

HOCH^N: Transfer for Sustainable Development

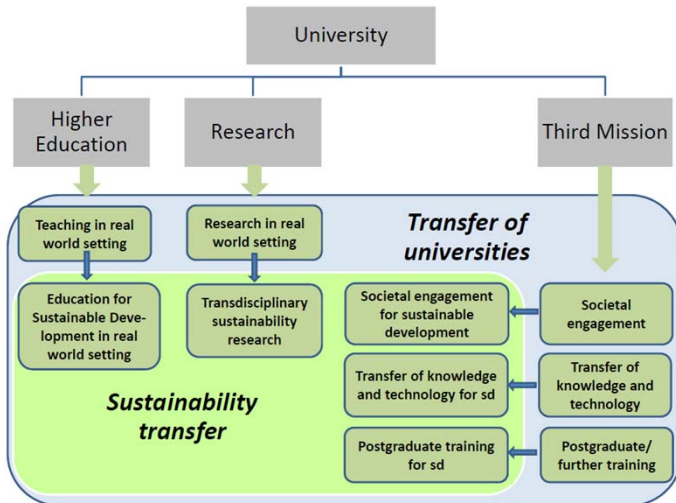


Figure 1: Sustainability transfer embedded into HEI activities

Transfer and third mission are discussed as new responsibilities of universities in addition to its two main pillars research and teaching. At the Eberswalde University we define ‘transfer’ as reciprocal and cooperative exchange of knowledge, ideas, technologies, and experiences between universities and external partners including all forms of cooperation. **Transfer for sustainable development** comprises all transfer activities that strive for sustainable development. Sustainability transfer in higher education, research and third mission is embedded into a societal context and transfer activities are executed together with external partners (see figure 1). Little research on sustainability transfer of Higher Education Institutions has been conducted so far.

Goals of the work package ‘Sustainability Transfer’

The work package explores and develops theoretically and empirically the concept of sustainability transfer of HEI. Empirical examples are mainly from transfer activities of Eberswalde University for Sustainable Development.

Main tasks of the work package are:

- Determine forms, formats, prerequisites and restrictions of sustainability transfer with selected cases
- Develop a (first) concept of sustainability transfer and define key terms
- Design an analytical framework for further empirical research with German HEIs



Outlook

Sustainability transfer is a promising concept with high potential for meeting society’s demands for societal impact of universities and for transforming universities themselves towards sustainable development. However, this new concept needs further elaboration and empirical research in order to better understand its strengths, weaknesses, and prerequisites as well as to develop supporting instruments and structures. Summing up, sustainability transfer is a demanding task – but it is worth it!

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