4 sessions • 8 weeks • 3 locations

2027 Spring School Transdisciplinary Practice

Applying the transdisciplinary mode to transformational sustainability research

Training program for PhD candidates

Application until 15.12.2026

Transdisciplinary (TD) research brings researchers together with people from business, government, and civil society to develop practical solutions to sustainability challenges. By working together, they combine different kinds of knowledge, develop solutions, and test them in real-world settings.

Knowing the principles of TD research is one thing—putting them into practice is another. Designing projects, working with diverse stakeholders, planning meetings, combining different perspectives, and evaluating what works can be challenging.
This Spring School is designed to practice those skills.

What we will cover:

- TD-Project Design: prepare or further develop your own TD-sustainability research project by applying key concepts, tools, methods, and quality criteria
- TD-Stakeholder Engagement: practice stakeholder identification, actor mapping, and the dynamics of power and positionality in cooperation
- TD-Event Facilitation: plan and practice convening TD stakeholder events and leading knowledge integration activities
- TD-Communication & Evaluation: translate research findings into accessible products for practice and evaluate research outcomes against quality criteria

Course format & dates:
This course includes 4, 1.5 day sessions spread across 8 weeks in 2027.

- Session 1: University of Freiburg
  Feb 25-26
  Introduction to Solutions-Oriented Research & TD Project Design
- Session 2: University of Hohenheim
  March 18-19
  TD Stakeholder Engagement & Actor Mapping
- Session 3: Karlsruhe Institute of Technology
  April 8-9
  Convening TD Stakeholder Events
- Session 4: City of Freiburg
  April 29-30
  Final Symposium & Evaluation

Application information:

- Eligibility: PhD candidates interested in conducting trandisciplinary, solutions-oriented sustainability research are welcome to apply. Post-docs and advanced masters students will also be considered.

The *2027 Spring School Transdisciplinary Practice* is a joint initiative of the University of Hohenheim, University of Freiburg, and Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT), and a pilot project of the Sustainability Innovation Campus (ICN) educational initiative *Transdisciplinary and Transformational Sustainability Education (TTNB)*.

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Apply here:

https://tssgroup.limesurvey.net/455593?lang=en&newtest=Y

More information:
https://uni-freiburg.de/tnw/bildung-schulung/spring-school-transdisciplinary-practice-de/

ICN TTNB Innovationscampus Nachhaltigkeit | Transdisziplinäre und Transformative Nachhaltigkeitsbildung

For more information about the project, visit icnachhaltigkeit-bw.de/ttnb.php