Creating Change with Seed Funding

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Research and education for a brighter tomorrow

KTH rests on three pillars
1. **Sustainability**
2. Equality
3. Internationalisation

- Sustainability **policy**
- Sustainability **objectives**
- Environmental management system:
  - ISO 14001

WWW.KTH.SE

Sigbritt Karlsson, KTH President
Sustainability Objectives

• **Core business** (education, research, collaboration)

• **Operations** (campuses, travel, organisation, purchasing…)

Education

Research

Collaboration
The Global Goals for Sustainable Development

1. No Poverty
2. Zero Hunger
3. Good Health and Well-Being
4. Quality Education
5. Gender Equality
6. Clean Water and Sanitation
7. Affordable and Clean Energy
8. Decent Work and Economic Growth
9. Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure
10. Reduced Inequalities
11. Sustainable Cities and Communities
12. Responsible Consumption and Production
13. Climate Action
14. Life Below Water
15. Life on Land
16. Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions
17. Partnerships for the Goals
Sustainability Objective: Education

Sustainable development shall be integrated into all educational programs at all levels so that students can contribute to the sustainable development of society after graduation.
Sustainability Objective: Research

Research for sustainable development shall increase.

More faculty positions, faculty funding and external funding shall be focused on sustainable development.
Sustainability Objective: Collaboration

In collaboration with new and existing partners, stakeholders and students, KTH shall work to contribute to sustainable development of society.
How encourage new initiatives within the core businesses?

Answer: Seed funding!
The idea of seed funding:

Small investment → Great change!
Call: Environment and sustainability without boundaries

Apply now for funding to enhance transdisciplinary collaborations in environment and sustainable development (ESD) at KTH.

KTH Sustainability Office is looking for project applications that support multidisciplinary collaborations within KTH with relevance to environment and sustainable development. Funding of maximum SEK 100 000 per project is available and will be disbursed during 2019.

New for 2019 is that proposals targeting collaboration with small or medium sized enterprises (SME:s) can apply for additionally SEK 50 000 for developing the collaboration.

Proposals for projects addressing the KTH Sustainable Development Objectives are welcome, and we especially encourage applications that develop new collaborations across
Examples of activities that can apply for funding are:

- Projects **involving students** about environment and sustainable development on campus.

- **Develop a new course** with the expertise of several departments/schools.

- Start a **University-wide network**
Examples of activities that can apply for funding are (2):

- **Seed funding** for multidisciplinary research projects that could lead to new research applications.

- Start a **collaboration** with a small or medium sized enterprise (SME).
Example 2:

...and also resulted in:

Scientific publications

Additional 300 000 € funding from Formas, the Swedish research council for sustainable development.

Cross disciplinary seminars for students
Example 3:

Investment: 10 000 € in seed funding for
• building of transdiciplinar research consortium
• and writing of an application

Result: 5 000 000 € research programme!
To conclude…

The funding scheme **started 2011**, and is still running

More than **60 projects** funded so far

For **core business** mainly
- Education
- Research
- Collaboration
Conclusions:

A bottom-up approach

Let the researchers and university teachers test new ideas

They may fail or succeed...

...but most times they succeed!

Conclusion: good investment