

DIST/ RESEARCH

DIST research focuses on four inter-related domains:

- The design of products, processes, and organizations with the aim of developing more sustainable solutions
- Innovation processes leading to changes in social, organizational, political, technical and institutional configurations
- The sustainability of these changes – the controversies, journeys and power plays involved
- Transitions – the displacement and reconfiguration of social values, institutions, relations, and material structures that the changes in design and innovation practices invoke

The associations and tensions between these four domains mediated through a profound engagement within the field of science and technology studies is the core strength of DIST.

DIST/ COLLABORATION

Experimentation is salient in making transitions happen, and the Center's approach to this is through collaboration with external partners as well as scientific peers. The external partners include companies, public organizations as well as non-governmental organizations and community groups.

By engaging with its external partners in an interactive fashion, the aim is to incorporate practical knowledge "from the field" into Center activities and to contribute to changing practice.

DIST/ EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

The Center is involved in a number of different educational programs – at the undergraduate and graduate levels as well as within continued and executive education. They focus on sustainable design, sustainable cities, sustainable transitions and anthropology of technology. The programs are deliberately cross-disciplinary, combining competences from engineering, design, sociology and humanities. The center is also involved in PhD training at national and international level within its core research fields.