

## Justice, Power and Transformative action in Sustainability ([JUPITA](#)) Research & Education at Utrecht University

Department: Sustainable Development

Research group: Innovation Studies

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### Project description

Justice, power and transformative action are the three lenses through which we, as a community of practice are looking at sustainability-related questions, issues and challenges to collectively speculate and create transformative and meaningful change – as pathways towards a more just and equitable future. This approach includes notions such as improving the quality of life of present and future species, within ecological limits. Building on just sustainability transitions, we consider the following explicit goals:

- (a) improving the quality of life of current and future species within ecological boundaries and
- (b) eliminating injustices that are triggered or exacerbated by unsustainability and its underlying causes.

Critical questions we are investigating include: Who decides what is just? And for whom is it just? Who can/should participate in these decision-making processes? Who benefits from the decisions made? What are the connections and tensions between ecological and socio-economic justice concerns? If these questions catch your attention, then you might be interested in the many different questions, shades, and dilemmas of just sustainability transitions.

If you are interested in this topic, you are invited to support us in our interdisciplinary research project on **mapping research and education across justice, power and transformative action in sustainability**. We specifically invite you to help us in:

- Our on-going mapping of research and education initiatives across these topics in different empirical fields, that are conducted across Utrecht University.
- Join our community-building activities by reaching out and nurturing relationships with a diversity of people and research teams across the university.
- Support us in designing and delivering workshops, movie screening events, reading club sessions and JUPITA-themed community excursions that bring colleagues together around our common threads and topics. These facilitate collaborative learning opportunities, collaborative meaning-making of abstract and theoretical concepts into more tangible and concrete examples (e.g. excursion to visit a food bank). These activities will help more students and researchers to relate to these themes and develop deeper, more personal connections within these topics.

### Job requirements

The most important job requirement is that you are interested and motivated to dive deep into the complexity and contentedness of concepts such as justice, power and transformative approaches to sustainability. You should enjoy reading and discussing, have a critical and analytical mindset, and a good proficiency in English. We will also welcome your input/proposals in the programming of movie and reading events as well as contributions to our growing co-curated [books](#), [movies](#) and [music](#) digital collections. We are looking forward to getting to know you!