



INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS



What is special about your work as Transdisciplinary Interface Manager (TIM) at the Field of Excellence Climate Change Graz and the Wegener Center?

I am delighted that the University of Graz is institutionalizing transdisciplinarity with the TIM. As a TIM, the aim is to illuminate the entire breadth of the climate issue with all the disciplines involved and their methods and to work together with stakeholders from politics, business, administration and civil society at eye level to find systemic and transformative solutions. There is still a lot to be done at precisely this interface untapped potential. In order to tap into this potential, a change in science itself is also required, with an expansion of the classic scientific evaluation criteria to include interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary aspects.

This enables the necessary stronger networking of disciplines, greater openness to society and the application-oriented translation of research results. In this way, different types of knowledge can be integrated and new knowledge for action and transformation can be generated.

Name: Holger Hoff

Institution: Field of Excellence Climate Change Graz, Wegener Center for Climate and Global Change

Area of expertise: Climate, environment and sustainability, Transdisciplinarity

Role in the member organization: as a transdisciplinary interface manager, working together with various stakeholders to develop solutions for social challenges and enable transformations





What role can the CCCA play in this?

As a service organization of the Austrian climate community, the CCCA is a key partner for building bridges and transforming science and society. The long-term nature of the network, its diversity and its integration of a wide range of competencies are good prerequisites for moving from knowledge to action together with society. With its diverse activities and formats, the CCCA helps to bridge the gap that often still exists between science and society.

existing hierarchy and the reservations between science and society, and to learn from each other. At the same time, the CCCA can help to create the necessary framework conditions for a new solution-oriented science. In doing so, the CCCA will benefit from its reputation, which has grown over the years, and the clout it has acquired as a result. In my opinion, the CCCA should also continue to intervene in the public debate as the voice of science. Together with Günter Getzinger, I am already trying to apply these principles in the CCCA Climate Neutrality Working Group, which we have the privilege of leading.

What do you see as the biggest challenge in the fight against climate change?

The knowledge about the problems surrounding the climate crisis and most of the solutions are well known, but far too little is happening. In my view, the main reason for this (in addition to lobbying by relevant interest groups) is the fear of change, of the unknown. Clinging to the status quo and focusing on the known environment narrows the view in terms of space and time and hinders new comprehensive solutions. Yet the climate crisis can only be overcome with comprehensive solutions that meet short- and long-term as well as local and global requirements. This is why we need positive narratives, on both a large and small scale, that pick people up, show them a positive future and allay their fears of change. Science also has a central role to play here, moving away from describing problems towards jointly developing solutions - and thus also taking on social responsibility.

