

Grant and Funding Opportunities

Apply Now!

The KNU supports various projects at Universität Hamburg that address current sustainability related challenges in research and society. The following channels for funding are available:

Interdisciplinary Collaborations

- Support for the development of interdisciplinary research proposals submitted for third-party funding (max. € 150,000)

Sustainability Analysis

- Funding for research projects that study and assess sustainability at Universität Hamburg (max. € 50,000)

Postdoctoral Fellowships

- Two year scholarships for research within the post doctoral program “Sustainable Future” (Full scholarship € 2,200/Month)

Project Support

- Support for sustainability relevant research projects and small events (max. € 5,000/ proposal)

Student Initiatives: “MacheNI!”

- Funding for Universität Hamburg student team projects that deal with future viability and sustainability on campus (max. € 1,000/ proposal)

Contact Us

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Center for a Sustainable University (KNU)

For Sustainability in Research, Education
and University Governance



Our Goal

The Center for a Sustainable University (KNU) is an interdisciplinary group dedicated to the **advancement of sustainability at Universität Hamburg**. Our goal is to contribute to the development of a socially, economically and ecologically responsible university in areas of research, education and governance.

The KNU acts as a **research network** and **think-tank for innovations** in new approaches, concepts and methods **within the context of sustainability**.

What We Do:

- Fund and support scientific projects on sustainability
- Develop and implement sustainable practices in education
- Strengthen the university's internal and external networks for sustainability
- Apply new approaches for an environmentally and socially friendly university



Defining Sustainability

The KNU is an **information platform** for **four dimensions** of sustainability:

RESEARCH

How can we define and develop sustainable research?

REFLECTION ON SCIENCE

What does sustainability in science actually mean? And how can we cultivate it?

DIDACTIC

What are the characteristics of sustainable education? And how do we facilitate it?

INSTITUTIONAL

What is sustainable governance? And how can we achieve it?

KNU Example Projects:

- Creating guiding principles for university teaching
- Collaborating on multilingualism as a sustainability resource
- Participating in the Hamburg Climate Week
- Implementing a university-wide sustainability report
- Offering Capacity Building Workshops

KNU Teams and Topics

The KNU operates through five teams dedicated to furthering sustainability at Universität Hamburg:

1. Sustainable University

Team 1 supports research projects and interdisciplinary exchange forums for sustainability. Team 1 also tests sustainable concepts.

2. Sustainability in Education

Team 2 focuses on the research and development of sustainable education concepts. They act as sustainability consultants for the Universitätskolleg and provide input for quality management in teaching.

3. Postdoctoral Research Group “Sustainable Future”

Team 3 is composed of talented young researchers (fellowship scholars) from all disciplines of the University who develop and implement sustainability related research topics.

4. Sustainability in Higher Education Administration

Team 4 works towards the development and implementation of sustainable governance at the University, institutionalizes sustainable administration as well as develops, tests and implements sustainable projects in higher education administration.

5. Student Teams – MacheN!

Team 5 is a network for sustainability focused student-run initiatives at the University (funded by KNU – MacheN!).