

## **Call for Contributions**

We are pleased to invite contributions to an interdisciplinary one-day workshop for (Post)doctoral researchers at the University of Bonn on the theme:

### **Change Agents for Sustainability Transitions**

*How can Individuals, Societies, Institutions, Technologies, and Innovations bring knowledge into action?*

*5 May 2025, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.*

*IMPULSE - House for Intellectual Innovation and Creativity*

*Adenauerallee 131, 53113 Bonn*

In light of the multiple crises we face, systemic changes in the way our societies operate towards greater sustainability are needed to ensure that we meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. Sustainability is not just about the environment, but also includes social and economic dimensions, making efforts to move towards greater sustainability an inherently interdisciplinary undertaking. Yet, when it comes to generating the knowledge that underpins policies and actions for sustainability, true interdisciplinarity is rarely achieved.

Hosted by the Transdisciplinary Research Areas (TRAs) "Technology and Innovation for Sustainable Futures" and "Individuals, Institutions and Societies", this workshop aims to provide an interactive platform for early-career researchers across diverse fields to present, discuss, network, and deepen their ideas on the transformative role of interdisciplinary research for sustainability transitions. The workshop will explore how to translate academic knowledge across disciplines into actionable insights for a transition towards greater sustainability.

We are delighted to welcome [Prof. Dr. Denise Fischer-Kreer](#) and [Prof. Dr. Matthias Braun](#) from the University of Bonn as keynote speakers.

We are looking for researchers from diverse backgrounds who study the role of "change agents", i.e. actors in the broadest sense, including individuals, institutions and technology, in promoting sustainability. Contributions may focus on "change agents" from single domains, such as ways to change individual behavior, social structures, institutional arrangements, and technological innovations, or across these domains.

## ***Workshop Goals***

This workshop seeks to enhance collaboration and innovation across disciplines by engaging participants in exploring questions such as:

- How can researchers effectively bridge the gap between knowledge generation and actionable change?
- What is the most effective and efficient interplay of individual behaviour changes and changes in societal structures and institutions?
- What innovations, technologies and legal frameworks hold the greatest potential to drive sustainable development, and which institutional structures and legal boundaries are required to avoid undesired side effects of technological advances?

The workshop is an opportunity for postdoctoral and doctoral researchers to collaborate and innovate across disciplines:

- Build a network of researchers within and across both TRAs
- Learn about funding opportunities for interdisciplinary research
- Gain feedback on your research from an interdisciplinary perspective

We welcome contributions of own original research from any field (social sciences, humanities, natural sciences, engineering) addressing, but not limited to:

- Individual and collective agency in sustainability transitions
- Institutional and legal frameworks and governance for sustainable development
- Technological and social innovations for sustainability
- Knowledge transfer and implementation strategies
- Cross-disciplinary approaches to sustainability challenges
- Innovative research methods for sustainability transitions

## ***Format***

You will have the opportunity to present your research either through a 20-minute oral presentation or during a poster session. Based on demand, we may assign contributions to either oral or poster sessions.

## ***Eligibility***

- For doctoral and postdoctoral researchers affiliated with the University of Bonn
- Research in the area of sustainability transformation and social change
- Interest in cross-disciplinary approaches

### **Submission Guidelines**

Please submit an abstract of at most 300 words, information on your current position and affiliation and indicate your preferred presentation format using this [link](#).

The submission deadline is 28.02.2025. We will inform you about the possibility to present your contribution by the end of March.

Registration is free of charge.

### **Organizers**

*Jun.-Prof. Dr. Wolfram Barfuss*

Argelander Professor for Integrated System Modeling for Sustainability Transitions

*Jun.-Prof. Dr. Jacqueline Lorenzen*

Argelander Professor for the Law of Sustainability and Ecological Transformation

*Jun.-Prof. Dr. Julia Mink*

Argelander Professor of Environmental Economics, Sustainability and Inequality

and the Transdisciplinary Research Areas (TRAs) "Technology and Innovation for Sustainable Futures" and "Individuals, Institutions and Societies"

This workshop is supported by the University of Bonn's Excellence Strategy and reflects our commitment to supporting cutting-edge research and early-career researchers in addressing pressing global challenges.

### **Contact**

For organizational queries, please contact:

- TRA Individuals and Societies: Johanna Tix ([johanna.tix@uni-bonn.de](mailto:johanna.tix@uni-bonn.de))
- TRA Sustainable Futures: Ruben Greif ([tra6@uni-bonn.de](mailto:tra6@uni-bonn.de))

For content-related questions, please contact:

- Jun.-Prof. Dr. Julia Mink ([jmink@uni-bonn.de](mailto:jmink@uni-bonn.de))