



International
Science Council



SWEDISH INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AGENCY

Transformations to Sustainability

(Virtual) Midterm workshop, June 2020

Session 1

Sarah Moore, 2 June 2020



NORFACE
NETWORK

BELMONT
FORUM

Transformations
to Sustainability

Programme staff at the ISC and NWO



Sarah Moore



Susi Moser



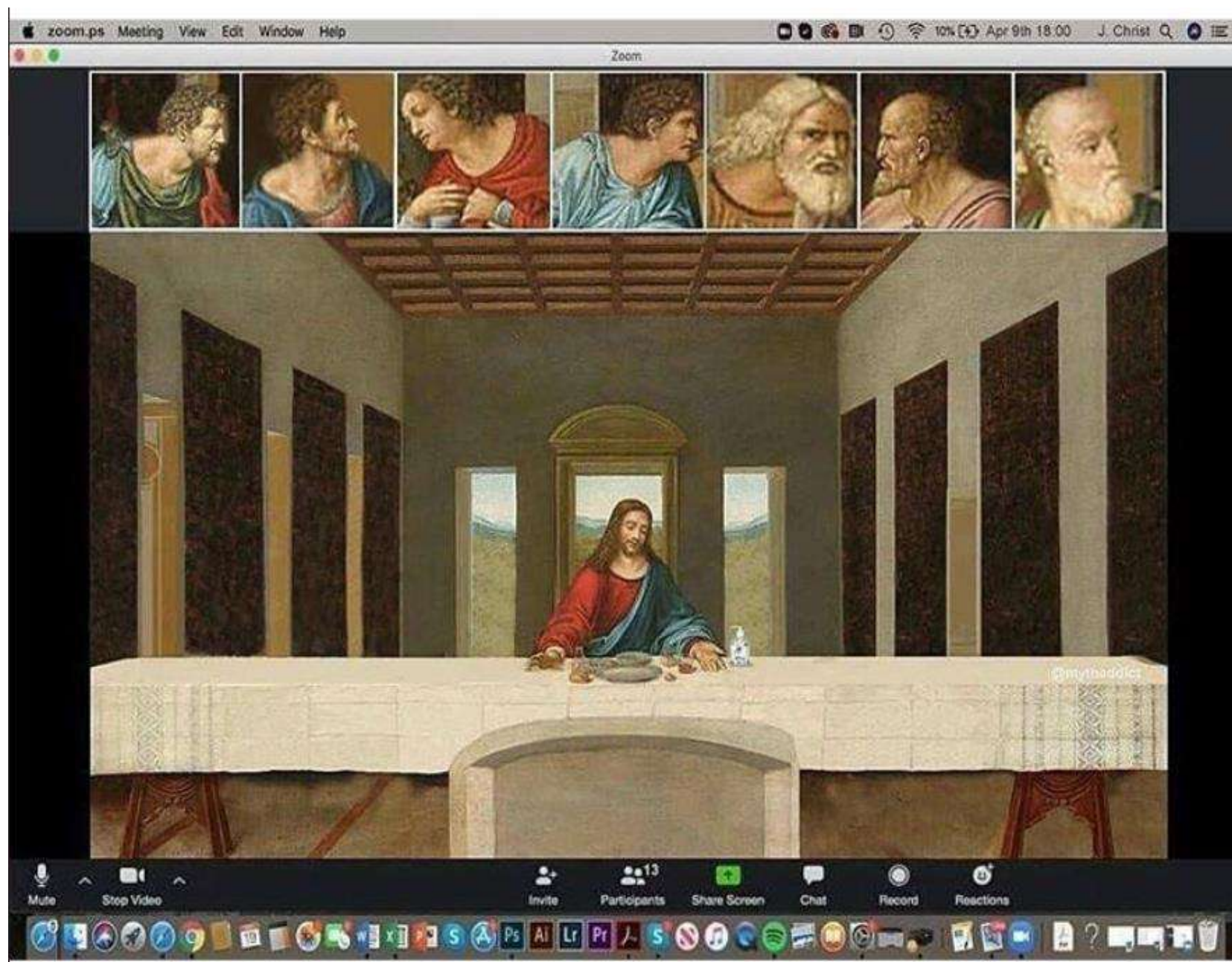
Lizzie Sayer



Anda Popovici



Anne Cukier



Zoom Last Supper. Credit: unknown (Twittersphere) – Oxfam Blogs Corona Cartoon Competition

Workshop organizing committee



Lyla Mehta



Fabio de Castro



Margreet Zwarteveen



Robert Pijpers



Leon Hermans



Anjula Gurtoo



Project postcards
t2sresearch.org/workshop2020

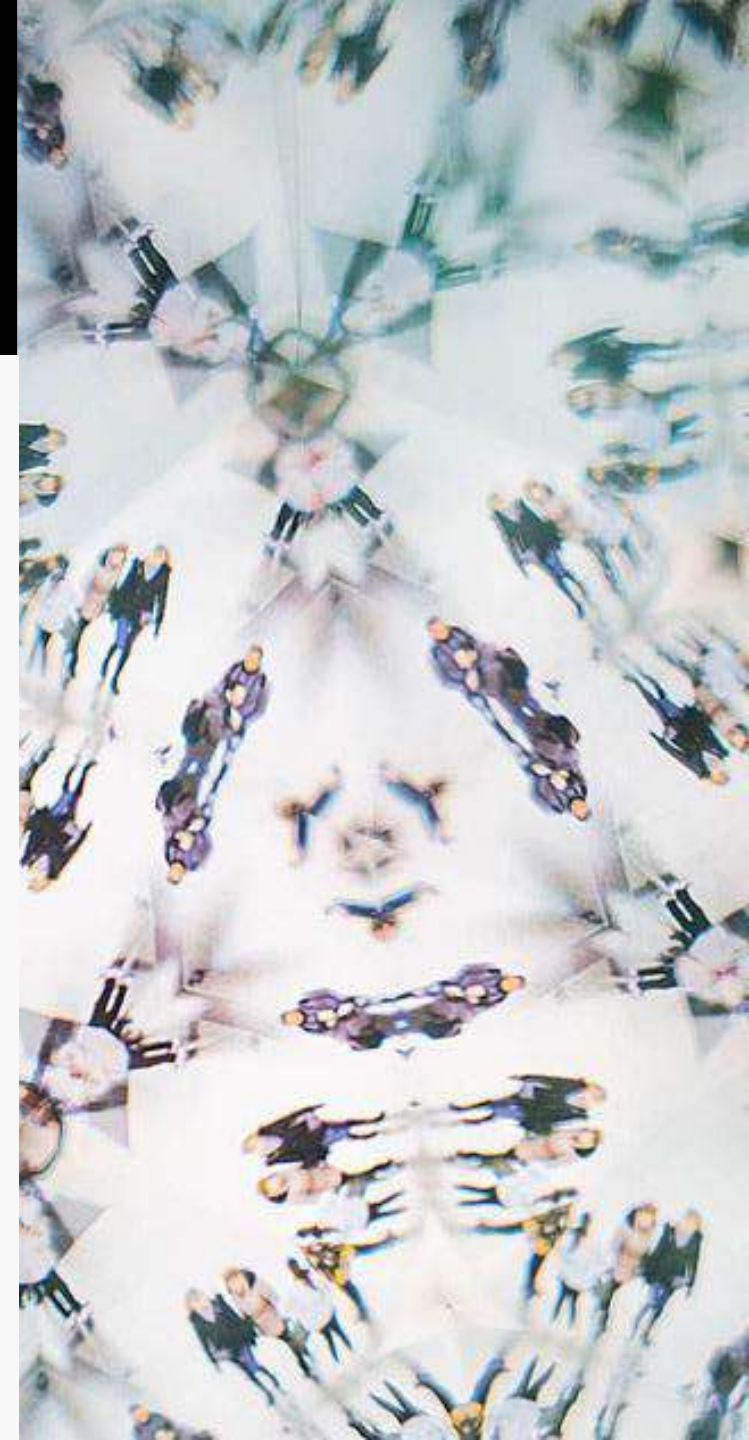
















































Where are we now?



Programme timeline



**Kick-off workshop, Sept
2018**

**Final event,
2021/2022**



**Mid-term
workshop,
June 2020**



**Transformations
to Sustainability**



Transformations to Sustainability is a Belmont Forum-NORFACE Joint Research Programme



Transformations 2019 in Santiago, Chile, to focus on "Learning from Transformative Action and Thinking"

The Transformations to Sustainability community will be active at the forthcoming Transformations 2019 conference, which begins on 16 October in Santiago, Chile.

On 15 October, T2S programme researchers will convene a pre-conference workshop at Transformation Laboratories as spaces for co-designing socio-ecological transformation: learning from different contexts and approaches.

Further information about the [T2S workshop in Santiago can be found here](#) - keep an eye on the [T2S's Twitter account](#) for news from the conference.

Local knowledge and ideas are key to action on climate disruption

Exchange & communication

Available online at www.sciencedirect.com

ScienceDirect

Current Opinion in Environmental Sustainability

Exploring the potential contribution of green microfinance in transformations to sustainability
Frédéric Huybrechts¹, Johan Bastiaensen^{1,2} and Gert Van Hecken^{1,2}

In this review, we explore the potential to contribute to transformations to sustainability aims for environmental microfinance's traditional financial and that the questions of whether and how to contribute to social-ecological change far remained underexplored. More microfinance practice and discourses individualistic economic framings of dynamics, at the risk of maintaining structures that reproduce social ecological degradation. To better understand potential contribution to transformation, advocate for a systemic and power theory and practice.

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Transformations to Sustainability Knowledge Briefs
Number 4.1 January 2020

Green Microfinance: pitfalls, potential and pathways to transformation

Background
Microfinance is a key to the growing small-scale financial services in financially excluded populations in the Global South. Since its emergence in the 1980s, the green microfinance has grown into a subsector with a credit portfolio of over \$100 billion and more than 100 million clients and with growing importance in Sustainable and Low-carbon. Microfinance services can be categorized into credit, savings, insurance and digital payments. However, information to date has focused primarily on assessing financial returns while paying little attention to impacts that could be achieved with financial performance measures alongside social and environmental goals and performance. A review of some of the existing work on the impact of green microfinance on social and environmental goals is presented, highlighting the need for continued research on impact evaluation and its potential for impact.

Key messages
Microfinance is a key to the growing small-scale financial services in financially excluded populations in the Global South. Since its emergence in the 1980s, the green microfinance has grown into a subsector with a credit portfolio of over \$100 billion and more than 100 million clients and with growing importance in Sustainable and Low-carbon. Microfinance services can be categorized into credit, savings, insurance and digital payments. However, information to date has focused primarily on assessing financial returns while paying little attention to impacts that could be achieved with financial performance measures alongside social and environmental goals and performance. A review of some of the existing work on the impact of green microfinance on social and environmental goals is presented, highlighting the need for continued research on impact evaluation and its potential for impact.

t2sresearch.org/covid19



15/04 2020
The COVID-19 coronavirus crisis is affecting all members of the Transformations to Sustainability community and posing new questions about how we understand social transformations.

Responses to the virus have exposed divisions and fault lines in our societies and economies, but they have also generated new forms of solidarity and inventiveness, forcing us to rethink how we move around, how we interact with the human and non-human species around us, and more broadly how we live and consume. In the effort to achieve social justice and environmental sustainability the importance of these capacities cannot be underestimated.

This page, which will be regularly updated, lists blogposts, interviews, news articles and other commentary produced by the broad Transformations to Sustainability community. It is not meant to be an exhaustive debate on COVID-19 issues, but rather it aims to promote discussion on transformations to sustainability in times of a global pandemic. It is too early to say what the longer-term impact of the current crisis will be, but we feel sure that diverse and visionary perspectives on social transformation, of the kind being developed through the Transformations to Sustainability programme, have never been more urgent.

Blogs and opinion

[From groundwater to coronavirus: local community responses in two villages in Algeria and Morocco](#)
By Farah Hamamoucha via [FLOWe](#)

[A pandemic of blindness: uneven experiences of rural communities under COVID-19 lockdown in India](#)
By Enid Still, Sandeep Kumar, Irene Leonardi and Arianna Tozzi via [Undisciplined Environments](#)

[Why intellectual property needs urgent attention from policy makers during the Covid-19 pandemic – Insights from the IPACST project](#)
By IPACST team

[Food in the time of COVID-19: How can local action and national coordination work together?](#)
By Adrian Ely via the [STEPS Centre](#)

[COVID-19 Stimulus Measures Must Save Lives, Protect Livelihoods, and Safeguard Nature to Reduce the Risk of Future Pandemics](#)
By Josef Settele, Sandra Díaz and Eduardo Brondizio, and Peter Deszak via [IPRES](#)

[We will survive the coronavirus. We need to make sure we survive ourselves.](#)
By Ashish Kothari (ACKnow-Ed project), via [theireire](#).

[Sustainability and the current emergency in the COVID-19 crisis](#)

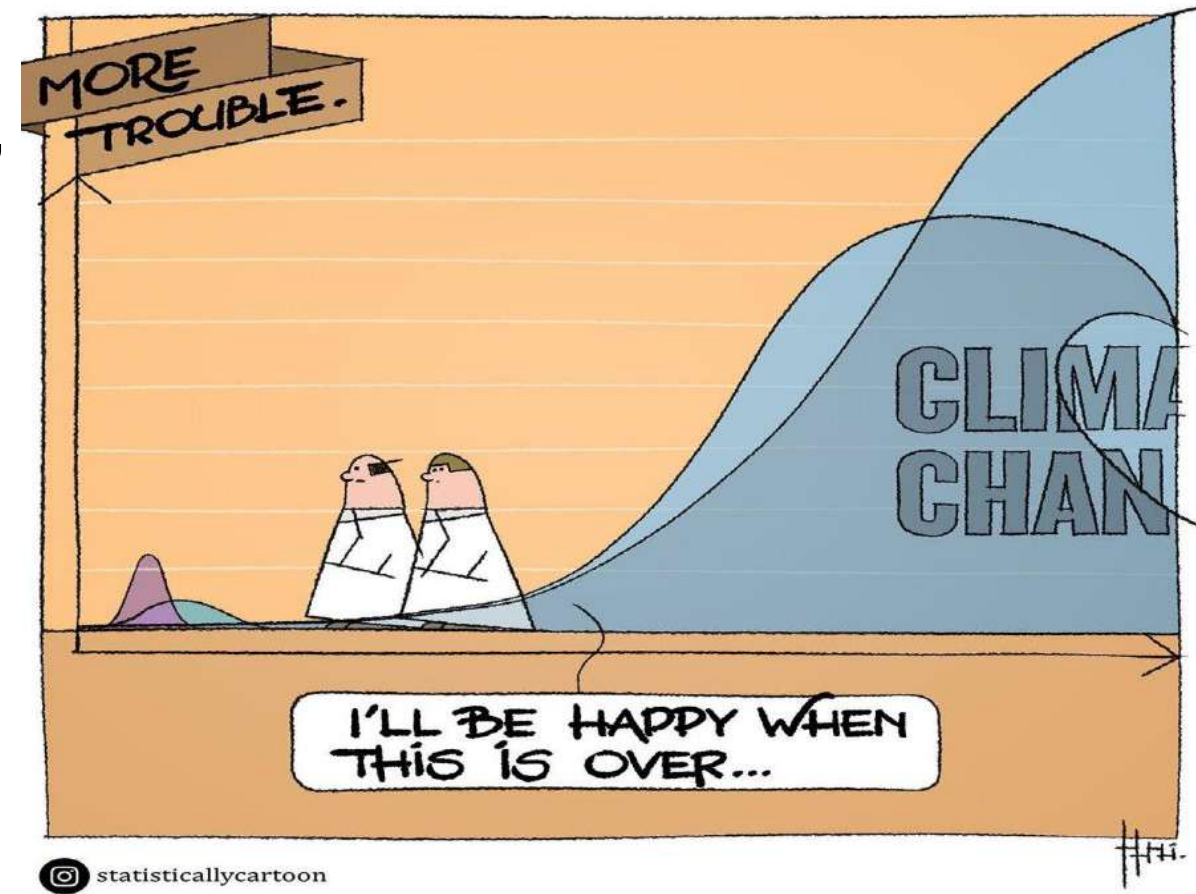
Recent updates

1. Project reports received March/April 2020 – analysis and feedback being prepared
 - Programme evaluation June-October 2020
2. COVID-19 crisis
 - Programme extension under negotiation with European Commission



Meeting objectives

- **To share knowledge and learn from each other**, focusing on the theoretical, methodological, practical and socio-political findings, issues, needs or challenges which have arisen.
- **To (self-)assess progress so far**, at project and programme levels and to think strategically about the remaining project and programme duration.
- **To strengthen connections between the projects and identify perspectives and opportunities for cross-project contributions to knowledge, policy and action.**



Climate Change. Credit: [Raf Schoenmaekers](#)

Workshop theme: The politics of engaged research for sustainability

Status Quo. Credit: P.C. Vey

Raising questions for research around:

- Theory
- Methodology
- Ethics
- Practice, policy, action

In the context of global health, social and economic crisis



Arc of workshop

Segment	Focus	All project members invited to draw connections across projects, raise questions, share insights and ideas, write a commentary or a blog, lead future discussion on a topic...
Keynote talk	‘The politics of (un)making sustainability transformation beyond capitalism’	
Session 1	Introduction and four project presentations	
Session 2	Four project presentations	
Session 3	Four project presentations	
Session 4	Summary thematic reports making connections across projects; discussion and consolidation of insights; ideas for collaboration; emerging issues...	

Agenda 2 June (90 minutes)

Timing	What we will do
00:00 - 00:10	Welcome, presentation, overview
00:10 - 00:46	2 project presentations and discussion
00:46 - 00:51	5-minute break to stretch legs and get a drink
00:51 - 01:27	2 project presentations and discussion
01:27 - 01:30	3-minute closing thoughts
After session	Send reflections, comments, questions on the session or upcoming sessions to transformations@council.science within two hours

A lioness is walking from left to right across a savanna landscape. The background features dry grass, small green shrubs, and a hazy horizon. The lioness is in profile, with its mouth slightly open.

Project presentations

**Transformations
to Sustainability**

5-minute break





t2sresearch.org/workshop2020transformations@council.science