Newsletter 01/2022

The tdAcademy community is growing and so is our list of events and activities: Over the past few months, we have been advancing activities in our four central topic lines and developing various events. We were privileged to host inspiring fellows and guests, and we also published our first joint publication as tdAcademy team. So in this newsletter, we are pleased to present a whole range of interesting research reports of the last months and many upcoming events. You are warmly invited to get involved in the tdAcademy - be it in the online community, through our guest and fellowship program or as a participant in our events focusing on building knowledge, capacity and community.

Community | New profile and search categories for better search results
We made it easier for you to find researchers with similar interests! You can now simply choose your research interests, gives and needs from a list, making the search in our ‘interactive addressbook’ more effective. Register, update and expand your profile.

Call | Participate in our study on context dependencies!
The tdAcademy invites completed transdisciplinary research projects to participate in a study concerning their contextual dependencies and, if interested, to collaborate on a joint publication. The study is part of our topic line 3 “Contextual Dependencies”.

Register & edit
Learn more
Event | Apply now! Sept 25-Oct 1: International TD Summer School in Spain (MA/PhD)

The summer school focuses on regional land use conflicts in Alt Empordà, Catalonia. Master and PhD students from technologically-oriented disciplines and other fields are invited to apply. The event is organised by ZTG/TUB and ISST/UCP as part of the tdAcademy.

Fellow Report | Who’s afraid of transdisciplinary research?

tdAcademy visiting researcher Peter Wehling summarizes his observations and findings on institutional and conceptual resistances to transdisciplinarity in mainstream science. His work is part of topic line 1 “Scientific effects”.

Event | February 15: Design thinking as Digital Transformative Pedagogy

The tdAcademy capacity-building event with Sadaf Taimur focuses on discussing Design thinking as Digital Transformative Pedagogy in Higher Sustainability Education while elaborating on a case from Japan.

Event | March 16: Capacity building for transdisciplinary research (in German)

This tdAcademy workshop on further education in the field of transdisciplinary research is part of the Darmstadt Days of Transformation and brings together teachers, young researchers and practitioners.
Event | March 17: Innovative Formats in Transformative Project Contexts (in German)

This workshop aims to have participants share their experiences in selected contexts and the need for innovative formats. It is part of the tf-Symposium 2022 and of topic line 4 “New Formats”.

Learn more

Event | March 30: The Real-world Laboratory Format in TD Research (in German)

This webinar highlights the diversity of real-world laboratory approaches and presents real-world laboratory research from the Öko-Institut. It provides insight into the research of topic line 4 “New Formats”.

Learn more

Documentation | Webinar on Hegemony in institutional transformation

tdAcademy fellows Livia Fritz and Ulli Vilsmaier discussed the concept of hegemony in the work of Antonio Gramsci and on how far it could be fruitful for analysing and supporting institutional transformation of universities towards inter- and transdisciplinarity.

Learn more

Short Report | ITD21 Workshop on Innovative Formats

In September 2021, the 3rd dialog forum of topic line 4 “Contextual Dependencies” for td researchers and interested parties was held as part of the ITD Conference 2021. The short report summarizes the proceedings and the results.

Learn more

Publications from the tdAcademy

Transdisciplinary research: towards an integrative perspective

Lam, David P.M.; Freund, Maria E.; Kny, Josefa; Marg, Oskar; Mbah, Melanie; Theiler, Lena; Bergmann, Matthias; Brohmann, Bettina; Lang, Daniel J.; Schäfer, Martina (2021)

Since the emergence of transdisciplinary research, context dependencies, innovative formats and methods, societal effects, and scientific effects are key aspects that have been discussed at length. However, what is still missing is an integrative perspective on these four aspects, and the guidance on how to apply such an integrative perspective in order to realize the full transformative potential of transdisciplinary research. We provide an overview of each aspect and highlight relevant research questions that need to be answered to advance transdisciplinary research.
The Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) is funding the project "tdAcademy - Platform for Transdisciplinary Research and Studies" within the framework of the strategy Research for Sustainability (FONA) as part of its Social-Ecological Research funding priority, funding no. Fkz 01UV2070A. Responsibility for the content of this newsletter lies with the project.

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