



International Transdisciplinarity Conference 2021

**Creating Spaces and Cultivating
Mindsets for Learning and
Experimentation**

Online, 13–17 September 2021

Co-organised by
the Network for Transdisciplinary Research
and
the Transdisciplinarity Lab, ETH Zurich, Switzerland

Conference Report

Organising institutions

ETH Zurich

USYS TdLab

Department of Environmental Systems Science

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<https://tdlab.usys.ethz.ch/>

td-net

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The conference report is available in pdf format on the [website of td-net](#)

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ACTIVITIES

The ITD Conference 2021 Creating spaces and cultivating mindsets for learning and experimentation was coorganised by the Network for Transdisciplinary Research, td-net of the Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences and the Transdisciplinarity Lab (TdLab) of ETH Zurich. It was an online conference taking place between 13 and 17 September 2021. ITD 2021 illustrated the global nature and the diversity of thought within the transdisciplinarity (td) community within a virtual meeting space.

We developed five thematic streams reflecting the current challenges of td. In order to advance transdisciplinary concepts and methodologies, the first stream – Integrative td – centred on how to integrate expertise from multiple fields of knowledge (i. e., systems thinking, participatory action research, humanities, arts, design, amongst others) and professions. While acknowledging differences differences and plurality in language and action, the conference sought to contribute to envisioning and co-producing alternative futures.

The second stream – td-on-the-ground – focused on making transdisciplinary processes more tangible and explicit to practitioners and researchers. Participants were invited to take a close look at transdisciplinary practices that took place on the ground to better understand their impact and effectiveness. We discussed how to improve existing transdisciplinary practices based on these examples, also with the aim to facilitate inclusive and equitable research in different regions.

In a third stream – Global and virtual td – we opened a platform for connecting diverse communities and practices. By enabling them to learn from each other, the ITD Conference offered a space for virtual environments to leverage transdisciplinary collaboration, especially reflecting on their impact on the Global South-Global North context.

The fourth stream – td learning for transformation – focused on the potential of transformation through transdisciplinary learning. Here, we highlighted collaborative learning, including the context of Education for Sustainable Development that helps students to build the capacity and courage to creatively take on societal challenges. Participants shared experiences on how to better support approaches to various forms of transformative learning within diverse and inter-cultural contexts.

The fifth stream – Institutionalising and funding td – reflected on the increasing role td is playing in higher education institutions and in society and how to assess its benefits. Transdisciplinary career paths are being developed in different institutions, demanding specific support and infrastructures. In line with this, we discussed funding schemes, programme designs and management structures and how these could attract financial support for transdisciplinary research.

RESULTS

ITD 2021 provided a platform for engagement and action that linked transdisciplinary research, learning, and practice. Real-world labs, living labs, social innovation, Global South and Global North encounters and transition experiments served as inspirations for the design and implementation of this event. To strengthen the potential of td to address societal challenges, the conference welcomed educators, researchers, practitioners, industry and business representatives, funding agencies, decision makers and students across sectors and disciplines. In total, we had 528 registered participants from across the world (Figure 1).

The ITD 2021 had several unique features compared to previous editions. First, we adapted to pandemic realities by making the conference fully online. We used this as an opportunity to open new ways of engaging with one another by building a set of online formats that aimed at optimising participants' experience, both as a contributor and as a member of the audience. We tried to accommodate a wide swath of global time zones and languages. Attendees chose from 62 activities that spanned across the five topic streams (Figure 1).



Quick overview of some facts

- **207 contributions (146 pre-crafted, 57 real-time)**
- **9 special sessions** (5 EC, 2 SHAPE-ID, 2 ITD-Alliance)
- **7 key notes/panels** with a total of 18 speakers and 8 moderators
 - **12 hours recorded** (KN-7 only tomorrow)
- **8 Global Apéro**
- 125 sessions in iStage
- 146 poster booths in iStage (we received **19.5 GB** of data, in total around **13 hours of videos**)
- **528 registered participants** (DE: 115, CH: 91, NL: 37, US: 32, SA: 24, AU: 22, UK: 21, SE: 20, AT: 17, MW: 14, MX: 13, CA: 11, IE: 11, JP: 10, CL: 9, BR: 8, FR: 7, UY: 6, FI: 5, NO: 5, etc.)
- Conference booklet (311 pages) available online
<https://akademien-schweiz.ch/de/current/events/itd-conference-2021/programme/>



iStage will be running for another four weeks.
Registered participants can still watch the recorded key talks, plenary panels and all the pre-crafted contributions!

Important: all other functionalities (chat, networking tables etc.) are no longer available and there is as well no TechSupport.

Figure 1 some core facts about the ITD conference 2021

We offered both real-time workshops (N = 57) and the pre-crafted contributions (N = 146) that were produced in advance and made available throughout the event that allowed participants to share their work in a variety of mediums (N = 146 poster booths). Pre-crafted contributions were discussed in specific sessions (equivalent to poster sessions in a conventional conference). Real-time conference contributions included workshops and other forms of interactive events designed by participants. Live keynote talks and panel discussions (N = 7, Figure 2) complemented these formats. As an ensemble, keynotes and panels reflected diverse perspectives on and pathways through the history and the future of td.

<p>KN-1: TD and sustainable development - 1a. (Keynote talk)</p> <p><i>Speaker</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marcel Tanner, Professor, President of the Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences, Director Emeritus STI <p><i>Moderation</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theres Paulsen, Head of td-net, Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences <p>KN-2: TD and sustainable development - 1b. (Panel discussion)</p> <p><i>Panelists</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manuel Flury-Wahlen, Advisor, former Head of Division, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) • Tobias Bade Strøm, Special Advisor for EU Research, The Research Council of Norway • Tatjana Von Steiger, Head of Global Policy Outreach, Wyss Academy for Nature, Switzerland <p><i>Moderation</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ortwin Renn, Prof. Dr. Dr., Scientific Director, Institute of Advanced Institute of Sustainability Studies (IASS), Germany <p>KN-3: Collaboration towards impact - 2a. (Tandem talk with moderated discussion)</p> <p><i>Speakers</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flurina Schneider, Prof. Dr., Scientific Director ISOE and Professor at Goethe University Frankfurt • Dhanush Dinesh, Head of Partnerships and Outreach, CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food <p><i>Moderation</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Danilo Streck, Professor at the Graduate School of Education - Unisinos University (Brazil) <p>KN-4: Collaboration towards impact - 2b. (Panel discussion)</p> <p><i>Panelists</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pietro Mona, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the African Union, Addis Ababa • Melissa Robson-Williams, Environmental scientist, transdisciplinary researcher, Manaaki Whenua, New Zealand • Ariane Koek, Creative Director, Strategic Associate and Consultant on Art Science Technology Ecology <p><i>Moderation</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tobias Buser, td-net Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences, and Global Alliance for Inter-and Transdisciplinarity <p>KN-5: TD as collective - 3c. (Panel discussion - saguf event)</p> <p><i>Panelists</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jane Ohlmeyer, Erasmus Smith's Professor of Modern History, Trinity College Dublin • Jenny Lieu, Dr., Assistant Professor, TU Delft • Sven Schade, Policy Officer, European Commission, Directorate General for Research and Innovation • Manfred Max Bergman, University of Basel, Social Transitions Research Group, President saguf, Research Council SNF <p><i>Moderation</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basil Bornemann, Postdoctoral researcher, Sustainability Research Group, University of Basel, Board Member saguf • Christian Pohl, Co-Director, TdLab, ETH Zürich <p>KN-6: TD as collective - 3a. (Tandem talk with moderated discussion)</p> <p><i>Speakers</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coleen Vogel, Distinguished Professor in the Global Change Institute at the University of Witwatersrand • Guido Caniglia, Scientific Director of the Konrad Lorenz Institute for Evolution and Cognition Research (KLI) <p><i>Moderation</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pius Krütli, Co-Director, TdLab ETH Zürich <p>KN-7: TD as collective - 3b. (Panel discussion) - followed by official closing</p> <p><i>Panelists</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Julie Thompson Klein, Emeritus Professor, Wayne State University, US and ETH Zürich, Switzerland. • Benjamin Suárez, Director, Laboratorio de Toxinas Marinas, Instituto de Ciencias Biomédicas (ICBM), Universidad de Chile • Mandy Singer-Brodowski, UNESCO BNE-Programm, Institut Futur, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany <p><i>Moderation</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bianca Vienni Baptista, Senior Researcher, TdLab ETH Zürich
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Figure 2 key notes/panels at the ITD conference 2021

To enable the above activities online and to make the complex conference structure an experience for participants that allows and encourages interaction and networking, a latest generation of technical platform software had to be provided. The professional software Conftool was used for the submission of contributions with a subsequent review process, which was then imported into the conference environment of iStage (Figure 3). This was professionally managed and the various Zoom sessions were set up and administered from here.



Please find all the sessions that you have marked as favorites by clicking on the My Program tab in the main navigation to your left.

Please find all the **pre-crafted contributions** in their respective Poster Booths by clicking on the Poster Booths tab in the main navigation to your left.

Please find all the **Networking Tables** by clicking on the Networking Tables tab in the main navigation to your left.

Figure 3 the commercial software iStage was used as online platform

In parallel to the formal elements, we as well offered informal exchange and networking during the conference. For instance, we offered so called “Global Aperos” (Figure 4) to discuss in small groups on the question “How can we better build on plurality and difference in language in td events?”.

GLOBAL APEROS & LANGUAGE TABLES

WHY? By choosing a certain language to work together, we give *privilege* to some, and make *participation* more challenging for others. We may miss some perspectives and some *emic concepts* that are hard to translate into another language. Addressing *difference* and *plurality* in language respectfully and effectively is very challenging, but necessary. Language is only one of many elements that help or hinder the integration of different bodies of knowledge - we take language as a topic and the Global Aperos as a *safe space* to explore future opportunities to do it better.

WHAT? We use the *Global Aperos* to explore ways to address plurality and difference in language in td communities. We highlight some *suggestions* within this conference - *Exchange Tables* and *Glossary Co-Writing* - to reflect upon how languages shape our td work. We use the language theme as an entry point for networking and informal exchange. If you have other themes you want to discuss, feel free to create a Networking Table on Stage and to use the label 'Global Aperi' in the title.

4 hosted events on zoom

4 meet-ups at Networking Tables on iStage

The tables are self-organized informal spaces for exchange, mutual learning and fun

GLOBAL APEROS 1 (TUESDAY) | **GLOBAL APEROS 2** (TUESDAY) | **GLOBAL APEROS 3** (WEDNESDAY) | **GLOBAL APEROS 4** (THURSDAY)

GLOBAL APEROS 5 (FRIDAY) | **GLOBAL APEROS 6** (FRIDAY) | **GLOBAL APEROS 7** (FRIDAY) | **GLOBAL APEROS 8** (FRIDAY)

GLOSSARY CO-WRITING

Join in and add your favorite terms/translations in our joint glossary: <https://bit.ly/2Vqlg8P> (for direct link follow arrow on the right)

PLURILINGUAL GLOSSARY

What do we miss out when we restrict our td work to one language only? What are expressions / terms / concepts in my mother tongue that cannot be literally/appropriately translated into English? Which of these are relevant for the td-community?

What can we learn from a pluri-lingual td glossary (see & expand glossary)? Which terms are easy to translate, which aren't? Same word - same meaning?

PARTICIPANTS & EXPERIENCE

How can we foster the use of different languages in td events? Do you have experiences to share? Please share your experience with plurilingual events and collaboration and don't forget to write your name!

BRAINSTORMING

How can we address plurality and difference in languages in td research, td learning and td practices?

How can we foster the use of different languages in international td conferences (and other td events)?

To what extent can digital translation services facilitate future td communication?

Figure 4 «Global Aperos» tackled the question of “How can we better build on plurality and difference in language in td events?”

A second special feature of the ITD 2021 were three auxiliary events. On one hand, the EU-funded project SHAPE-ID (Shaping interdisciplinary practices in Europe) held two special sessions on Building a culture of transdisciplinary research in Europe. This event aimed at showcasing impactful transdisciplinary research projects and exploring how best practice can be encouraged by European policymakers and funders.

The second side event was organised by a group of doctoral students from the TdLab (ETH Zurich). It offered sessions tailored to support transdisciplinary early career researchers (ECR). ECRs explored the different understandings of td across sociocultural borders, exchanged experiences concerning capacity building for td, with an emphasis on how to network and publish in the field.

Finally, the ITD Conference hosted the first General Assembly of the Global Alliance for Inter- and Transdisciplinarity (ITD Alliance). The ITD Alliance builds on partnerships developed around the previous ITD conferences. It was initiated in 2017 and officially founded in 2019. It offers a home base for all institutions and individuals engaged in inter- and transdisciplinary research and education, aiming at strengthening and promoting the global capacity of collaborative modes of boundary-crossing research and practice. The ITD Alliance held a public information event about its goals and working groups and the official General Assembly, together with the elections for the Leadership Board.

Transdisciplinarity has gained increasing traction in the past few years contributing to address sustainability issues. It is currently promoted by many organisations and funding agencies. Our conference deepened the understanding about the challenges and benefits of td, for research and for society. We are convinced that providing platforms for sharing knowledge and experiences is essential for building stronger links within the transdisciplinary community, as well as for jointly exploring ideas for future research and necessary improvements on concept, methods and theories of transdisciplinarity.

OUTPUT

Just before the conference, we made available a more than 300 pages thick booklet with extensive information about the conference (<https://akademien-schweiz.ch/de/current/events/itd-conference-2021/programme/>). The Core Team also produced several concept papers, for the keynote selection, for the description of the design of the formats as well as for the guidance of contributors and participants (Figure 5). During the conference, many participants live tweeted with the hashtag #itdconf2021 (Figure 6).

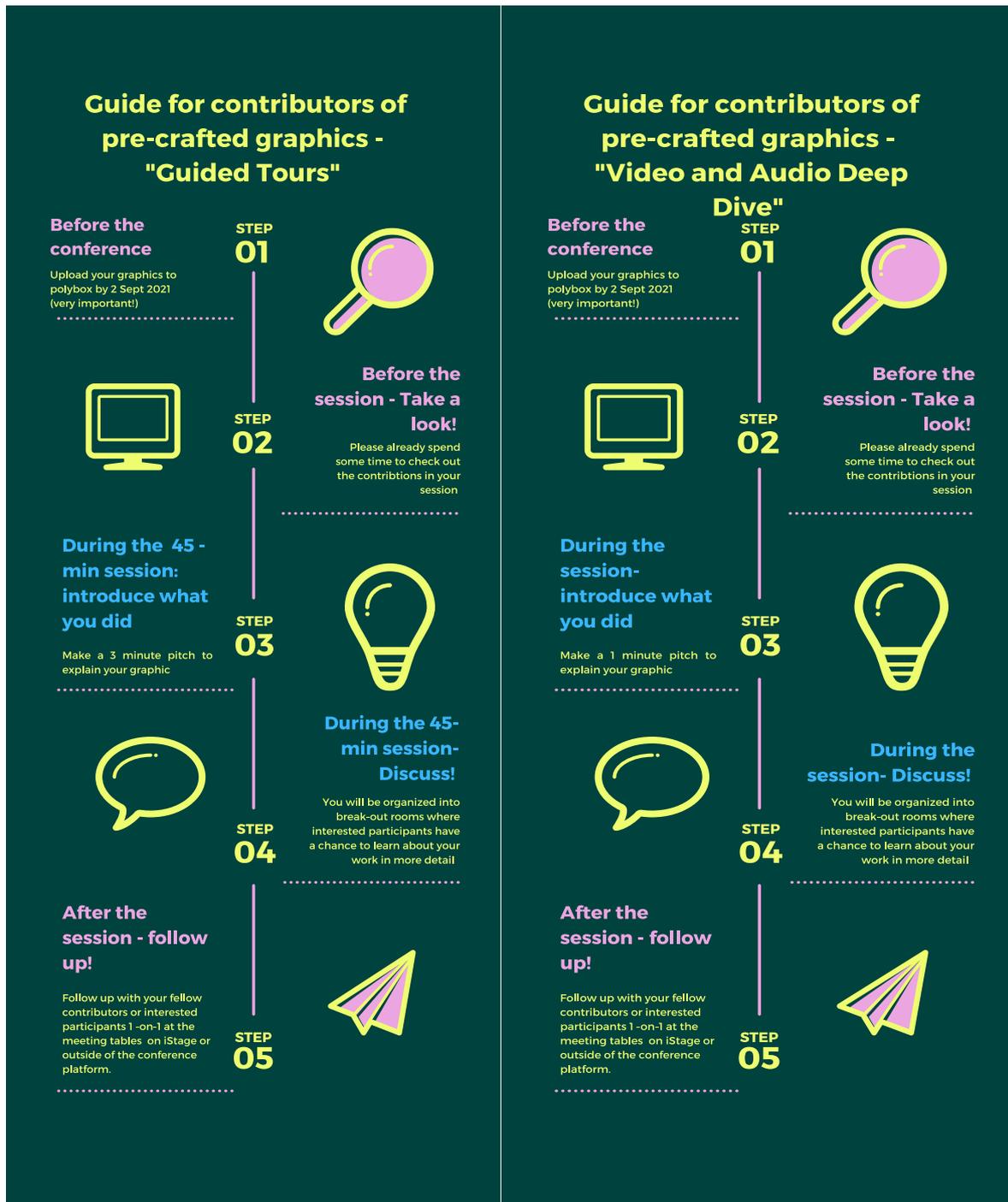


Figure 5 examples of instructions developed for guiding participants

tdAcademy @tdAcademy_org · Sep 14

What needs do early-career researchers have for capacity building events? Which topics and formats are missing in the landscape of events evolving around #transdisciplinary research? We asked our participants of yesterday's ECR session at #itdconf2021 Thank you for your input! 🙌

What capacity building events do I need (e.g. topic or methods?)

- Regular meetings: regular meetings to exchange, needs and further topics could be discussed there!
- Specific methods for assessment: specific methods for assessment (social, behavioral, knowledge, participatory and engagement in diverse stakeholders)
- Roles of Td researchers: Roles of Td researchers in short-term interventions, "tool strategies"
- Operational use: operational use of Td tools for participatory activities with faculty and academic staff
- Mediation, conflict management
- Methods of content analysis and qualitative data collect, processing and analysis
- Td for impact, Td and ToCs, Td and transformations
- Networking with young and senior researcher in Td
- Testing Td tools myself before applying it with my team
- System thinking
- Funding for Td research
- data literacy
- Publishing of Td research
- Social Network analysis (SNA) tools, indicators and methods
- Visualization
- Leadership and facilitative skills/training

Irina Dallo and 9 others

18 replies, 37 likes

Dr Julie G. Zähringer @julie_gwen · Sep 13

Excited for our live roundtable discussion at the virtual #itdconf2021 tomorrow at 1:30 pm CET! Hosted by the Careoperative represented through @routesandroots @kernecker @SoniaGrahamBuch and myself. With invited panellists @GabrieleBammer @ThomasBreu @oypaas @jess_cockburn et al

Transforming academia: visions and pathways for a radical redesign

The Careoperative
International Transdisciplinarity Conference
14 September 2021

12 replies, 38 likes

Lisa Deutsch @deutlisa · Sep 14

Today is the day to discuss potentials and limitations of Theory of Change (ToC) - join us at 13:30 (CET) for discussing experiences and ways forward! #itdconf2021

ITD21
International Transdisciplinarity Conference
Creating spaces and cultivating mindsets for learning and experimentation

Session RT-1.3: Potentials and limitations of Theory of Change (ToC) - Systematizing experiences and ways forward

Martina Schäfer, Lisa Deutsch, Silke Kleihauer, Rachel Claus, Brian Belcher, Josefa Kny, Julian Schenten, Jonas Rehn and Sabine Hoffmann

4 replies, 20 likes

Sustainability Research Effectiveness @SREffectiveness · Sep 15

What are the characteristics of high- #quality transdisciplinary research (TDR)? How can we plan for and evaluate TDR #impact? Don't miss our session where we present a refined quality assessment #framework for TDR at #itdconf2021 (PC-5.1 5:30-6:15 CET): buff.ly/2XbM3X1

Transdisciplinary Quality Assessment Framework 2.0

A practical tool for planning research, adaptive management, and evaluating (ex ante) research proposals and (ex post) research projects/programs

- Relevance
- Credibility
- Legitimacy
- Positioning for Use

How to Use this Prezi | Learn More About the OAF | Additional Resources | Give Feedback to Improve the OAF

6 replies, 19 likes

Jessica Cockburn @jess_cockburn · Sep 9

Attending #itdconf2021 next week and overwhelmed by the programme? Look no further! Join us for some fresh, real & grounded insights & discussion on #TDwithAfrica @RUJelrc2 @WaterResearchRU @CentroforCST @ACDLUCT @ARUA_CD @DESRhodes1 @SAPECS_TWEETS @tdAcademy_org

Transformation & Transdisciplinarity in Africa: Grappling with PERSONAL, PRACTICAL AND POLITICAL dimensions

#TDwithAfrica
#itdconf2021
International Transdisciplinarity Conference 13 - 17 Sept. 2021

POLITICAL DIMENSIONS: RT-2.5: Tues 14/Sept/2021: 3:30pm-5:00pm
PERSONAL DIMENSIONS: RT-4.3: Tues 15/Sept/2021: 11:00am-12:30pm
PRACTICAL DIMENSIONS: RT-5.4: Tues 16/Sept/2021: 11:00am-12:30pm

8 replies, 18 likes

Show this thread

Machiel Keestra @Machiel_Keestra · Sep 17

Great talk on how transdisciplinary problem solving requires hardware (science & technology), software (policy, institutions, media, arts) but also heartware (personal motivations) by Coleen Vogel @WitsUniversity during #itdconf2021

Heartware
Internal motivation for long-term collective action

Hardware
Technological solutions

Software
Policy, Politics & Institutions
Arts, social media

(Source: Zeeda Fatima Mohamad)

6 replies, 13 likes

Figure 6 live tweeting about the conference (small selection only, for the complete discussions, see https://twitter.com/search?q=%23itdconf2021&src=typed_query&f=live)

Right after the conference, a first publication in the scientific journal GAIA (gold open access) was published (Figure 7):

- Vienni Baptista, B., Pearce, B. B., Stauffacher, M., Krütli, P., Paulsen, T., & Buser, T. (2021). Creating spaces and cultivating mindsets for learning and experimentation: International Transdisciplinarity Conference 2021. *GAIA-Ecological Perspectives for Science and Society*, 30(3), 209-211.

Creating spaces and cultivating mindsets for learning and experimentation
International Transdisciplinarity Conference 2021

In this communication, we present the background and core elements of the 2021 edition of the International Transdisciplinarity Conference. Beginning with a brief history of how the event was initiated and the role played by saguf in supporting its development, we then detail the main features of the conference and its relevance for transdisciplinary sustainability research and education.

Bianca Vienni Baptista , Bin Bin Pearce , Michael Stauffacher , Plus Krütli, Theres Paulsen, Tobias Buser 

Creating spaces and cultivating mindsets for learning and experimentation. *International Transdisciplinarity Conference 2021*
GAIA 30/3 (2021): 209–211 | **Keywords:** learning, online conference, science-society interface, td-net, transdisciplinarity

Figure 7 publication about the ITD conference in GAIA (see <https://doi.org/10.14512/gaia.30.3.17>)

PARTNERSHIP ASPECTS

The conference allowed, again, to illustrate the important role Switzerland played and still plays in the international td community. We could show that the concept of td already gained visibility in the mid-1990s in Switzerland within the Priority Programme Environment (SPPU), a 83 million Swiss franc research programme of more than 200 researchers. During the second phase of SPPU (1996 to 1999), the Swiss Academic Society for Environmental Research and Ecology (saguf) observed that scientists needed support to work more intensively with practitioners. Thus, a forum called Transdisciplinary research process was initiated to discuss, systematise, and find solutions to upcoming problems around td. One of the synthesis activities of SPPU was the organisation of the first International Transdisciplinarity Conference (ITD) in 2000 in Zurich, attended by nearly 800 participants from about 50 countries. As a follow-up to this conference, saguf launched the sagufnet, which was renamed as the Network for Transdisciplinary Research (td-net) and became part of the Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences in 2003. The main goal of td-net is to advance transdisciplinary research and teaching in all thematic fields. As a cornerstone in its activities, td-net organises the ITD conferences jointly with partner institutions. These biannual conferences aim to build transdisciplinary communities, bringing together scholars and practitioners from different backgrounds to reflect on the state of td and to spark further development and cooperation. Twenty years have passed since the first edition of the ITD Conference. Meanwhile it has become an internationally known event that offers a vibrant forum for dialogue on td.

The conference was supported by a Strategic Board (Figure 8) and a Program Board (Figure 9), which both enabled a close collaboration with international experts, both within the td community but as well beyond. The feedback we got about our planning and implementation was very constructive, supportive and very encouraging. We felt fully recognized by these international experts as offering an excellent and inspiring online conference.

- Gabriele Bammer, Integration & Implementation Sciences (I2S)
- Matthias Barth, Robert-Bosch-Kolleg Research Training Group "Processes of Sustainability Transformation"
- Max Bergman, Swiss Academic Society for Environmental Research and Ecology
- Nina Braun, Net4Society
- Marc Creus, Swiss Young Academy | Global Young Academy
- Peter Edwards, ETH Zürich - Department of Environmental Systems Science
- Matthias Egger, Swiss National Science Foundation
- Steve M. Fiore, International Network for the Science of Team Science (INSciTS)
- Ruedi Füchslin, Zurich University for Applied Sciences
- Guillaume Habert, ETH Zürich - Sustainable Construction
- Chi Huyen Truong, Intergovernmental knowledge and learning centre working on behalf of the people of the Hindu Kush Himalaya (ICIMOD)
- Jackie Kado, Network of African Science Academies (NASAC)
- Machiel Keestra, Association for Interdisciplinary Studies
- Erica Key, Belmont Forum
- Ariane Koek, www.arianekoek.com
- Chris Luebke, ETH Zürich
- Sheik Mbow, Future Africa Initiative
- Juliana Mercon, Universidad Veracruzana
- Oliver Parodi, Netzwerk Reallabore
- Katsia Paulavets, International Science Council
- Vivi Stavrou, International Science Council
- Danilo Streck, Unisinos University
- Josh Tewksbury, Future Earth
- Julie Thompson-Klein, Association for Interdisciplinary Studies
- Hilligje van't Land, International Association of Universities
- Lukas von Orelli, SwissFoundations
- Bernhard Wehrli, ETH Zürich - Department of Environmental Systems Sciences
- Anne Zimmermann, Copernicus Alliance
- Jakob Zinsstag, Network for Transdisciplinary Research | Swiss Tropical & Public Health Institute

Figure 8 The Strategic Board reviewed and revised our conference description and the call for contributions; helped in promoting the conference within their own networks and supported us in identifying fitting experts for key talks and plenary sessions

- Tateo Arimoto, National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS)
- Karoline Augenstein, Bergische Universität Wuppertal
- Joerg Balsger, University of Geneva
- Richard Beecroft, KIT
- Monica Berger, Universidad del Valle de Guatemala
- Olivia Bina, University of Lisboa | INTREPID COST
- Basil Bornemann, University of Basel
- Marcel Bursztyn, University of Brasilia - Center for Sustainable Development
- Guido Caniglia, KLI - Centre of Advanced Studies in the Life and Sustainability Sciences
- Frédéric Darbellay, University of Geneva
- Lisa Deutsch, Eawag
- Lisa Diedrich, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU)
- Mario Diethart, Copernicus Alliance
- Antonietta Di Giulio, University of Basel
- Jennifer Duyne Barenstein, ETH Zürich - CASE
- Olivier Ejderyan, ETH Zürich & University of Basel
- Dena Fam, University of Technology Sydney
- Josefine Fokdal, University of Stuttgart
- Karen Fortuin, Wageningen University - Environmental Systems Analysis group
- Rachael Garrett, ETH Zürich – Department of Environmental Systems Science
- Matthias Gross, Helmholtz-Centre for Environmental Research (UFZ)
- Ralph Hansmann, ETH Zürich | EPF Lausanne
- Niko Schöpke, University of Freiburg
- Jan Schmidt, University of Applied Science Darmstadt | Network for Transdisciplinary Research
- Flurina Schneider, Institute for Social-Ecological Research | Goethe University Frankfurt
- Iljana Schubert, University of Basel
- Giulia Sonetti, Politecnico di Torino | Transdisciplinarity for Urban Sustainability Transition
- Marco Sonnberger, University of Stuttgart
- Annika Sore, University of Basel
- Jack Spaapen, National Academies of Science, The Netherlands – SHAPE-ID partner
- Harald Heinrichs, Leuphana University
- Andi Hess, Arizona State University | International Network for Science of Team Science (INSciTS)
- Cecilia Hidalgo, Universidad de Buenos Aires
- Sabine Hoffmann, Eawag
- Karri Holley, University of Alabama
- Daniel Inkoom, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST)
- Christoph Küffer, Ostschweizer Fachhochschule
- Alexandra Lux, Institute for Social-Ecological Research (ISOE)
- Catherine Lyall, University of Edinburgh
- Clemens Mader, University of Zürich | EMPA
- Ingrid Mulà, Copernicus Alliance | University of Girona
- Jens Newig, Leuphana University
- Nelly Niwa, University of Lausanne
- Paulo Nuno Vicente, Universidade NOVA de Lisboa | iNOVA Media Lab
- Michael O'Rourke, Michigan State University
- Zarina Patel, University of Cape Town
- Kristina Pelikan, Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute (TPH) Basel
- Christian Pohl, ETH Zürich - USYS TdLab | Network for Transdisciplinary Research (td-net)
- Ortwin Renn, Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies (IASS)
- Adina Rom, ETH4D
- Marlyne Sahakian, University of Geneva
- Martina Schäfer, TU Berlin – Centre for Technology and Society (ZTG)
- Silvia Tobias, Swiss Federal Institute for Forest, Snow and Landscape Research (WSL)
- John van Breda, Stellenbosch University - Centre for Complex Systems in Transition (CST)
- Marta Varanda, Universidade de Lisboa | INTREPID COST
- Ulli Vilsmaier, Leuphana University
- Benno Volk, ETH Zürich - Educational Development and Technology (LED)
- Timo von Wirth, DRIFT
- Matthias Wanner, Bergische Universität Wuppertal

Figure 9 The Program Board reviewed the submitted abstracts and thus fostered the high quality of the contributions. Furthermore, the program board helped in promoting the conference within their own networks

The ITD 2021 was enthusiastically complemented for all its features and especially the lively and engaged online format offered (Figure 8). All this together was strongly appreciated by the international community and helped to raise Switzerland's profile in the td community once again.

- "I thank you and colleagues for a transforming experience at the conference"
- "Thank you for the organization of the ITD Conference. It was a very nice space of learning and exchange. And the TD community is really cool"
- "Vielen Dank und beste Grüße, gratuliere zu dem tollen Programm"
- "Thank you so much for what is shaping to be a great conference"
- "Thank you so much for this outstanding event"
- "You have put together a magnificent platform full of amazing resources"
- "Herzlichen Dank für die Organisation dieser tollen Tagung! Bisher war es - trotz den Online Formats, das ich anfangs fürchtete - sehr bereichernd und inspirierend"
- "I would like to pass on my sincere thanks to the whole team for staging such a wonderful conference for us. The organisation and online platform worked flawlessly"
- "Thanks for your fantastic work to make ITD21 possible! I enjoyed wandering around in the virtual space and found many exciting contributions in teaching, research and outreach in the poster booths"
- "This was a great conference. I had a lot of fun, heard stimulating talks and had a lot of interesting discussions"
- "What a great & inclusive conference #itdconf2021! So many brilliant sessions, workshops, plenary sessions, keynotes, networking opportunities etc. I met so many fantastic, friendly, open people & got so much fruit to think about."
- "Attended #itdconf2021 this week. Still impressed and inspired by the variety of topics and approaches as well as the diversity of this tightly knit yet very open community."
- "BIG THANK to the organizers of #itdconf2021 !
- Wonderful insights ! (and still a lot for me to catch up in replay in my (japanese) time zone)"
- "The #itdconf2021 is already the 4th #ITD I'm attending and I've never seen so much content on #language, #communication, #multilingualism, #terminology. I am truly delighted!"

Figure 10 Feedbacks by participants during/after the conference