



ITD Alliance

Global Alliance for
Inter- and Transdisciplinarity

News Bulletin
23 July 2025

Dear ITD Alliance Members and Colleagues,

This News Bulletin includes:

- June-July General Assembly Voting Results.
- ITD Alliance Events:
 - Grappling with Transdisciplinarity: Tips and Challenges, Webinar (31 July)
 - October General Assembly meetings (9 & 10 October).
- New and Renewing Members.
- Member Publications.
- Relevant Event: KM Triversary Forum 2025, Bridging the research-practice gap in knowledge management (KM)
- Opportunity: Professor of Transformative Sustainability Sciences, BOKU University, Austria.
- About this News Bulletin.

Members are invited to engage with the community through the News Bulletin by contributing questions or announcements. See "About this News Bulletin" below.



June-July General Assembly voting results

General Assembly votes support all bylaw changes and clarifications.

All six bylaw changes and clarifications that were voted on as part of the June-July General Assembly were supported, attracting between 95% and 100% support from the 37 members who voted, of 429 eligible members. Key changes are that:

- The ITD Alliance can now grant lifetime membership to individuals and institutions that make exceptional contributions.
- The Leadership Board will temporarily have an ex-officio member, who is a representative of the Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences. This position will be responsible for a range of specific duties and will remain in place until the ITD Alliance is able to be fully self-sufficient. This formalises the current situation.

- Seven of the 15 places on the Leadership Board are reserved for members from the Global South; places are no longer reserved for representatives of institutional members, with representatives of institutional members still strongly encouraged to nominate for the Leadership Board.
- The voting rights of institutional members are now clearly defined, with each person “nominated to receive benefits” by an institutional member entitled to vote.

Many thanks to everyone who voted. For more information, see the [voting results](#) online. For more information about the changes and clarifications, see AGENDA PAPER #1: [Proposed Changes or Clarifications to the Bylaws: For Voting](#).



ITD Alliance events

Grappling with Transdisciplinarity: Tips and Challenges, Webinar, ITD Alliance Oceania Regional Network, 31 July 2025

The ITD Alliance Oceania Regional Network invites you to a webinar on 31 July 2025:

*Grappling with Transdisciplinarity: Tips and Challenges.
A dialogue between Allan O'Connor (Adelaide University, Australia) and
Allanah Ryan (Te Kunenga ki Pūrehuroa Massey University of New Zealand).*

As the leadership of universities and related organisations increasingly embraces transdisciplinarity in research and teaching as a way of tackling complex societal and environmental problems, what does it mean for those on the ground who are tasked with introducing transdisciplinary approaches? Adelaide University in Australia (which is newly established from an amalgamation of the University of South Australia and the University of Adelaide) and Te Kunenga ki Pūrehuroa Massey University of New Zealand are leading institutions addressing these challenges. Allan O'Connor and Allanah Ryan are heading up the change processes and have rich experience to share. They will make brief scene-setting presentations about their university's context and approach to transdisciplinarity, what their institutions “have going for them,” and the main challenges, along with how they are addressing them.

Date: Thursday, July 31, 2025

Time: 12.30-2pm AEST (with the final 30 minutes reserved for a Talanoa (open discussion)) ([convert to your time zone](#))

[Register at Humanitix](#) (The Zoom link will be sent to registered participants)

For more details, see the [Member Events](#) page or [download the flyer](#).

ITD Alliance General Assembly meetings (focused on reporting and elections) scheduled for 9 & 10 October 2025

There will be two General Assemblies in 2025, each with two online meetings to accommodate global time zones. The first has concluded with the announcement of the voting results (see above). The second (with meetings on 9 and 10 October) will be for financial and other reporting, as well as elections to the Leadership Board (with nominations opening in mid-August). There will be a two week online voting period. For more information, see: <https://itd-alliance.org/general-assemblies-2025/>.



ITD Alliance new and renewing members

One of the goals of the ITD Alliance is to encourage and support networking among members. In this section we introduce our newest members and highlight our current members who have renewed since the 11 June 2025 News Bulletin. Thank you!

New Institutional Member

- Hong Kong Baptist University (HKBU), China (www.hkbu.edu.hk)
Founded in 1956 as Hong Kong Baptist College, HKBU has developed world-class strengths across multiple disciplines, maintaining a steadfast commitment to excellence in teaching, learning, research, scholarship, service, and discovery. Central to our 10-year Institutional Strategic Plan (2018-2028) is nurturing future-shaping students through transdisciplinary education. We aspire to become a leading liberal arts university in Asia, recognized globally for delivering academic excellence within a caring, creative, and international culture. Alongside seven transdisciplinary second majors, HKBU offers four transdisciplinary undergraduate degree programmes and one individualized major. These programmes foster an understanding and commitment to sustainable development through contextualized and solution-based learning.

Renewing Institutional Members

- Centre for Integrated Research on Culture and Society (CIRCUS), Uppsala University, Sweden (<https://www.uu.se/en/centre/circus>)
The purpose of CIRCUS is to strengthen inter- and multidisciplinary research collaborations across subjects, faculties and disciplinary domains at Uppsala University. CIRCUS is based on research in the humanities and social sciences and develops research collaborations that span the entire breadth of research at Uppsala University. CIRCUS's overall mission is to develop successful interdisciplinary research of the highest quality for the benefit of humanity and for a better world. This is achieved by strengthening the University's ability to produce various forms of cross-cutting research through skills development and qualified support for researcher-initiated cross-cutting collaboration.
- Eawag, Eidgenössische Anstalt für Wasserversorgung, Abwasserreinigung und Gewässerschutz (Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology), Switzerland (<https://www.eawag.ch>)
Eawag is a leading institute for research, education, and expert consulting in aquatic science and technology contributing to water sustainability and security. The institute conducts inter- and transdisciplinary research that is problem-driven and/or solution-oriented and closes critical knowledge gaps through effective cooperation with partners from policy, practice and industry. Eawag's research is aligned with societal needs, using the targets for Sustainability Development Goals (SDGs) as an organizing framework.
- MED - Mediterranean Institute for Agriculture, Environment and Development, Évora University, Portugal (<https://www.med.uevora.pt/>)
MED's mission is to promote ecosystem sustainability and food security as a contribution towards territorial cohesion and wellbeing. Specifically, MED seeks to increase excellence in research and contribute with solutions to the sustainability of agroecosystems, the environment and the supporting territories of Mediterranean, through:
 1. Improving resource use efficiency and competitive agriculture;
 2. Improving sustainability of food system while preserving the mediterranean diet;

3. Assuring biodiversity conservation and landscape multi-functionality;
4. Promoting organizational capability and governance mechanisms;
5. Identifying pathways towards resilience and adaptation under known climate change scenarios.

- SLU Urban Futures, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU), Sweden (<https://www.slu.se/en/>)

As a sector university SLU features a long-standing natural scientific research framework and sees the need to open up for other forms of knowledge creation. This is why the university leadership has instated four 'Future Platforms' in 2017, in their core areas (Future Forest, Future Food, Future Animals Nature & Health) and in one emerging area (Urban Futures). SLU Urban Futures is the most internationally operating Future Platform, the one which is most dedicated to research education, and with close links to the realm of practice offered by the composite field of landscape architecture (comprising various knowledge areas from vegetation to planning, governance, history, sociology, the arts, design). SLU Urban Futures and SLU Future Food are both developing a focus on the meta-level of ID/TD, and SLU Urban Futures is particularly dedicated to establish links to the international arenas of ID/TD.

For a full list of institutional members of the ITD Alliance, visit the public [Members page](#).

New and Renewing Individual Members

Asia

- Albert Chau, Hong Kong Baptist University (HKBU), China*
- William Cheung, Hong Kong Baptist University (HKBU), China*
- Caixia Chu, Hong Kong Baptist University (HKBU), China*
- Michael Facius, The University of Tokyo, Institutes for Advanced Studies, Tokyo College, Japan
- Glos Ho, Hong Kong Baptist University (HKBU), China*
- Xinyu Hu, Hong Kong Baptist University (HKBU), China*
- Wendy Huang, Hong Kong Baptist University (HKBU), China*
- Aneesa Jamal, Universiti Teknologi Malaysia, Malaysia
- Dorothy Lau, Hong Kong Baptist University (HKBU), China*
- Sammy Li, Hong Kong Baptist University (HKBU), China*
- Kingsley Ng, Hong Kong Baptist University (HKBU), China*
- Taizo Yokoyama, Wisa, Japan / National University of Laos, Japan
- Nick Zhang, Hong Kong Baptist University (HKBU), China*

Europe

- Leonor Almeida, MED - Mediterranean Institute for Agriculture, Environment and Development, Évora University, Portugal*
- Patrícia Bacalhau, MED - Mediterranean Institute for Agriculture, Environment and Development, Évora University, Portugal*
- Esther Blokbergen, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Athena Institute, Netherlands
- Stefan Bösch, RWTH Aachen, Human Technology Center, Germany
- Diogo Costa, MED - Mediterranean Institute for Agriculture, Environment and Development, Évora University, Portugal*
- Sierra Deutsch, University of Zürich, Geography, Switzerland
- Helena Grönqvist, Centre for Integrated Research on Culture and Society (CIRCUS), Uppsala University, Sweden*

- M^a Helena Guimarães, MED - Mediterranean Institute for Agriculture, Environment and Development, Évora University, Portugal*
- Claes-Fredrik Helgesson, Centre for Integrated Research on Culture and Society (CIRCUS), Uppsala University, Sweden*
- Paola Hernández, MED - Mediterranean Institute for Agriculture, Environment and Development, Évora University, Portugal*
- Sabine Hoffmann, Eawag, Eidgenössische Anstalt für Wasserversorgung, Abwasserreinigung und Gewässerschutz, Switzerland*
- Catarina Isidoro, MED - Mediterranean Institute for Agriculture, Environment and Development, Évora University, Portugal*
- Sawsan Khuri, Collaborative Capacities (and University of Exeter), UK
- Pia Laborgne, Institut für Technikfolgenabschätzung und Systemanalyse (ITAS), Germany
- Maryna Lakhno, Eawag, Eidgenössische Anstalt für Wasserversorgung, Abwasserreinigung und Gewässerschutz, Switzerland*
- Nadia Lovell, Centre for Integrated Research on Culture and Society (CIRCUS), Uppsala University, Sweden*
- Antje Michel, Potsdam University of Applied Sciences, Germany
- Dominik Noll, MED - Mediterranean Institute for Agriculture, Environment and Development, Évora University, Portugal*
- Teresa Nóvoa, MED - Mediterranean Institute for Agriculture, Environment and Development, Évora University, Portugal*
- Teresa Pinto-Correia, MED - Mediterranean Institute for Agriculture, Environment and Development, Évora University, Portugal*
- Carole Bernadette Rapo, ETH Zürich, D-USYS, Switzerland
- Regina Rhodius, Öko-Institut e.V, Germany
- Maria Rivera, MED - Mediterranean Institute for Agriculture, Environment and Development, Évora University, Portugal*
- Hanna Salomon, Eawag, Eidgenössische Anstalt für Wasserversorgung, Abwasserreinigung und Gewässerschutz, Switzerland*
- Evelyne Schnittger, Hamburg University, Germany
- Jana Thierfelder, Eawag, Eidgenössische Anstalt für Wasserversorgung, Abwasserreinigung und Gewässerschutz, Switzerland*
- Annet van Royen-Kerkhof, University Medical Center Utrecht, Netherlands
- Nina Vogel, SLU Urban Futures, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Sweden*
- Jialin Zhang, Eawag, Eidgenössische Anstalt für Wasserversorgung, Abwasserreinigung und Gewässerschutz, Switzerland*

Latin America and the Caribbean

- Ileana Espejel, Universidad Autónoma de Baja California, Facultad de Ciencias, Mexico
- Juliana Merçon, Universidad Veracruzana, Mexico

North America

- Catherine Amelink, Virginia Tech, USA
- Verena Knerich, Colorado State University, USA
- Margaret Krebs, Earth Leadership Program, USA

- Gaetano Lotrecchiano, George Washington University, Associate Dean, Innovative and Collaborative Pedagogy, USA

Oceania

- Gabriele Bammer, National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health, The Australian National University, Australia

Sub-Saharan Africa

- Basirat Ashabi Oyalowo, Oxford Brookes University, UK, affiliated to Centre for Housing and Sustainable Development, University of Lagos, Nigeria

* Individual member included with institutional membership. To learn about the benefits of joining the ITD Alliance as an institutional member (including multiple complimentary individual memberships, depending on organisation size), see our [Membership](#) page.

We encourage you to connect with your colleagues, especially those in your region. You can find contact information for individual members in the [Member Area](#) of the ITD Alliance website (log-in required).



Member publications

New Member Publications

We are pleased to announce a new publication by ITD Alliance members. The full list for late 2024 and 2025 publications is sortable and searchable on the [Member Publications](#) web page. Congratulations to our members.

Member author(s): Ulli Vilsmaier, Machiel Keestra, Juliana Merçon, (Julie Thompson Klein, who died in 2023, was a much valued founder member)

Citation: Vilsmaier, U., Thompson Klein, J., Keestra, M., and Merçon, J. (2025). Inter- and transdisciplinarity. In T. Roelcke, R. Breeze, and J. Engberg (Eds.), *Specialized Communication: An International Handbook* (pp. 87-105). DeGruyter Mouton.
<https://doi.org/10.1515/9783110672633-005>

Description: The Handbook of Specialized Communication captures relevant knowledge of specialized languages and professional communication on central issues where dialogue is urgently needed concerning both their intellectual underpinning and the day-to-day practices associated with them. The chapter on inter- and transdisciplinarity introduces defining characteristics, conceptual pluralism and practices of conceptual work to address phenomena or problems that require boundary-crossing approaches to be named, understood, and resolved.

View the [Member Publications](#) web page and submit your publication to share.



Relevant event

Call for expressions of interest and registration, “Bridging the research-practice gap in knowledge management (KM)”, KM Triversary Forum 2025, Online, 14-15 October 2025

The [KM Triversary Forum 2025](#) is being organised to celebrate the triple anniversary of three global knowledge management (KM) organizations – the Knowledge Management for Development (KM4Dev) global community of practice (25 years), the Knowledge Management for Development (KM4D) Journal (20 years), and the RealKM Cooperative (10 years). The KM Triversary Forum 2025 will be held online, in multiple sessions for different time zones on 14 and 15 October 2025 with the theme: “Bridging the research-practice gap in knowledge management (KM).”

Each of the online sessions will include a selection of keynote presentations, presentations, workshops / knowledge cafés, and breaks. To express your interest in giving a presentation or facilitating a workshop / knowledge café supporting this theme and the subthemes, and for further information about the Forum, please see the KM Triversary Forum Brochure: https://realkm.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/Brochure_KM_Triversary_Forum_14-15_October_2025_vs1_2025-07-16.pdf.



Opportunity

Full Professor of Transformative Sustainability Sciences, BOKU University, Austria

A professorship in Transformative Sustainability Sciences is to be filled at the [BOKU University](#) as of 1st March 2026. BOKU University, the Alma Mater Viridis, is the university of sustainability and life sciences. BOKU's mission is to contribute to securing the foundations of life for future generations through the diversity of its subject areas. The professorship to be filled will be anchored in an organisational unit for transformative sustainability sciences that is currently under development. The primary task of the new organisational unit is to support existing or emerging transformation processes and to initiate and implement transformative activities at BOKU. For further information on this professorship, please contact Univ.-Prof. Dr. Christian Obinger, Vice-Rector for Research and Innovation at BOKU University, e-mail: christian.obinger@boku.ac.at.

Deadline: 15 September 2025.

For more details and application instructions, see the [position description](#).



About this News Bulletin

This News Bulletin focuses on the activities of the ITD Alliance and its members.

Members are encouraged to engage with the community through the News Bulletin by contributing to sections of the bulletin (these do not appear in every issue):

- Consult the community – Ask questions of the community and respond to member questions to support our teaching and learning, as individuals and as a community.
- Member conferences and events – Announce inter- and transdisciplinarity related events hosted by you or your institution.
- Member news – Share news of inter- and transdisciplinarity related reports on activities, awards you have received or other good news.

We also welcome contributions that may interest members such as:

- Opportunities for consulting or employment, grants and prizes or visiting fellowships
- Policy news in education, funding and research
- Conference calls and reports
- Journal calls for submissions to special issues related to inter- and transdisciplinarity.

Please send contributions to Caryn Anderson (caryn.anderson@itd-alliance.org) at least a week before you would like to see them published. We aim to publish every two weeks, but the day may vary.

The News Bulletin is sent to all members of the ITD Alliance and to interested colleagues who have joined the mailing list at <https://itd-alliance.org/newsletter>. To be sure News Bulletins don't end up in a spam folder, add info@itd-alliance.org to your contacts list. Feel free to share the News Bulletin with anyone who may be interested.

Explore past newsletters on our website: <https://itd-alliance.org/newsletter/>.