Leuphana University Lüneburg is pleased to invite you to the 6th Td Summer School in Lüneburg, Germany. The Td SUMMER SCHOOL offers a 5-day intensive training (Td Training Module) on transdisciplinary research that will prepare researchers and practitioners for transformative research on societal challenges at the science | society interface. Participants will gain input on theoretical and methodological foundations as well as experience in designing and implementing transdisciplinary research processes. The aim is to broaden academic researchers’ disciplinary and interdisciplinary perspectives towards a transdisciplinary approach and to enable practitioners to elaborate their role in transdisciplinary research processes. This year a particular focus is on interculturality to foster exchange between researchers and practitioners from different world regions and to mutually learn from different transdisciplinary research traditions. Subsequently, an optional 2-day seminar on ‘Virtual Environments to Facilitate Participatory Processes’ (Special Training Module) will take place.

As a side event an intercultural agenda setting workshop on transdisciplinary research and sustainability will be realized. People from different world regions who are interested in continuous collaboration to further develop epistemological and methodological foundations and practices of transdisciplinary research and sustainability are invited to participate.

More: www.leuphana.de/td-training
During the Td Training Module we will provide insights into historical, political and theoretical foundations of transdisciplinary research that have emerged in different communities and world regions and create a space to gain practical experiences in designing transdisciplinary research processes. We will explore different methodologies and frameworks, principles and design elements of transdisciplinary research and get an overview of methods for collaborative, transdisciplinary research. During the two days, we will elaborate transdisciplinary case study designs in small groups. The case study designs will be developed in 20 steps that will guide you from the framing of a problem to the development of implementation strategies of results.

It is our overall objective to create strong links to your fields of activities. Therefore we will jointly select the cases based on suggestions from the participants. A case could be a problem field that your current research or professional activity is related to, and which you want to further develop towards a transdisciplinary approach. Alternatively, it could be an issue that you are planning to work on in the future. By jointly developing the transdisciplinary case study design, you will have the chance to apply principles, design elements and methods that will be introduced during the first days of the Td Training Module. Working together in groups with scientists and practitioners will allow you to experience the different perspectives on cases in transdisciplinary research processes and to discuss diverse roles, tasks and responsibilities of involved persons in transdisciplinary research.

In the Special Training Module we explore the possibilities of facilitating participatory research processes using digital visualization, modelling, and simulation approaches. Related virtual visualisation environments can range from a room with multiple displays, splitting up complex problems into manageable information, a spatial model displayed on an interactive smart table, to an augmented reality on a tablet. Facilitating participatory research processes in such environments provides for instance the opportunity to visualise complex problems in a way that helps to better understand the drivers and challenges and to model multiple future scenarios. Yet specific skills are required from researchers and facilitators to create these environments and enable purposeful cooperative research processes within these settings.

The overall objectives are to develop an understanding of the opportunities and challenges of virtual environments to facilitate participatory processes and to experience and discuss a case study within a pilot or a virtual visualisation environment. On the first day we will introduce and review an array of existing virtual visualisation environments to facilitate participatory processes. On the second day participants will experience a real session in a pilot visualisation environment. We will explore data requirements and the design process while taking into account the cultural diversity of participants and discuss the potentials and limits of such environments.

For further information on the project see: www.leuphana.de/zen/ cgs/forschung-projekte/complexity-or-control

To benefit from the co-presence of participants and trainers from different world regions, we are organizing an agenda setting workshop to develop an international research agenda on transdisciplinary research and sustainability. We envision the formation of an intercultural research consortium that further develops transdisciplinary research and sustainability through continuous exchange and comparative research. During the 3-day workshop we will elaborate an overall research horizon and according research questions and will explore forms of continuous exchange and cooperative research. The workshop is organized by the CCP research team, a consortium of researchers from the Methodology Center, the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences and the Fawculty of Sustainability. The overall objective of the CCP project entitled ‘Complexity or Control? Paradigms for Sustainable Development’ is to contribute to consolidate epistemological and methodological foundations of transdisciplinary sustainability research.

In the course of the research, the necessity to tackle these challenges from different perspectives, incorporating different socio-cultural traditions, in particular research traditions and cooperative research. The workshop is organized by the Methodology Center, the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences and the Fawculty of Sustainability.