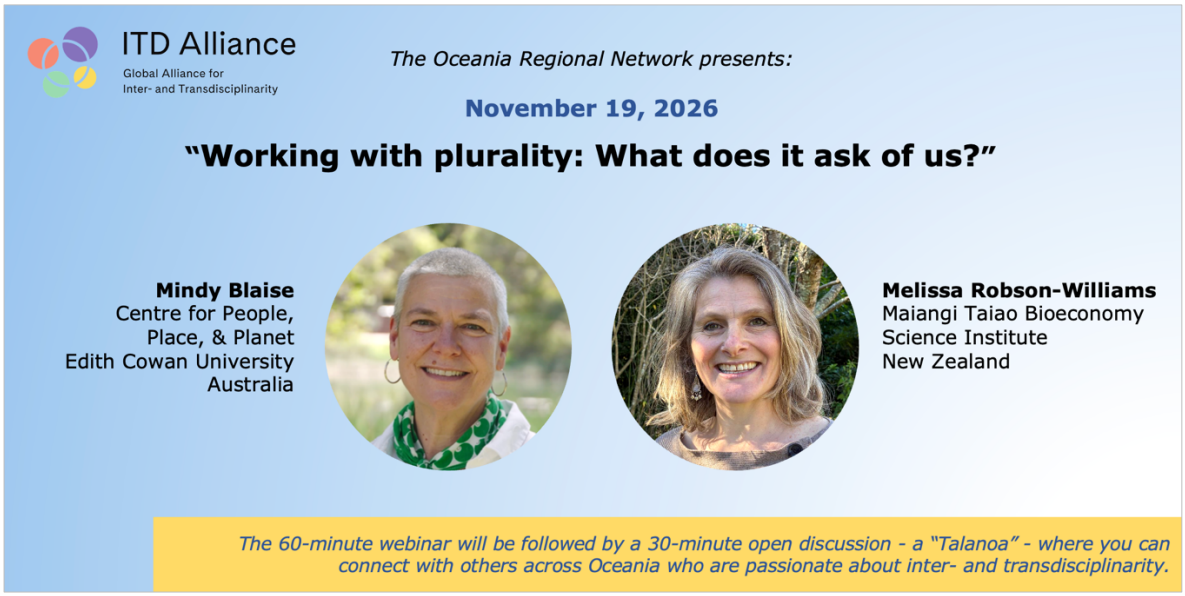
ITD Alliance
Global Alliance for
Inter- and Transdisciplinarity



Oceania Regional Network Webinar:

Working with plurality: What does it ask of us?

Webinar Details

Date: Thursday, 19 November, 2026
Time: Convert to your time zone; Perth: 10-11:30pm, Sydney: 1-2:30pm, Fiji: 2-3:30pm and Aotearoa New Zealand: 3-4:30pm
Register at Humanitix (Zoom link sent to registered participants)

Description

How can we work productively across multiple knowledge systems without reducing differences, forcing consensus, or privileging one perspective over another?

In this webinar, Mindy Blaise (Centre for People, Place, & Planet, Edith Cowan University, Australia) and Melissa Robson-Williams (Maiangi Taiao Bioeconomy Science Institute, New Zealand), will explore the work that scholars and practitioners, particularly those from non-Indigenous backgrounds, must do when working across different knowledge traditions: questioning assumptions, examining inherited research practices, building relationships, and learning how to engage respectfully across difference.

Drawing on examples from transdisciplinary, feminist, decolonial, and cross-knowledge-system research, our speakers will reflect on experiences of working across Indigenous, community-based, experiential, embodied, and academic forms of knowing. The discussion will explore practical questions such as:

- How do we recognise the limits of our own assumptions and methods?
- How can we navigate tensions and contradictions without erasing difference?
- What habits, relationships, and forms of reflexivity help us work across knowledge systems responsibly?

The session will provide practical insights for transdisciplinary researchers and practitioners interested in engaging seriously with plurality, while reflecting on how different ways of knowing can challenge, enrich, and transform our practice.

Moderation will be by Giedre Kligyte of the Transdisciplinary School at the University of Technology Sydney. This hour-long webinar will be followed by a 30-minute open discussion – a Talanoa – where you can connect with others across Oceania who are passionate about inter- and transdisciplinarity. A recording of the webinar will be available from the ITD Alliance Oceania Regional Network web page after the event.

Speaker Biographies

Dr Mindy Blaise is a Professor, Vice Chancellor's Professorial Research Fellow, and Co-Director of the Centre for People, Place, & Planet, a University Strategic Research Centre at Edith Cowan University, Western Australia. She has extensive qualitative and postfoundational research experience in feminist theory and methodologies, education, environmental education, gender studies, and creative and participatory methods. She is a transdisciplinary leader and researcher whose scholarship is at the forefront of feminist knowledge making, and anticolonial and activist research that generatively responds to the ever-growing injustices of sexism, racism, ecocide, and neoliberal capitalism. Her research challenges the modernist frameworks that ground education and has come to include a commitment to decolonising institutions at multiple levels. Some of this decolonising work is done through the integrative transdisciplinary leadership practices she is doing with others in the Centre for People, Place, & Planet.
Online Profile

Dr Melissa Robson-Williams works at Maiangi Taiao Bioeconomy Science Institute as a Portfolio leader of Catalysing change. Melissa has a PhD in Organic agriculture (Plant and Soil Science) an MSc in integrated Water Management and Advanced Irrigation, and a BSc Hons in Tropical Environmental Science. She is in an experienced environmental scientist and transdisciplinary researcher with expertise in undertaking complex socio-environment projects where bringing together diverse knowledge sources and creating real world change are critical. Her field of work is managing the impact of people on the environment, in particular on land and water. The aim that underpins all her endeavours is for nature and people to be thriving and their relationship to be a healthy reciprocal one.
Online Profile

ITD Alliance Oceania Regional Network

This event is organised by the ITD Alliance Oceania Regional Network, co-founded by the ITD Alliance (Global Alliance for Inter- and Transdisciplinarity) in partnership with NITRO-Oceania (Network of Leaders of Interdisciplinary and Transdisciplinary Research Organisations in the Oceania region) to increase connections and knowledge sharing among individuals and institutions engaged in inter- and transdisciplinary practice, research and education in the Oceania region and to strengthen our global voice about the unique characteristics of Oceania. Visit the network web page and subscribe for notice of future activities.