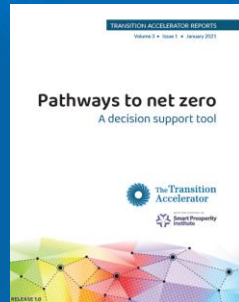
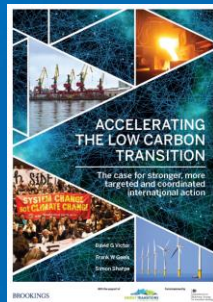


PRIMER ON LOW-CARBON SYSTEM TRANSITIONS

System transitions are transformative sector-level changes...

... in the methods of producing, selling, transporting and using goods and services. They are multi-actor processes involving interactions between a wide array of actors, including firms, consumers, policymakers, innovators, and civil society groups. The actions of these groups are motivated not only by cost-benefit calculations, but also by interests, beliefs, and identities, and are conditioned by the availability of financial, technical, and organizational resources. Typically, strategies, motivations and resources change as transitions unfold, through learning, redefinition of interests, and many other processes that can be hard to predict.

Reading on low-carbon system transitions



- System transitions have been studied and mapped - from horses to cars, coal to gas, and wells to piped water systems. Typical transition stages fall along an S-curve.

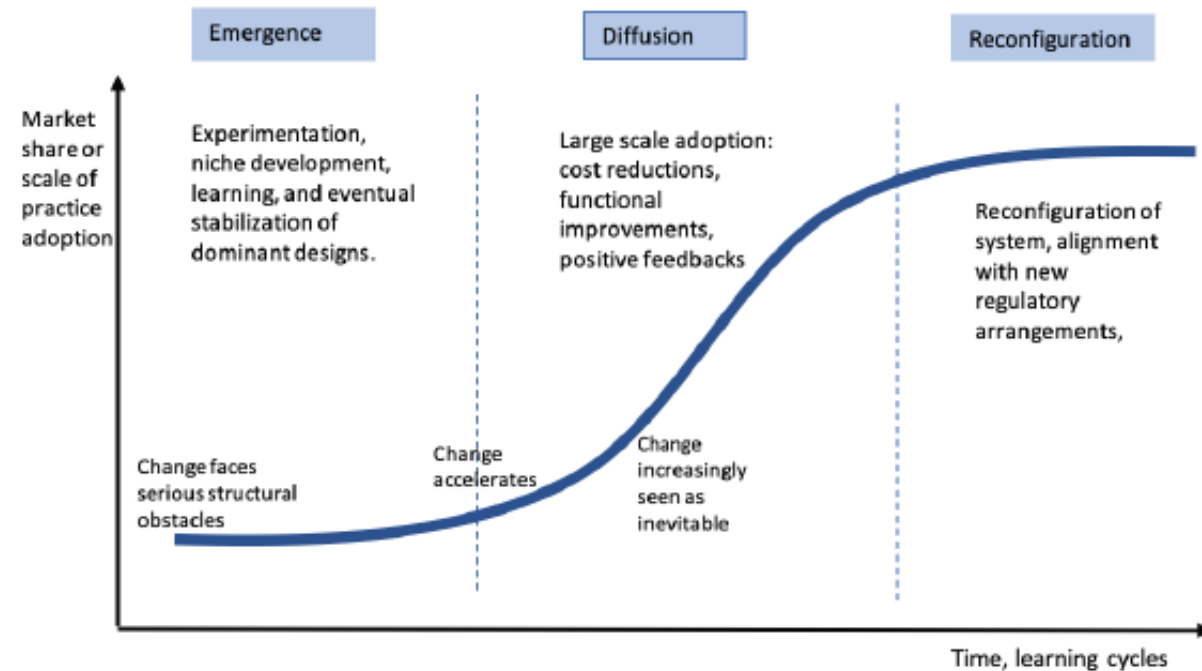


Figure 1. Typical S curve of technology or practice adoption and system transition

Adapted from Victor, Geels and Sharpe, 2019

Focusing on the processes of change, rather than just on the end goal, enables needed discussion and coordination about not only which technologies and solutions are viable, but which actors could develop and deploy them, and how policy might support them to do so.