

English

Conference SCIENCE in TRANSITION

13th November 2018, Austria Center Vienna

Organized by the Alliance of Sustainable Universities in Austria in cooperation with the Austrian Foundation for Development Research (ÖFSE), the Round Table Higher Education Global, the Austrian University of Applied Sciences Conference and the OeAD / Department of Education and Research for Development Cooperation.

Key Message

- Sustainability challenges ahead call for paradigm shifts in higher education, science and science funding towards integrated, systemic and transformative approaches.
- Institutionalize free spaces in HEI for experimentation and critical thinking in research and teaching to achieve the SDGs.

Outcome Education

Transformative, SDG-relevant learning needs:

- Institutionalisation of SDG-relevant education, e.g. via integration in curricula
- Space for experimentation and free thinking, both for educators and learners, to allow for experiences in socio-ecological transformation (e.g. learning settings, qualification of teachers, evaluation)
- Critical reflection, explicit naming and transparent negotiation of power structures
- Organisations that are willing to learn in a transformative way themselves.

Outcome Research

SDG relevant research needs:

- A dialogue with actors from all societal levels, including students in their role as multipliers.
- Courage for change, empowerment, civic engagement to address current societal problems and the use of the full range of possible action
- Comprehensive re-definition of longterm goals & values, e.g. alternative monitoring and evaluation systems for performance/achievement
- Favourable conditions for SDG relevant research via networks, incentive schemes and appropriate funding criteria.