

# RESEARCH THEME

**Title of the doctoral research** Next Design Scenarios for "Caring".  
Rethinking the use of materials and technology for an alternative desirable future

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**Abstract**

The concept of "Post-anthropocentrism" and the emerging discourse about "design as caring" is inspiring a change in the discipline as Ezio Manzini proposes in the frame of DESIS. New Design Scenarios could new design trajectories. Starting from this opening debate, the research objective will be to understand the design role connecting human and nature, and alternative trajectories for the health of our future climate. Futuristic design scenarios and concepts, in between of design practice and sciences, have been identified as ways to develop new materials and products concept, shifting toward a pro-active design perspective.

This research line proposes, first of all, a theoretical research on the design debate and techno-utopianism as challenge for responsible innovation. The study should be integrated with a research on cross-disciplinary green transformation research projects (synthetic biology, shaping intelligent ambient, product-service able to improve security, well-being and health) and research actions with a potential for taking care of terrestrial habitat moving towards socio-technical innovations.

We ask for attention on models, resources, processes and practices that are related to the development of alternative and sustainable materials (for ex. bio-smart materials that can grow and evolve, multi-material 3D/4D printing that can act dynamically), environmentally respectful technology application for collaborative experiences of "almost-living entities" with humans.

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**Keywords** New materials and technologies, Future Design Scenario, Speculative design for sustainability