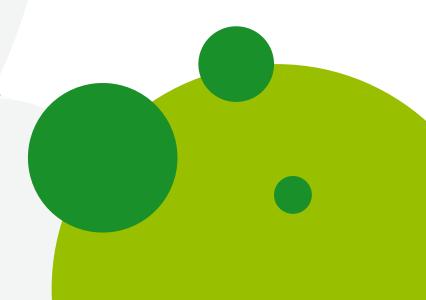JUST4ALL
ADULT EDUCATION
FOR JUST TRANSITION

# BEST PRACTICE IN ADULT EDUCATION FOR A JUST TRANSITION

## SUCH Network

**Platform for Research and Advocacy for Alternative Sustainability Discourses**

## JULY 2024

# SUCH Network

## – Platform for Research and Advocacy for Alternative Sustainability Discourses

## Context and Initiative Details

| | |
|---|---|
| Name of the initiative | SUCH Network |
| Geographical scope | Global |
| Sources of funding | Members, Directors, Working Groups (WGs), Task Groups (TGs), or organizers of specific activities can apply for funding. |
| Duration of the initiative | Since 2019 |
| Target audience | Diverse stakeholders including scholars, activists, policymakers, and the general public. |
| Social justice focus area | Environmental justice |
| Goals of the initiative | Advocacy and empowerment for sustainable change at individual, national, and global levels. |

## Good Practices Description

### Stakeholder engagement in the process

Stakeholder engagement is a cornerstone of the SUCH Network's approach, fostering dialogue, collaboration, and collective action among scholars, activists, policymakers, and the general public to address environmental injustices and promote sustainable change worldwide.

### Methodology used (if available)

The SUCH Network operates as a transdisciplinary platform for sustainable change, engaging in research-based activities, dialogue, and advocacy to challenge unsustainable practices and propose alternatives. It fosters stakeholder engagement, experimentation, and artistic expression to inspire innovative solutions and amplify diverse voices in the pursuit of environmental justice.

As a response to climate change, species mass extinction, global injustices and other serious outcomes of today's economic priorities, mainstream policies and modern lifestyles, SUCH network contributes to sustainable change with research-based activities. The network is transdisciplinary and it aims to challenge – as well as to propose alternatives to – the unsustainable societies of today. We call for sustainable change at all levels, from the individual to the national and global levels, and at all sectors, from the private to public and third sectors. In particular, we call for change in the most affluent countries and corporations, which have the largest part in ecological overshoot.

The network promotes sustainable change based on strong sustainability and non-anthropocentric views. SUCH members critically examine societal structures, institutions, and the role of technology, as well as question the global growth of the economy and population. Importantly, alongside seeking for solutions and tools, SUCH promotes discussion on values, goals, and worldviews.

We nourish ecologically realistic and an ethically inclusive understanding and learning concerning:
1. How to adapt to new realities;
2. How to challenge and resist unsustainable structures, processes and lifestyles;
3. How to communicate ways of adaptation and resistance to enable sustainable change.

Activities of the network will be based on collegial dialogue and a variety of initiatives, which include organising the biennial Peaceful Coexistence Colloquium, seminars, workshops and events, publishing books and articles, and communicating to all relevant actors in the public, private and third sectors.

Network members conduct research-based activities with mixed methods without limiting actions to scholarly work. SUCH promotes experimentation using adult education premises and methodologies with novel forms of communication, favours artistic expression, tells alternative stories which are not limited to science and encourages participation in public debate while they interact with diverse stakeholders and engage in academic activism.

## Teaching approaches (if available)

While inclusive in their approach and the network does not build on any particular paradigm or dogma, SUCH welcomes and appreciates, in particular:
• Ideas and work about strongly sustainable change on all levels;
• Explicit stances and reasoning in opposition to economic growth;
• Voicing radical visions while promoting honest and constructive communication;
• Networking with scholars from different disciplines and traditions, in different research stages, and from all regions.

## Challenges and outcomes

### Key factors contributing to success

Key factors contributing to the success of the SUCH Network include robust stakeholder engagement, diverse methodologies, and a steadfast commitment to sustainable outcomes. By prioritizing effective activities, fostering creativity, and promoting collaboration, the network continues to amplify its impact and advocate for environmental justice worldwide..

### Encountered difficulties and challenges

The SUCH Network encounters challenges including resistance to change, limited resources, and navigating institutional barriers. Despite these difficulties, the network remains resilient and continues to advocate for environmental justice through stakeholder engagement, innovation, and collaboration.

### Recommendations

SUCH has an extensive network and know how that has exemplary promise if it is connected with the society around the initiative by more actively and visibly including in their practice adult education organisations, community centers and VET providers.

### Impact

The impact of the SUCH Network extends to the Macro level including policy, civil society, and communities worldwide. Through stakeholder engagement, advocacy, and empowerment, the network aims to catalyze change and fosters a more just and sustainable future for all.