



## UNIVERSITÄT HAMBURG CENTER FOR A SUSTAINABLE UNIVERSITY: A WHOLE-INSTITUTION APPROACH TOWARDS MANAGING TRANSFORMATIONAL PROCESSES



The **Center for a Sustainable University (KNU)** at the Universität Hamburg was established in 2011. The KNU brings together expertise from all areas and disciplines of the UHH to focus on sustainability related issues in order to position the UHH as a "University for a Sustainable Future".

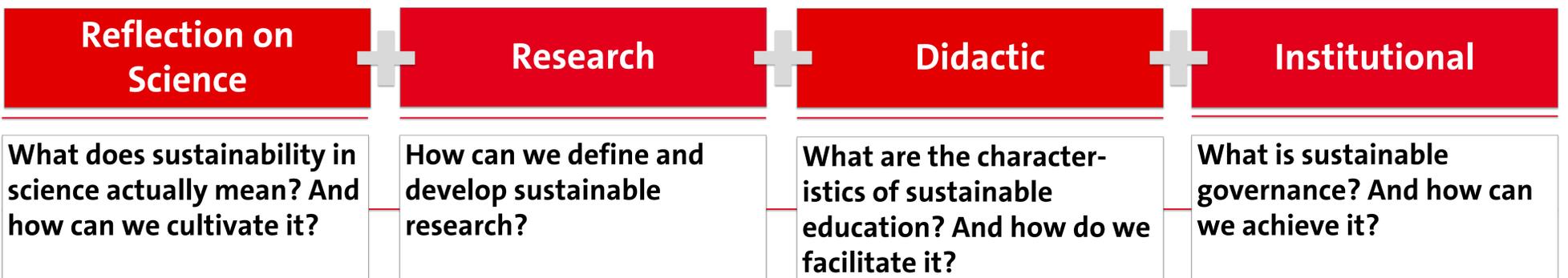
The KNU acts as a **research network**, a **laboratory for innovation** and an incubator for new approaches, concepts, procedures and methods in the context of sustainability. It accompanies and supports transformational processes at the UHH, which, as a facilitator of education through science, contributes to the future viability of society.

### Whole-Institution Approach

The KNU operates using a **whole-institution approach** at the UHH. Thus, it seeks to include all parts of the university ( i.e. students, faculty, administration and operations) and implement transformational processes at an organizational level.

### Four Reference Dimensions of Sustainability

The four reference dimensions for university-wide sustainability trigger transformational processes that develop common theoretical and practical perspectives of the UHH as a "University for a Sustainable Future":



The five interdisciplinary teams and the coordinating office of the KNU support various aspects of sustainable development at the UHH. The implementation of sustainability-oriented activities are carried out by concrete projects in various fields:

### Current KNU Projects and Initiatives

- **Initiating research projects** regarding sustainability and sustainable development at the UHH – the KNU currently offers five channels for funding in order to create incentives for the implementation of such projects:  
**KNU Funding Channels:** 1. *Interdisciplinary Collaborations* 2. *UHH Sustainability Analysis*, 3. *Postdoctoral Fellowships "Sustainable Future"*, 4. *"kleine Hilfen" –Project Support*, 5. *MacheN! Student Initiatives (Campus Projects)*
- **Strengthening university internal and external networks and collaborations** for sustainability issues – e.g. through interdisciplinary forums for discussion and workshops (e.g. **Wissenschaftscafé**) as well as by participating in: initiatives for sustainability reporting for universities, the Climate Week, international sustainability alliances etc.
- **Providing information and implementing innovative pilot programs** to promote environmentally and socially friendly practices at the UHH – e.g. in regard to sustainable procurement and event organization, organizational citizenship behavior (OCB), best practices for university teaching etc.



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