Welcome to the T2S Programme
Final Meeting
15–17 November 2022
Paris
History • Highlights • Homage

Susi Moser
Senior Program Advisor
T2S Program • International Science Council
THE T2S PROGRAM – IN A NUTSHELL

• Supporting research projects on transformations to sustainability:
  • 38 seed grants (2014–2015)
  • 3 Transformative Knowledge Networks (2016–2018)
  • 12 collaborative research projects (2018-2021)

• Fostering knowledge exchange and building a research community around transformations to sustainability.

• Establishing an open knowledge base on transformations to sustainability for the academic and practitioner community.
Phase 1: 3 TRANSFORMATIVE KNOWLEDGE NETWORKS, 2016-2019

Academic-Activist Co-produced Knowledge for Environmental Justice

Transformative pathways to sustainability: learning across disciplines, contexts and cultures

Transgressive social learning for social-ecological sustainability in times of climate change
Phase 2: 12 BELMONT FORUM–NORFACE PROJECTS, 2018-2021

AGENTS: Amazonian Governance to Enable Transformations to Sustainability

CON-VIVA: Towards Convivial Conservation

Gold Matters: Sustainability Transformations in Gold Mining

TAPESTRY: Pathways to Sustainability in Marginal Environments

GoST: Governance of Sociotechnical Transformations

H2O – T2S: H2O – T2S in Urban Fringe Areas

IPACST: Intellectual Property in Sustainability Transitions

TRUEPATH: Transforming unsustainable pathways in agricultural frontiers

Misty: Migration, Transformation and Sustainability

SecTenSusPeace: Localizing land-registration in conflict-affected areas

T2SGS: Transformations to Groundwater Sustainability

Waterproofing Data: Sustainable flood risk governance for urban resilience
Origins
ORIGINS OF THE T2S PROGRAMME

1980
1986
1991
1996
2001

WCRP
World Climate Research Programme

DIVERSITAS
an International programme of biodiversity science

IHDP
International Human Dimensions Programme on Global Environmental Change

Earth System Science Partnership

and their partnership
ORIGINS OF THE T2S PROGRAMME

Converging towards a new partnership and single strategic framework

ICSU – ISSC Visioning

2009

Science & Technology Alliance for Global Sustainability

Oct 2010

2012

Transformations to Sustainability
ORIGINS OF THE T2S PROGRAMME

S&T Alliance for Global Sustainability

BELMONT FORUM

ICSU
International Council for Science

UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY

futureearth
research for global sustainability

UNESCO
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

UNEP

ISSC
International Social Science Council
Future Earth research themes

- Transformation towards Sustainability
- Global Development
- Dynamic Planet
ORIGINS OF THE T2S PROGRAMME

2011
ISSC – Belmont Forum agenda setting workshop
SYNTHESIS REPORT AND RESOURCE DOCUMENT
EUROPEAN SCIENCE I T, BELMONT FORUM

2012
Transformative Cornerstones of Social Science Research for Global Change

2013
World Social Science Report
Changing Global Environments

2014
Transformations to Sustainability
The ISSC vision for the T2S programme

An openly accessible global knowledge base on social transformation that informs effective and equitable solutions to the urgent problems of global change and sustainability
Program Goals & Principles
Putting the social sciences and humanities at the heart of research on sustainability
Main objectives

• **Increase the social science (incl. behavioural and economic science) contributions** necessary to craft more effective, equitable and transformative solutions to the problems of global change and sustainability

• **Increase the use of such knowledge** by policy makers, practitioners, the private sector, citizens and activists
Programme principles

• The social in the causes of and possible solutions to environmental change and degradation → social science framing and leadership

• The global, interconnected nature of transformations to sustainability → transnational, North–South collaboration

• The need to bring all relevant knowledge to the table → interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research

• The need for actionable knowledge → solutions-oriented research

• The need for more capability to do research of this type → capacity building

• The need to learn from and share what we’re doing → reflexivity
Added value

- **Mobilise** a broader community of **social scientists** to become involved in solutions-oriented research for global sustainability
- Help to **fully integrate them into research initiatives** like Future Earth
- **Make use of the best existing social science knowledge** on social change and transformation
- Support the **development of new approaches to co-design** and co-produce knowledge on social transformation in specific contexts of application
- Provide a basis for **building networks of mutual learning** for transformative change
Added value (cont.)

• Provide **leverage to relevant social science research programmes** at the national level

• **Extend the global reach of other regional/international initiatives**, e.g. JPI Climate on Societal Transformation

• **Infuse knowledge** on social transformations into other Future Earth and Belmont Forum projects

• **Extend collaboration between different types of funders**: research councils, donor agencies, foundations, etc.
Programme design

Transformative Knowledge Networks
• Social transformation in context (water, climate, health, poverty etc.)
• Solutions-oriented research and mutual learning: co-design and co-production
• €900,000 per network over 3 years

Global knowledge trust
• Annual workshops on social transformations, transformative science
Building a more ambitious programme – a larger transformations community

May 2015 Donors’ conference and scoping workshop

A 2016 ERANET – NORFACE/ Belmont Forum call

Expansion beyond EC/ NORFACE funders
Cross-Project,
- TKN &
- Program Learning
Sites of Transformation

Berlin, Germany

Delhi, India

Durban, South Africa

Buenos Aires, Argentina

Fukuoka, Japan

Paris, France

Photo credit: Susi Moser (all, except Fukuoka - ACROS Fukuoka and Corina virus – Getty images)
1st Transformative Knowledge Workshop

17-19 November 2014

Institute of Advanced Sustainability Studies, Potsdam

Foundations of knowledge on transformation
Workshop
Align & Act

Envision and begin to build a global knowledge base

Gather and practice tools for initiating transformative knowledge research projects
Mobilizing for Transformative Change Toward Sustainability & Social Justice

3rd Transformative Knowledge Workshop
Delhi, November 5-8, 2016

Photos by S. Moser, taken at the 3rd TKN Workshop, Delhi (2016)
Advancing methods for transdisciplinary research on transformative change
FUKUOKA 2018: Endings (T2S-1) and beginnings (T2S-2)

Photos by L. Sayer, taken at the 5th TKN Workshop, Fukuoko (2018), except Fukuoka (ACROS Fukuoka)
Highlights of the past four years
ONLINE 2020: The politics of transformative research, in times of COVID

Meet the T2S projects

View project postcards as a PDF here.

Keynote presentation: The politics of (un)making sustainability transformation beyond capitalism

Guest speaker, Associate Professor Dr. Giuseppe Feola, University of Utrecht, kicked off the workshop with a stimulating keynote talk on 'The politics of (un)making sustainability transformation beyond capitalism' on 28 May.

Read our interview with Giuseppe Feola: UNMAKING in transformations to sustainability

Recordings of the keynote talk and the other workshop sessions are available for programme members by request to the T2S team at transformations@council.science.

Photo credit: Project photos provided by project teams, G. Feola @ ResearchGate, corona virus (CDC)
MAPPING THE 15 PROJECTS

Word cloud powered by [www.jasondavies.com](http://www.jasondavies.com); Polling results using Mentimeter during an all-projects meeting; Zoom meeting of T2S project team
1. To give early career researchers the skills and confidence to reach policy audiences and the wider public with their research findings through the media.

2. To help researchers:
   - Identify newsworthy information from their research
   - Apply various techniques to make science interesting to the media and public

25 early career participants from all projects registered, 18 completed the course.

“The course instructor and contents were outstanding and I was able to develop valuable skills and abilities on the subject.”
Living Aulas Research School
5-9 June 2018
Colombia

Photo credit: Andres Liévano García

And reams of
• Articles
• Anthologies
• Guidebooks
• Special Issues
• Blogs
• Videos
• Etc.

COSUST Special Issue (2016)
During T2S-2 alone:
- 25 blog and opinion posts
- 4 webinars/videos
- 8 journal articles/reports
- 5 mainstream media articles
- Other entries
- 3 newsletters
Roundtable: What does transformation(s) to sustainability mean today?

4 March 2021

Ulrich Brand
University of Vienna

Karen O’Brien
University of Oslo

Cheikh Mbow
Future Africa

Susanne Moser
T2S programme, ISC
Special issue: ‘Critical Social Science Perspectives on Transformations to Sustainability’

Eds. Eleanor Fisher, Emily Boyd, Eduardo Brondizio

April 2021
Dissemination and Communication

SRI 2022 session

The space between: the relationship between theory, research, practice and policy for transformations to sustainability. Learning from the Transformations to Sustainability programme.

Seedbeds of Transformation, Port Elizabeth

Transformations 2017, Dundee
Overview of this Meeting
PARIS November 15-17, 2022

Meeting objectives

1) Reviewing accomplishments and insights
   - What has been learned (insights & advances from T2S1 and T2S2)

2) Looking ahead
   - Where to go from here (future research directions)

3) Renewing and solidifying the network of researchers
   - How to stay connected, strengthen network (continuing and new collaborations, celebrating)
## MEETING AGENDA

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<td>Introductions, framing</td>
<td>Focus on project/programme synthesis</td>
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<td>Project marketplace</td>
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Distilling key insights gained over nearly a decade of transformations research to address the all-important “how” question: how to bring the key lessons into policy and practice and foster transformative change on the ground.
Homage

Photo credit: Susi Moser
BELMONT FORUM-NORFACE PROGRAMME 2017-2022

**Americas:**
- National Science Foundation (NSF)
- São Paulo Research Foundation (FAPESP)

**Asia:**
- Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST)

**Europe:**
- Academy of Finland (AKA)
- French National Research Agency (ANR)
- Fund for Scientific Research (FNRS)
- Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF)
- Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO)
- Research Council of Norway (RCN)
- Research Foundation – Flanders (FWO)
- Swedish Research Council (VR)
- UK Research and Innovation – Economic and Social Research Council UKRI-ESRC

**Worldwide:**
- International Science Council (ISC), funding researchers in low- and lower-middle income countries, with the support of the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) [2014-2018]

And the T2S-2 Steering Committee
Thank you!

Over these coming days:
• Share generously!
• Create wildly!
• Think hard!
• Work together!
• Be very proud!
• Renew connections!
• Enjoy each other!

Photo credit: Susi Moser
Stretch your legs