



ITD Alliance

Global Alliance for
Inter- and Transdisciplinarity

News Bulletin
15 October 2025

Dear ITD Alliance Members and Colleagues,

This News Bulletin includes:

- Don't forget to vote!
- General Assembly Meetings - Report, Recordings and Slides.
- ITD Alliance Event:
 - Organizational Change for ITD Working Group Workshop, Online, 1 December 2025.
- Member News:
 - Hong Kong Baptist University (HKBU) Transdisciplinary Innovation Team recognition.
- Member Publications: 5 publications, 4 members.
- Relevant Event:
 - Peer-Coaching for the 'sticky-bits' in Transdisciplinary Research Collaborations, Online, 6 November 2025.
- Employment Opportunity:
 - Postdoctoral Research Assistants in Sustainability Transformation, Kassel Institute for Sustainability, Germany.
- 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.



Don't forget to vote!

[Voting is now open](#) to elect half of the members of the ITD Alliance Leadership Board, the President and the ITD Alliance's first Lifetime Member. In addition, members are invited to vote on the 2024-25 financial statement and the 2025-26 budget. The ITD Alliance bylaws mandate that these elections and approvals all require member support. Finally, the voting provides an opportunity for members to provide feedback to the President, Executive Secretary and Leadership Board, by voting and commenting on their reports. Details are available in the [agenda papers](#).

Don't forget to vote! Your voice is important. Thank you to those who have already voted. Voting is open now through 24 October through an [online voting form](#).



General Assembly Meetings – Report, Recordings and Slides

The sixth General Assembly of the ITD Alliance included two identical online meetings on 9 and 10 October 2025 (depending on time zone). There were 24 and 13 attendees, respectively, and the meetings provided an opportunity for lively exchange and discussion.

The meetings were an opportunity to hear from, and recognise, the valuable work of volunteers serving on the Leadership Board, coordinating the working groups, and organising the ITD27 conference. The work described was impressive, tackling critical issues for inter- and transdisciplinarity and for the ITD Alliance.

The financial report highlighted that the ITD Alliance is living within its means, along with the importance of raising additional revenue to allow the Executive Secretary to expand the essential and much-appreciated support she provides.

A priority for the next 12 months is increasing membership to grow the number of volunteers; expand global links, especially to under-represented countries; and raise income. All members are invited to help.

[Recordings and presentation slides](#) from the meetings are available on the website.



ITD Alliance event

Organizational Change for ITD Working Group Workshop, Online, 1 December 2025

A cornerstone of the [Organizational Change for Inter- and Transdisciplinarity \(ITD\) working group](#) activities for the first year is a series of similarly formatted workshops. The format and thematics were shaped by two inaugural workshops held in September 2025 and the post-workshop survey results. The next workshop will be held on 1 December 2025.

Workshop Format:

- **The Common Room:** Connecting, touching base and sharing.
- **The Library Project:** Collecting, sharing and annotating useful resources.
- **The Impact Project:** Actively advocating and impacting the role of ITD in policy-making, research funding and publishing.

See details on formats and aims for each theme on the [Organizational Change for Inter- and Transdisciplinarity \(ITD\) working group](#) web page.

Date & Time: 1 December 2025, 4pm-5.30pm EET ([convert to your time zone](#))

Location: Online (Zoom), Open to all
Sign-up (before 27 November 2025):
<https://doit.medfarm.uu.se/bin/kurt3/kurt/8892912>



Member news

Hong Kong Baptist University (HKBU) Transdisciplinary Innovation Team recognition

The Transdisciplinary Innovation Team at Hong Kong Baptist University (HKBU), an ITD Alliance institutional member, has just received the [2025 University Grants Committee \(UGC\) Teaching Award](#) in the Collaborative Teams category. This teaching award recognises exemplary teaching performance and scholarly contributions to teaching and learning. View the video about their program and selected projects: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5RuuQ3XddyQ>.

HKBU's project *Institutionalising Transdisciplinary Education for Addressing SDG-driven Challenges* has been shortlisted for the prestigious [QS Reimagine Education Awards](#) in the *Sustainability Education Literacy* category. The awards recognise the most pioneering pedagogical approaches that enhance learning outcomes, improve employability, and advance sustainability education. Over 1,600 submissions were received across 18 diverse categories in 2025. Awards will be announced at the [Reimagine Education Conference](#) in London from 1-3 December 2025.

Congratulations to our institutional member HKBU and to everyone involved!



Member publications

We are pleased to announce five new publications by four 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): Ndubuisi Idejiora-Kalu

Citation: Atiku, A., Aliyu, A., Chelabi, K., Ibeh, L., Gidado, M., Idejiora-Kalu, N., Mmamelu, N., John, S., Ombeka, V., & Kairou, Z. (2025). **Ethical Artificial Intelligence Integration in Tuberculosis Management: A Human-Centered Nigerian Case Study.** *Scientific Journal of Human and Machine Learning*, 3(2), 89-104. <https://indd.adobe.com/view/b095c726-2c6c-42dd-8b3b-58b9a9d7c70c>

Description: Tuberculosis remains a significant public health challenge in Nigeria. Integrating AI especially the Transdisciplinary further development of Artificial General Intelligence – Transdisciplinary AI into TB management offers promising results. Ethical and human-centred concerns are critical to ensure responsible deployment. This study investigates ethical artificial intelligence integration in tuberculosis management in Nigeria.

Member author(s): Marisa Rinkus, Michael O'Rourke

Citation: Eschen, R., Eigenbrode, S., Hall, T., Rinkus, M., Schaffner, U., O'Rourke, M. (2025). **How to promote the integrative ability of transdisciplinary graduate students.** *Environmental Science & Policy*, 170.

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envsci.2025.104114>

Description: This paper describes aspects of a transdisciplinary graduate training program that focus on enhancing the integrative ability of Ph.D. students. It uses a matrix of differences as a framework for analyzing the impact of training activities on the integrative consciousness of individuals and the integrative capacity of collectives (e.g., teams).

Member author(s): Marisa Rinkus, Michael O'Rourke

Citation: Schaffner, U., Rinkus, M. A., O'Rourke, M., Hall, T. E., Eschen, R., Eigenbrode, S. D. (2025). **Addressing communication challenges in transdisciplinary sustainability science: Insights from a case study.** *Ecology and Society*, 30(3).

<https://doi.org/10.5751/ES-16058-300338>

Description: In this paper, the authors discuss the complex communication strategy developed for the Woody Weeds project, a transdisciplinary project that focused on woody invasive plants in eastern Africa. The strategy included 17 activities designed to support communication among scientists, students, and stakeholders from the project's inception to its conclusion. The paper analyzes the informational and relational aspects of these activities and the overall effectiveness of the strategy, offering it as a guide to enhancing communication and the success of large TDSS projects.

Member author(s): Michael O'Rourke

Citation: O'Rourke, M. (2025). **Toward a metaphilosophy of integration.** *Interdisciplinary Science Reviews*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/03080188251365499>

Description: A brief commentary on the recent volume, *Key Texts on Interdisciplinary Higher Education* (ed. I. van der Tuin), this paper argues for a more engaged and critical debate about the nature of crossdisciplinary integration than what we currently find in the literature.

Member author(s): Simon Scott

Citation: Scott, S. (2025, October 6). **The great interdisciplinarity illusion – and what to do about it.** *Times Higher Education, Campus*.

<https://www.timeshighereducation.com/campus/great-interdisciplinarity-illusion-and-what-do-about-it?>

Description: This article challenges universities that market interdisciplinarity while offering only multidisciplinary modules and programmes built on flexibility and breadth. It shows how interdisciplinarity has been misunderstood to fit existing structures and argues that genuine integrative practice requires informed leadership, investment in pedagogical and organisational expertise, and deeper structural changes.

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



Relevant event

**Peer-Coaching for the 'sticky-bits' in Transdisciplinary Research Collaborations,
Online, 6 November 2025**

The Enjust working group on [Environmental Justice in Transdisciplinary Contexts](#) warmly invites participants to online peer-coaching on ‘sticky-bits’ in research collaboration. Working between academic and non-academic worlds is so important. It can be very rewarding – and very difficult. People curious about, or involved in, such processes are welcome to join this safe sharing and learning format on transdisciplinary practice! You are invited to either present your own ‘sticky’ moment in a collaboration for peer-coaching input. Or you can choose to support the coaching process or participate as an active listener. With Judith Bopp of the Rachel Carson Centre, Juneseo Hwang of University of Hamburg and Jeanne Féaux de la Croix of University of Bern (ITD Alliance member).

Session is limited to 20 participants. [View the details](#) and contact the organisers to participate.

Date: November 6 2025

Times: 3-5 pm CET/4-6 pm MSK /9-11 am CE ET ([convert to your time zone](#))

[Zoom link](#)



Employment opportunity

Postdoctoral Research Assistants in Sustainability Transformation, Kassel Institute for Sustainability, Germany

Are you passionate about how sustainability transformations can be leveraged through knowledge co-creation and activation of values in groups and individuals? The University of Kassel is looking for two enthusiastic Postdoctoral Researchers (m/f/d) to join our ERC-funded project LEVER: “Our sustainable future, the ValueS that dRive it, and how to get there”. This is your chance to explore and evaluate transdisciplinary and transformative sustainability research processes in Germany, Romania, and the Republic of Moldova, working in an international, dynamic research team.

Details on project and positions: <https://www.uni-kassel.de/forschung/en/lever/research-positions.html>

Contact: Andra-Ioana Horcea-Milcu, an ITD Alliance member (andra.milcu@uni-kassel.de)



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/>.