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NAVIGATING COLLABORATIVE SPACES

Professional Staff in Inter- and Transdisciplinarity



30 November 2026

01 December 2026

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WHY

Inter- and transdisciplinarity (ITD) increasingly depend on professional staff who work across disciplinary, institutional, administrative, funding, policy, and stakeholder boundaries. These staff create the conditions for integration: they connect people, knowledge, processes, and expectations; translate between working cultures; align collaboration structures; interpret funder and institutional requirements; and enable knowledge exchange.

Much of this work takes place in structural "in-between" spaces, between academic and administrative systems, between strategy and implementation, between research and impact, between disciplinary cultures not always designed for collaboration.

In short, they are essential to the practice of ITD. Yet their work often remains under-recognised, under-resourced, and insufficiently supported through dedicated capacity development.

WHAT

To address this gap, **Navigating Collaborative Spaces: Professional Staff in Inter- and Transdisciplinarity** is a capacity-development session for staff working at the interfaces of ITD. It helps participants understand the dynamics of multi-, inter-, and transdisciplinary collaboration, recognise their own boundary and brokerage work, and articulate the value of their role within complex institutional settings.

Across two days, participants move from concepts to practice: first by exploring what multi-, inter-, and transdisciplinarity involve, where they encounter challenges, and what enables effective collaboration; then by applying these insights to a collaborative challenge drawn from practice. The session equips participants with concepts and language to better navigate collaborative spaces within and beyond their institutions.

FOR WHOM

Professional staff in research, project management, communications, finance, education, and stakeholder engagement who work in or with ITD projects.

No prior expertise in ITD is required—curiosity and a willingness to reflect on your own practice are the only prerequisites.

WHEN AND WHERE

30 November: 12:00 - 17:00

01 December: 09:00 - 12:30

ETH Zürich
Rämistrasse 101
8092 Zürich