Call for Regional Leaders to Conduct Online Workshops to Assess Training Needs in Transdisciplinary Research

Dear ITD-Alliance members,

Below you will find a call for ITD-Alliance members to conduct regional workshops to assess global training needs in transdisciplinary research. The aim is to recruit six ITD Alliance members each to organise a workshop in a specific region.

This project is a collaboration with the TD Training Collaboratory, a US-National Science Foundation-funded project, administered through Stanford University, USA. The project is co-led by Margaret Krebs, project director for the TD Training Collaboratory and ITD Alliance member, Ulli Vilsmaier. (Ulli was appointed from a competitive field who applied in an earlier call to co-lead this project.)

The ITD Alliance is grateful to the TD Training Collaboratory for this collaborative opportunity to explore training needs for expanding and supporting transdisciplinary research.

If you are interested in being involved in the workshops (but not organising them), please also get in touch with Margaret and Ulli.

Below you will find key details about this call. The closing date is July 7 2024.

Best wishes
Gabriele Bammer
ITD-Alliance President

***

Call for Regional Leaders to Conduct Online Workshops to Assess Training Needs in Transdisciplinary Research

Applications due by July 7, 2024

Purpose: The project aims to determine global needs for training to foster the on-going expansion of transdisciplinary research, building on recognition that global regions have developed their own approaches to transdisciplinary training with their own vocabularies, respected practitioners, theoretical bases, and culturally appropriate practices.

Timing: The target date for the workshops is September/early October 2024 with reports by the workshop leaders due in early November 2024.
Start date: mid-July 2024
End date: 1 December 2024
Funding: $US 5,000 for each regional coordinator

Regions: Our resources are limited and the seven regions below are a pragmatic compromise, modified from the geographical UN categorizations and drawing on other common groupings. This geographical classification has put political considerations to one side.

We are seeking a workshop organiser for each region, except sub-Saharan Africa, and will work with each coordinator to ensure as comprehensive a coverage of the region as possible, given the constraints of funding and time. (A workshop organiser has already been chosen for sub-Saharan Africa.)

The seven regions are identified in the map below.

Legend: The numbers on the map correspond to:
1. South America, Central America (including Mexico) and the Caribbean
2. US, Canada and Oceania
3. Europe (including Turkey and the Caucasus Region) and Russia
4. MENA Region (Middle East-North Africa) and Iran
5. Sub-Saharan Africa
6. Central and Southern Asia
7. Eastern Asia (including Mongolia) and Southeast Asia.

Project Tasks: The key project tasks are:
• Organize, run and report on an online workshop to learn more about the current status of training in transdisciplinary research. The workshop should include:
  ○ identification of people who do training, how they describe what they do, and the quality of the training
identification of the type of training currently funded in the region
• identification of who/what are the influencing agencies/organizations.
• explorations of terms-in-use to describe “transdisciplinarity” or “socially engaged research”

• In organising the workshop, identify institutions/organizations and people from the specific world region who are associated with TD training, including universities, networks, funders, professional organizations, and international NGOs. This activity will be supported by the co-leaders of the project.
• In organising the workshop, develop and implement a communication strategy to reach out to potential workshop participants from diverse sectors, institutions/organizations, and countries in the region.
• Write the workshop report

What you bring/your profile:
• You have significant network connections related to transdisciplinary research, training, education, funding and policy making in the region
• You are familiar with organizing, facilitating and moderating online events
• You are available between mid-July and December 1, 2024
• You are an ITD Alliance member
• You and/or your organization can host an online meeting (taking into account internet connectivity and IT support).

Applications due by July 7, 2024.

In your application, please include the following information
• Name and email address
• Region of interest
• Languages besides English
• Where you will be located during the project dates and your availability between July 10 and December 1, 2024
• Organizational infrastructure: Ability to host an online meeting

Please also answer the following questions:
• What prompts you to apply?
• Please describe your network connections in the region, especially other transdisciplinary researchers, trainers, educators, funders, and decision makers
• Briefly describe your experience in facilitating and moderating online events.

Please send your application and any questions to both Margaret Krebs (mkrebs@stanford.edu) and Ulli Vilsmaier (vilsmaier@responsiveresearch.org).

You will be notified within a few days after the closing date. Interviews will be conducted between July 10 and 12, 2024.