



Programme Overview

Day 1: Monday, 31.8.2026				
11:00 - 13:00	Registration and Welcome Coffee			
13:00 - 13:15	Joint Opening Address by Debora Kern, Head of Research and Policy Division, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and Pierre Willa, Head of Thematic Research Thematic Research Division, Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) (<i>Plenary</i>)			
13:15 - 14:25	Keynote Speeches (<i>Plenary</i>) (1) Joanna Kane-Potaka, Executive Secretary of the Global Forum on Agricultural Innovation and Research (GFAiR) (2) Nafeez Ahmed, Director of the System Shift Lab, founder of the Age of Transformation platform			
14:30 - 16:00 Slot A	Plenary	Break out room 1	Break out room 2	Break out room 3
	Digital Services for Rural and Urban Development (Paper Session 1)	Health and Well-Being: Designing Interventions, Bridging Knowledge, Scaling Systems (Paper Session 2)	Embedding impact in the scale-up of education interventions: methodological, institutional, and operational challenges (Round Table 1)	Conducting Global Transdisciplinary Research Partnerships in Practice: From Principles and Tools to Practical Implementation (Workshop 1)
16:00 - 16:30	Coffee break			
16:30 - 18:00 Slot B	Plenary	Break out room 1	Break out room 2	Break out room 3
	Bridging Knowledge Systems: From Indigenous and Local Knowledge to Policy and Practice (Paper Session 3)	Collaboration for Climate Leadership: An Impact Development (Workshop 2)	Beyond Short Project Cycles: Rethinking Transformative Research Partnerships with Africa from Switzerland (Round Table 2)	Experiencing Transdisciplinarity as a Game Changer for Innovation Scaling (Workshop 3)
18:00 - 18:15	Welcome remarks: Prof. Stuard Lane, Vice President of the SNSF Academic Board (Research Council)			
18:15 - 19:30	Apéro / Reception			

Day 2: Tuesday, 1.9.2026				
08:45 - 09:00	Welcome and introduction Day 2 (<i>Plenary</i>)			
09:00 - 09:15	Welcome Address by Markus Schrader, Member of Senior Management of SDC, Head of the Foundations and Quality Division			
	Plenary	Break out 1	Break out 2	Break out room 3
09:15 - 10:45 Slot C	Territories, Local Knowledge and Agency in Agroecological Transitions (Paper Session 4)	Informal Work, and Everyday Strategies for Change (Paper Session 5)	Hiding in plain sight: meaningful participation of families in the search for forcibly disappeared persons (Round Table 3)	Scaling Digital Advisory Services in LMICs: Opportunities, Challenges, and the Emerging Role of AI (Round Table 4)
10:45 - 11:15	Coffee break			
	Plenary	Break out 1	Break out 2	Break out room 3
11:15 - 12:45 Slot D	Making Nature-Based Interventions Work for People (Paper Session 6)	Institutions and Innovation: Scaling Research, Absorbing Change (Paper Session 7)	Debugging digital extension: managing knowledge, autonomy and data in transdisciplinary agroforestry scaling (Round Table 5)	The Real-world lab workshop: Challenges of scaling-up agroecology (Workshop 4)
12:45 - 13:45	Lunch			
	Plenary	Break out 1	Break out 2	Break out room 3
13:45 - 15:15 Slot E	Building Climate Resilience: Bridging Local Knowledge and Science-Based Solutions (Paper Session 8)	Creative & Participatory Methods for Knowledge Co-Production (Paper Session 9)	Nutrition by Design: Making Health Outcomes Explicit in Agroecology (Round Table 6)	Living Labs and Data Ecosystems: Governance and Innovation in Artisanal Gold Mining in the Amazon Forest (Workshop 5)
15:15 - 15:45	Coffee break			
15:45 - 17:15	Panel discussion: From Reflection to Direction: What we require from transdisciplinary research for development in and for the Global South Moderation: Martina Schmidt, (<i>Plenary</i>)			
17:15 - 17:30	Closing remarks by Prof. Martin Lengwiler, University of Basel, Switzerland, Research Council Member SNSF, SOR4D Review Panel Chair			
17:30	Closing of the Conference			

Conference programme – Day 1: Monday 31. August 2026

Time	Room	Format	Session / ID	Title / Content	Presenters, convenors
11:00 - 13:00				Registration and Welcome Coffee	
13:00 - 13:15	Plenary			Joint Opening Address by Debora Kern (SDC) and Pierre Willa (SNSF)	
13:15 - 14:25	Plenary	Keynote		Keynote Speeches <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joanna Kane-Potaka, Executive Secretary GFAiR - The Global Forum on Agricultural Research and Innovation Nafeez Ahmed, Director of the System Shift Lab, founder of the Age of Transformation platform 	
SLOT A — Monday 14:30 - 16:00 (90 min)					
14:30 - 16:00	Plenary	Paper Session	S1	Digital Services for Rural and Urban Development	Chair: Christian Andres (ETH, Switzerland)
			ID 75	What Works in Digital Agricultural Extension Services? Cross-Country Experimental Evidence on Delivery Models	Kibrom Sibhatu, icipe, Kenya
			ID 85	Phyigital Extension as Trust-Building Mechanism for Scaling Digital Advisory Services	Sarita Mishra, Grameen Foundation India, India
			ID 87	Transdisciplinary solutions to close the gap between researcher- and farmer know-how	Mirja Michalscheck, Agroscope, Switzerland
			ID 77	Understanding digital resilience: everyday challenges and adaptations for informal and platform workers in Kenya	Salome Bukachi, University of Nairobi, Kenya
			ID 90	Lessons from Scaling Up Property Taxation Innovations	Camille Barras, University of Toronto, Canada
14:30 - 16:00	Breakout 1	Paper Session	S2	Health and Well-Being: Designing Interventions, Bridging Knowledge, Scaling Systems	Chair: Mirko Winkler (SwissTPH, Switzerland)
			ID 32	The Impact of Digital Mental Health Technology on Mental Health, Education, and Economic Outlook of Young Adults	Nathalie Monnet, Unisanté, University of Lausanne, Switzerland
			ID 45	Turning Toilets into Systems: Lessons from Tamil Nadu on Shaping and Scaling Urban Sanitation Solutions	Santhosh Ragavan Kolar Venkateshan, Indian Institute for Human Settlements

Time	Room	Format	Session / ID	Title / Content	Presenters, convenors
			ID 46	Development of PEGISUS: An intervention to address the intersecting problems of substance use, gender inequity, and unemployment in young people in southern Africa	Jennifer Belus, University of Zurich, Switzerland
			ID 68	ComBaCaL: Transformative evidence for scalable hypertension and diabetes care through lay Community Health Workers	Felix Gerber, University Hospital Basel, Switzerland
14:30 - 16:00	Breakout 2	Roundtable	RT 1	Embedding impact in the scale-up of education interventions: methodological, institutional, and operational challenges	Lead: Anne Thibault, Fund for Innovation in Development, France
14:30 - 16:00	Breakout 3	Workshop	WS 1	Conducting Global Transdisciplinary Research Partnerships in Practice: From Principles and Tools to Practical Implementation	Lead: Fabian Käser, SCNAT, Switzerland
16:00 - 16:30				Coffee break	
SLOT B — Monday 16:30 - 18:00 (90 min)					
16:30 - 18:00	Plenary	Paper Session	S3	Bridging Knowledge Systems: From Indigenous and Local Knowledge to Policy and Practice	Chair: Estelle Raveloaritiana (University of Zürich, Switzerland)
			ID 1	Integrating Indigenous Knowledge Systems into Sustainable Public Procurement: Challenges, Opportunities, and Policy Perspectives in Selected African Contexts	Carol Cravero, Yale ASAP Fellow, Italy
			ID 31	Transforming Refugee Housing Research: Bridging Scales and Knowledge under Overlapping Crises	Z. Ezgi Halililoglu Kahraman, Cankaya University & Geneva Graduate Institute
			ID 105	Bridging epistemologies in assessing the global environment and designing pathways towards sustainability: Lessons learnt from the inclusion of Indigenous and Local Knowledge in UNEP GEO-7	Sarah-Lan Mathez-Stiefel, University Berne, Switzerland
			ID 110	Erosion, Adaptation, and Revitalization: Indigenous Knowledge Systems in Changing Forest Landscapes of India	Dhanya Vijayan, Leibniz Center for Agricultural Landscape Research, Germany
			ID 101	Bridging Knowledge Systems: Integrating Traditional Medicine into Healthcare in Uganda	Yahaya Hills Kagali Sekagya, Prometra, Uganda
16:30 - 18:00	Breakout 1	Workshop	WS 2	Collaboration for Climate Leadership: An Impact Development Workshop	Lead: Mumbi Wachira, Strathmore University Business School, Kenya
16:30 - 18:00	Breakout 2	Roundtable	RT 2	Beyond Short Project Cycles: Rethinking Transformative Research Partnerships with Africa from Switzerland	Lead: Patrick Bottazzi, University of Berne, Switzerland

Time	Room	Format	Session / ID	Title / Content	Presenters, convenors
16:30 - 18:00	Breakout 3	Workshop	WS 3	Experiencing Transdisciplinarity as a Game Changer for Innovation Scaling	Lead: Mirja Michalscheck, Agroscope, Switzerland
18:00 - 18:15	Plenary			Welcome remarks: Prof. Stuard Lane, Vice President of the SNSF Academic Board (Research Council)	
18:15 - 19:30	Plenary			Apéro / Reception	

Conference programme – Day 2: Tuesday, 1. September 2026

Time	Room	Format	Session / ID	Title / Content	Presenters, convenors
8:50 - 9:00	Plenary			Welcome and introduction Day 2	
9:00 - 9:15	Plenary			Welcome Address by Markus Schrader, Member of Senior Management of SDC, Head of the Foundations and Quality Division	
SLOT C – Tuesday 09:15 - 10:45					
9:15 - 10:45	Plenary	Paper Session	S4	Territories, Local Knowledge and Agency in Agroecological Transitions	Chair: Mirja Michalscheck (Agroscope) or Emilie Cremin (Univeristy of Lausanne, Switerland)
			ID 81	Agroecology and Indigenous territories: lessons learned from bridging knowledge, actors and territories	Sébastien Boillat, Berne University of Applied Sciences, Switzerland
			ID 97	Territorialising Agroecology in Senegal: Creative Methods and Reflexivity for Transformative Transdisciplinary Research	Patrick Bottazzi, University of Berne, Switzerland
			ID 113	Co-producing Knowledge for Impact: A Participatory and Localised Research Process on Agroecological Pathways to Food Security and Nutrition	Thomas Gass and Melanie Brantschen, Alliance Sufosec, Switzerland
			ID 4	Bamboo agroforestry as a land use option for household energy needs and food security in Ghana	Michael Yaw Kwaku, International Bamboo and Rattan Organization, Ghana
			ID 26	Innovation delivery for agroecological transitions in the Sahel: Experimental evidence from Senegal and Mali	Christian Grovermann, Research Institute of Organic Agriculture (FiBL), Switzerland
9:15 - 10:45	Breakout 1	Paper Session	S5	Informal Work, and Everyday Strategies for Change	Chair: Devi Bühler, ZHAW, Switzerland
			ID 59	Women at the Frontlines of Climate Change: An Ethnography of Adaptation in Coastal Bangladesh	Md Nurul Islam, Sajida Foundation, Bangladesh
			ID 76	Mapping the platform care labour in Kenya	Bonaventure Saturday, Pollicy, Kenya
			ID 71	Flowers in wartime: a reflection on the use of the photovoice as a means of capturing the everyday violence(s) of war	Agnieszka Fal-Dutra Santos, Graduate Institute, Switzerland

Time	Room	Format	Session / ID	Title / Content	Presenters, convenors
			ID 95	Transformative Research for Responsible Mining	Kattia Diaz-Ydones, Wyss Academy for Nature, Switzerland
9:15 - 10:45	Breakout 2	Roundtable	RT 3	Hiding in plain sight: meaningful participation of families in the search for forcibly disappeared persons	Lead: Haris Lokvancic, swisspeace, Switzerland
9:15 - 10:45	Breakout 3	Roundtable	RT 4	Scaling Digital Advisory Services in LMICs: Opportunities, Challenges, and the Emerging Role of AI	Lead: Benjamin Gräub, farmbetter, Kenya & Panama
10:45 - 11:15				Coffee break	
SLOT D – Tuesday 11:15 - 12:45					
11:15 - 12:45	Plenary	Paper Session	S6	Making Nature-Based Interventions Work for People	Chair: Fernando Fernandez (Wyss Academy, Switzerland and Peru)
			ID 88	Conservation, development and markets: agricultural intensification and emerging land pressures in upland Laos	Aye-Chan Maung, Wyss Academy for Nature, Switzerland
			ID 49	Beyond counting trees: considering actors' demands for more inclusive and effective restoration	Maria J. Santos, University of Zurich, Switzerland
			ID 50	Co-producing restoration knowledge in practice: collaboration and capacity building lessons from Demand4Restoration project	Estelle Raveloaritiana, University of Zurich, Switzerland
			ID 70	Fair Shares? Local Perceptions of Benefit Sharing in Nature-Based Carbon and PES Projects in Peru and Kenya	Dominique Schmid, Wyss Academy for Nature at the University of Bern, Switzerland
11:15 - 12:45	Breakout 1	Paper Session	S7	Institutions and Innovation: Scaling Research, Absorbing Change	Chair: Fabian Käser (SCNAT, Switzerland)
			ID 33	From Potential to Practice: Evaluating Engineering-Based Carbon Dioxide Removal Pathways for Sustainable Development in Sub-Saharan Africa	David Mugendi, Nuvoni Centre for Research, Kenya
			ID 41	When technology transfer goes both ways: realities of piloting circular water systems in South Africa and Switzerland	Devi Bühler, Zurich University of Applied Sciences
			ID 74	State Responses to International Humanitarian Assistance in Conflict-Affected Countries	Umit Seven, University of Manchester, United Kingdom
			ID 29	Mapping Global Value Capture in Carbon Crediting Projects	Niklas Stolz, ETH Zurich, Switzerland
11:15 - 12:45	Breakout 2	Roundtable	RT 5	Debugging digital extension: managing knowledge, autonomy and data in transdisciplinary agroforestry scaling	Lead: Christian Andres, ETH Zurich, Switzerland

Time	Room	Format	Session / ID	Title / Content	Presenters, convenors
11:15 - 12:45	Breakout 3	Workshop	WS 4	The Real-world lab workshop: Challenges of scaling-up agroecology	Lead: Emilie Cremin, University of Lausanne, Switzerland
12:45 - 13:45				Lunch	
SLOT E – Tuesday 13:30 - 15:00 (90 min)					
13:45 - 15:15	Plenary	Paper Session	S8	Building Climate Resilience: Bridging Local Knowledge and Science-Based Solutions	Chair: Mumbi Wachira (Strathmore University Business School, Kenya)
			ID 16	Co-creating Climate Adaptation Strategies with Pastoralists in Northern Kenya: A Transdisciplinary Model	Babere Chacha, Laikipia University, Kenya
			ID 20	Governing the commons: an ethnographic exploration of local adaptation response to complex global problems	Samiya Selim, University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh
			ID 28	Rooted in Reality: Critical Contextualization of Nature-based Solutions in Coastal Areas of Bangladesh	Md Faisal Imran, University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh
			ID 42	A Toolbox for climate-resilient development of Armenian communities: Initial results and lessons learned	Raphael Portmann, Planval Partners AG, Switzerland
			ID 93	Bridging Science and Practice for Local Climate Resilient Development in Armenia	Marco Pütz, Swiss Federal Research Institute WSL, Switzerland
13:45 - 15:15	Breakout 1	Paper Session	S9	Creative & Participatory Methods for Knowledge Co-Production	Chair: Salome Bukachi (University of Nairobi, Kenya)
			ID 57	Art-Science Collaborations on the Climate Crisis: Examining Transdisciplinary Methodological Integration and Epistemic Injustices	Johanna Paschen, University of Bern, Switzerland
			ID 61	Beyond consultation: gaming approaches for knowledge co-production and power-sensitive stakeholder engagement	Matthew Weaver, Rhodes University, South Africa
			ID 84	Navigating barriers: Visual dialects as transformative solutions in a climate-vulnerable delta	Jenia Mukherjee, IIT Kharagpur, India
			ID 63	Local Innovations for Sustainable Farming - The SCALAGRO Project Experience in India	Shirisha Junuthula, Centre for Sustainable Agriculture, India
			ID 106	Exploring new methods: Mobile museums as low-threshold spaces for knowledge transfer, exchange and participatory research	Amon Mugume, Uganda National Museum, Uganda
13:45 - 15:15	Breakout 2	Roundtable	RT 6	Nutrition by Design: Making Health Outcomes Explicit in Agroecology	Lead: Cornelia Speich, SwissTPH, Switzerland

Time	Room	Format	Session / ID	Title / Content	Presenters, convenors
13:45 - 15:15	Breakout 3	Workshop	WS 5	Living Labs and Data Ecosystems: Governance and Innovation in Artisanal Gold Mining in the Amazon Forest	Lead: Fernando Fernandez, Wyss Academy, Switzerland and Peru
15:15 - 15:45				Coffee break	
CLOSING PLENARY — Tuesday 15:45 - 17:30					
15:45 - 17:15	Plenary	Panel		From Reflection to Direction: What we require from transdisciplinary research for development in and for the Global South	Moderator: Martina Schmidt (SDC, Switzerland)
17:15 - 17:30	Plenary			Closing remarks by Prof. Martin Lengwiler, University of Basel, Switzerland, Research Council Member SNSF, SOR4D Review Panel Chair	
17:30				Closing of the Conference	