ITD Alliance

Global Alliance for Inter- and Transdisciplinarity

News Bulletin
7 January 2026

Dear ITD Alliance Members and Colleagues,

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- 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.

ITD Alliance events

Philosophical Perspectives on Inter- and Transdisciplinarity, Webinar, ITD Alliance & INSciTS, online, 22 January 2025

The International Network for the Science of Team Science (INSciTS) and the Global Alliance for Inter- and Transdisciplinarity (ITD Alliance) are partnering to host a webinar series in the spirit of both organizations' interests in pursuing a deeper understanding of collaborations across different disciplines. The upcoming webinar "Philosophical Perspectives on Inter- and Transdisciplinarity: Pluralism, Reflexivity, and Critique" will be held online on January 22, 2026 as a panel discussion followed by Q&A and conversation.

One century after interdisciplinarity's inception, in 2025, *Issues in Interdisciplinary Studies* published a special issue on the Philosophy of Interdisciplinarity. Despite the growing significance of interdisciplinarity, especially in the last 50 years, philosophical engagement with it has been limited. This issue offers contemporary contributions by authors from countries around the world with themes representing perspectives on the plurality of interdisciplinary research (IDR). The webinar panel brings together a subset of contributors from that special issue. Coeditors Machiel Keestra and Jan Schmidt will offer a brief introduction to the special issue. Schmidt then will introduce his concept of "critical-reflexive interdisciplinarity". Bethany Laursen will discuss a new conceptual and visual tool known as "integrative topologies". Keestra finally discusses his ideas on epistemic injustice, resistance, and openness in IDR. Moderated by Stephen Fiore, the webinar closes with a shared conversation on the benefits and challenges of philosophy of interdisciplinarity for IDR.

Date and Time: Thursday, January 22, 2026, 9:00am (PST), 12:00noon (EST), 6:00pm (CET) (convert to your time zone)
Location: Online, open to all
Register: https://forms.gle/PmDSBKjXfZeTB4HY7
A recording will be available after the webinar.

View the flyer for panelist and moderator biographies and event and series details.

The Value Project of the Integration Experts and Expertise Working Group, 2nd workshop, online, 27 January 2026

The second workshop of the ITD Value Project of the Integration Experts and Expertise Working Group will be held online on 27 January 2026. In this session, participants will continue working on the issue of recognising the value of integrators and integration expertise. The workshop is open to all.

Together, participants will work on three things:
1. Discuss a first rough draft of the roadmap for the project.
2. Start developing the integrator personas, a sub-project we came up with in the first workshop.

3. Begin working towards including integration expertise in Contributor Role Taxonomy (CRediT), another intervention raised in the first workshop.

Date & Time: January 27, 2026, 8:00-9:30 GMT ([convert to your time zone](#))
Sign-up (before January 23, 2026):
https://doit.medfarm.uu.se/bin/kurt3/kurt/8897750

Organizational Change for ITD Working Group, Third Workshop, 18 February 2026

The [Organizational Change for Inter- and Transdisciplinarity (ITD)](#) Working Group of the Global Alliance for Inter- and Transdisciplinarity (ITD Alliance) will host a third workshop online on 18 February 2026. The major theme this time is to develop suggestions for the upcoming conference ITD27.

We are looking at topics from this WG tailored to the ITD community at large and also to possibly engage external stakeholders to come to the conference (could be funders, research managers, societal partners). The workshop will, as per tradition, touch base on all three segments of this WG: "the common room", "the library", and "the impact project".

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: 18 February 2026, 9:00-10:30 CET ([convert to your time zone](#))
Location: Online (link sent to registered participants), Open to all
Sign-up: https://doit.medfarm.uu.se/bin/kurt3/kurt/8897680
Recordings of previous workshops are available at: https://itd-alliance.org/working-groups/organizational-change-for-itd/

Member publication

We are pleased to announce one new publication by one ITD Alliance member. The full list of publications (beginning in late 2024) is sortable and searchable on the [Member Publications](#) web page. Congratulations to our member.

Member author(s): Kareem Buyana
Citation: Lwasa, S., Mukwaya, P. I., Mbabazi, J., Kisembo, T., Namuli, H., Sseviiri, H., Byarugaba, D., Nakyagaba, G. N., Nadiope, M., Buyana, K., & Ologe, D. O. (2025). **Knowledge co-production for transformation in low-income settlements in urban Africa.** In C. Johnson, V. Castán Broto, W. J. Kombe, C. Ortiz, B. Lipietz, E. Osuteye, & C. Levy (Eds.), *Co-production of Knowledge in Action : Emancipatory strategies for urban equality* (pp. 55-78). UCL Press. https://doi.org/10.14324/111.9781800088931
Description: Delivering services and utilities to keep up with the pace of urban growth remains a policy challenge. Individual and community inequalities are catalysed by the

involvement of research and private industry actors to co- produce knowledge, and co-implement and validate some of the economic opportunities where they exist that can enable the transformation of urban areas.

View the Member Publications web page and submit your publication to share.

Member courses

tdMOOC Learning Group 2026, "Partnering for Change" Online Course, Network for Transdisciplinary Research (td-net) and partners, 25 February – 16 April 2026

Want to strengthen your skills in tackling complex societal challenges through transdisciplinary research? The free online Massive Open Online Course on Trandisciplinary Research (tdMOOC) "Partnering for Change: Link Research to Societal Challenges" returns for another year starting February 2026! The tdMOOC is produced by the Network for Transdisciplinary Research (td-net), an ITD Alliance lifetime and founding member, with partners.

The tdMOOC Learning Group enriches the self-paced online course with weekly motivation emails, four live sessions, a private MURAL board, and small working groups (max. 5 people). You choose your level of engagement: active, contributing, or passive. The Learning Group runs from 25 February to 16 April 2026. Subscription is free.

tdMOOC Details: https://go.transdisciplinarity.ch/mooc
Subscribe to the Learning Group: https://go.transdisciplinarity.ch/MOOCsubscribe

Foundations of Inter- and Transdisciplinary Research PhD course, Wageningen Institute for Environment and Climate Research (WIMEK), The Netherlands, 27 May – 3 June 2026

The Foundations of Inter- and Transdisciplinary Research (FITR) PhD course course will take place over six consecutive workdays on the Wageningen University campus, in Wageningen, The Netherlands. The course involves six ITD Alliance members: Jillian Student (course developer, instructor), Nikki Brand, Anne Bruggen, Anke de Vrieze, Gemma O'Sullivan, Mareike Smolka (contributing lecturers). This interactive course is designed to equip participants with foundational concepts, practical tools, and hands-on experiences to apply inter- and transdisciplinary approaches in their own research. The course is structured around five core themes: the individual, collaboration, outcomes, the research process, and reflection.

Course dates:
May 27th-29th (Wednesday to Friday)
June 1st - 3rd (Monday to Wednesday)

For more information and to register (preliminary registration until January 31st, 2026):
https://sense.nl/course/foundations-of-inter-and-transdisciplinary-research-course/
For questions, please contact wimek@wur.nl.

Survey by member institution

Transdisciplinary Education Integrating Technology, Arts & Humanities, Survey, TransINNOVATE/TAH Centre, Deadline 16 January 2026

The [TAH Centre](#), an ITD Alliance institutional member, is conducting international research on transdisciplinary education for the future-ready competencies. Two months ago, they launched [TransINNOVATE](#) — a €250,000 Erasmus+ project bringing together partners from the Czech Republic, Slovenia, Lithuania, and Germany. The goal is to create the first systematic framework for transdisciplinary education at the intersection of technology, arts, and humanities.

The needs analysis survey invites educators, researchers, artists, and educational managers or designers from Europe and beyond working at disciplinary intersections crossing new technologies (AI (artificial intelligence), robotics, VR (virtual reality), NFT (non-fungible token), QC (quantum computing), etc.), art of all kinds, and social & cultural & environmental impact - to share their experiences through a 20-minute anonymous survey. The input directly shapes: training programmes, AI-enhanced tools, methodological frameworks, and micro-credentialing standards.

Length: ~20 minutes
Privacy: Anonymous & GDPR-compliant
Deadline: January 16, 2026
Languages: English
For whom: Educators, researchers, artists, policy makers
Click here to start the survey: https://ee.kobotoolbox.org/x/Q5e0Nei5

Relevant events

"(i2)Insights on Leadership Practices for Collaborative Teams", INTEREACH webinar celebrating the 10th anniversary of i2Insights blog and toolkit, Online, 13 January 2026

January 13th, 12:00-1:00 PM ET ([convert to your time zone](#)), "(i2)Insights on Leadership Practices for Collaborative Teams" with Gerald Midgley (University of Hull) and Gemma Jiang (Colorado State University).
Where: https://duke.zoom.us/j/97938305083

To mark the 10th anniversary of the [Integration and Implementation Insights (i2Insights) blog and toolkit](#), hosted by ITD Alliance President, Gabriele Bammer, and Peter Deane of The Australian National University, the Interdisciplinary Integration Research Careers Hub ([INTEREACH](#)) is dedicating its 2025-2026 webinar series to celebrating the blog's content and collectively taking stock of all it has contributed toward the formalization of integrative skillsets and transdisciplinary approaches to addressing complex challenges. Each webinar will spotlight a theme from i2Insights.

See the [full list of dates, themes and speakers](#), many of whom are ITD Alliance members. View recordings of previous webinars in the INTEREACH [webinar series archives](#).

Analyzing Knowledge Integration in Convergence Research, Online, 14 January 2026

This event is part of the U.S. [National Science Foundation's Growing Convergence Research](#) Lecture Series. Join Shalini Misra, Ph.D., Associate Professor, School of Public and International Affairs, Virginia Tech, USA for her discussion of how researchers charged with leading convergence research might better plan, design, implement, and evaluate the integrative processes and products of their research. She will: (1) present an analytical framework to examine knowledge integration processes and products; (2) describe how they applied the framework to assess knowledge integration processes and products during the first two years of a five-year National Science Foundation Growing Convergence Research (GCR) project using a self-evaluation approach; and (3) consider the efficacy of the various knowledge integration approaches used in their GCR project and share empirically derived recommendations for designing, implementing, and evaluating convergence research. [This is a rescheduling of an event postponed in 2025.]

Date & Time: Wednesday, 14 January 2026, 3:00-4:00 ET (Washington, DC) ([convert to your time zone](#))
Location: [Zoom Link](#), Passcode: GCR

Conference news

Grand Challenges Conference: Joint Research for Better Futures, Berlin University Alliance, Berlin, Germany, 23-25 March 2026

Initiated by the [Berlin University Alliance](#), the [Grand Challenges Conference](#) is a new format designed to share research, spark fresh thinking, and build a vibrant international community committed to engaging with the urgent challenges of our time. The first international conference will be held in Berlin, Germany from 23-25 March 2026.

Over three days, around 300 participants from across disciplines, institutions, and sectors will come together to present innovative approaches, exchange ideas, and explore new forms of cooperation. In addition to exploring strategies for responding to global challenges, the program focuses in particular on five pressing challenges: Global Health, Social Cohesion, Climate and Water under Change, Quantum Technologies, and Responsible Innovation in Times of Transformation.

Details & registration (12 January – 28 February): https://gc-conference-bua.de/

Call for session proposals

Call for session proposals, SRI2026 Africa Regional Conference, Cape Town, South Africa, 22-26 June 2026

In 2026, the Africa Regional Conference (previously the Africa Satellite Event) will serve as the primary [Sustainability Research & Innovation Congress (SRI)](#) gathering for the year. This shift allows the Africa Regional Conference to take center stage as the annual convening space for the SRI community, which brings together global leaders across

research, government, civil society, and business to co-create cutting-edge solutions for a more sustainable future.

The SRI2026 Africa Regional Conference, co-convened by the National Research Foundation, Future Earth, Future Earth Africa Hub, and the Belmont Forum, will take place on 22-26 June 2026 in Cape Town, South Africa, and online (Plenaries). Early bird registration opens 15 February 2026. Session proposals are invited by 15 January 2026.

Proposal submission deadline: 15 January 2026
Call details & submission guidelines: https://sri.secure-platform.com/sri-home/page/SRI-Africa-Regional-Conference
Conference information: https://sricongress.org/

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.
- Member publications – Announce recent publications highlighting inter- or trandisciplinarity or boundary crossing or collaborative research and practice.

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/.