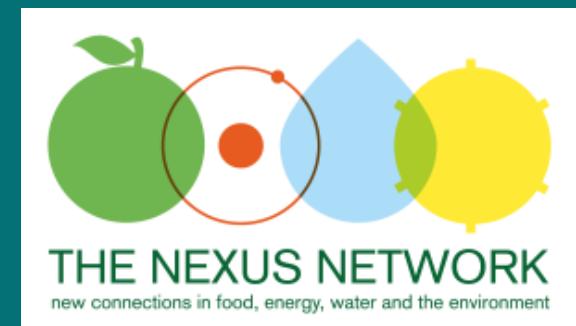




Photo: Angela Meah

Workshop 1 UNDERSTANDING DOMESTIC PRACTICES AND THEIR DYNAMICS ACROSS THE NEXUS

Discussions highlighted:

- Difficult status of 'the nexus'
- Absences from 'nexus' analysis (and practice theory analysis); power, gender, class
- Questioning of 'household' as object of analysis or of intervention
- Nexus worth engaging, in;
 - Enabling analysis to do different things?
 - Maintaining/opening spaces for conversation & collaboration
 - Potentially being an agenda in which we are obliged to contribute

Methodological approaches to understanding what makes changes happen in consumption practices

Methodology 1: quantitative approaches to understanding practices

Coffee break

Methodology 2: qualitative & design approaches to understanding practices

Methodology 3: urban experimentation & process methodology

Lunch

Interventions beyond behaviour change; practice based, systemic or unintended means of making change

Interventions 1: Disruptions and interventions into practices

Interventions 2: Tools for policy intervention

Tea break

Interventions 3: engineering, infrastructures and changing practices

Closing discussion

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