



i2S News

July - September 2023, #64

Welcome to the third i2S News for 2023, with the latest developments in Integration and Implementation Sciences (i2S), especially in:

- i2Insights (the community blog and repository)
- i2S-Talks (the YouTube channel)
- i2S website (which provides specific information about Integration and Implementation Sciences).

In this i2S News we highlight four recent i2Insights contributions on decolonisation, covering academic writing, research capacity development, and mindsets for development, as well as how decolonisation is central to inclusive systemic thinking.

In i2S-Talks, this News features a stand-out seminar by Dr Sabine Hoffmann, which addresses establishing career paths for integrators in inter- and trans-disciplinary research.

News from the i2S website is that we have finished dismantling the repository of resources that was previously made available on this website. Most are now included on i2Insights which provides a consolidated repository of tools relevant to i2S.

In other updates, we highlight a new working group of the Global Alliance for Inter- and Transdisciplinarity on Integration Experts and Expertise. A workshop to develop a theory of change for institutionalizing integration experts and expertise was the first activity of this working group.

Also featured is new reader on *Foundations of Interdisciplinary and Transdisciplinary Research*, which has extracts of key academic texts.

Feedback and suggestions for i2S News are always welcome!
Gabriele Bammer and Peter Deane

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i2INSIGHTS BLOG AND REPOSITORY

Highlighting recent contributions about decolonisation

For integration and implementation sciences (i2S) to be a truly global endeavour, it needs to embrace decolonisation. i2Insights welcomes contributions that provide insights into all aspects of decolonisation of research and we highlight four recent contributions here.

kate harriden's insights cover recognising colonial writing and the why and the how of tackling [decolonising academic writing](#). Tips include accepting that it will take time and consistent effort to develop decolonial writing skills; drafting a positionality statement to become more aware of colonizing tendencies and biases; and reading, citing and co-authoring with First Nations authors.

Maru Mormina and Romina Istratii tackle [decolonising research capacity development](#), especially how the Global North can get away from a deficit mentality towards the Global South. They argue that research capacity development needs to incorporate three broad principles: 1) Epistemic pluralism through cognitive justice, 2) Equity of access through systems strengthening and 3) Sustainability achieved through localisation.

Peter Taylor and Crystal Tremblay review [four approaches to shifting mindsets](#), especially in the context of development. They are 1) Identifying what, and whose, knowledge is valued, counted, and integrated into development processes, 2) Decolonising knowledge asymmetries – learning through research, and as researchers, 3) Investing resources to transform existing colonialities, and 4) Identifying 'our' role as individuals, as organisations, as institutions.

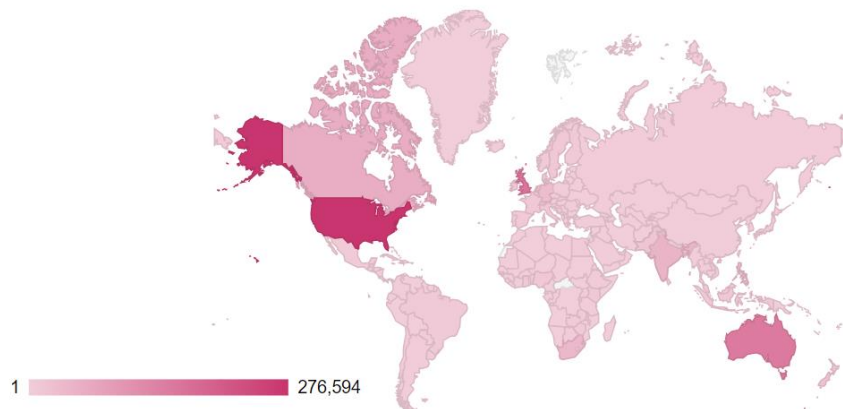
Ellen Lewis and Anne Stephens have developed the [concept of inclusive systemic thinking](#), which involves prioritising local knowledge and experiences of marginalised population groups, including through the ['GEMS' framework for complex systemic intersectional analysis](#) based on: Gender equality/equity (non-binary), Environments (natural and/or contextual) and Marginalised voices (human and non-human).

Finally, two tags provide a way of finding all i2Insights contributions on this topic. They are:

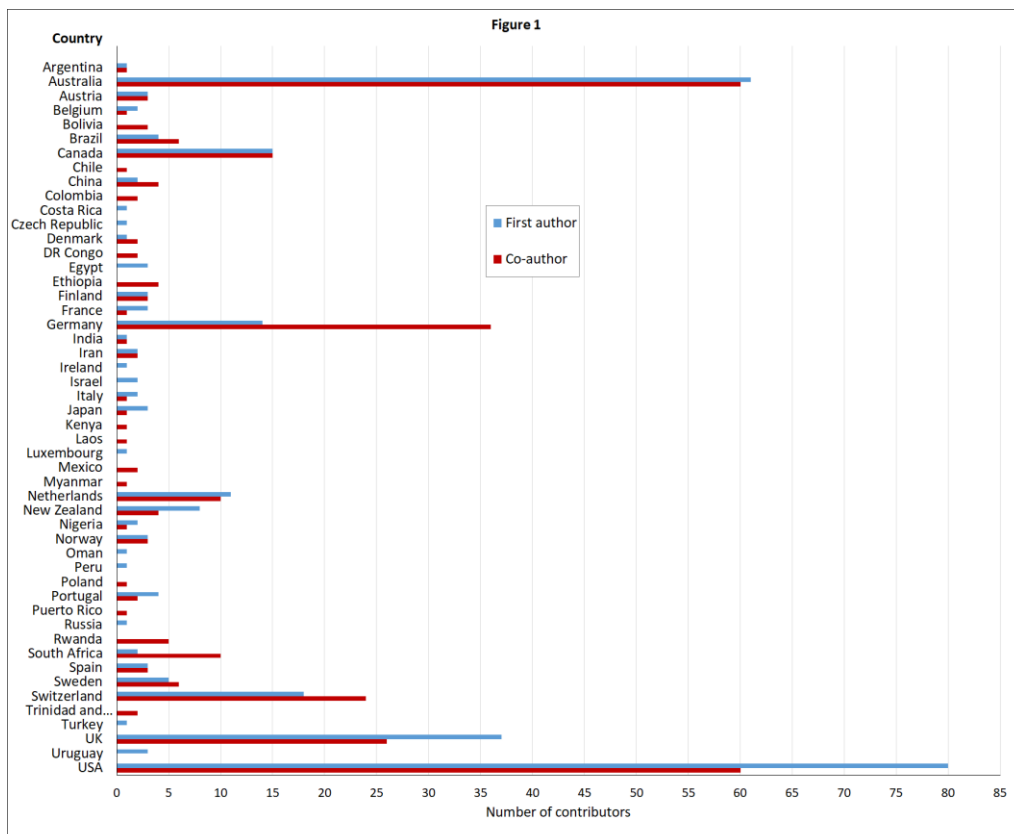
- <https://i2insights.org/tag/decolonisation-of-research/>
- <https://i2insights.org/tag/first-nations-research-lessons/>

Highlights from i2Insights statistics

Two sets of data help track progress on how i2Insights is faring in becoming a truly global endeavour. The map below shows the countries in which i2Insights has been viewed over the last seven years, with views in 190 of the 193 countries recognized by the United Nations. The darker the colour, the more views – this shows that there is still a way to go in building views in the Global South.



The next figure shows the countries from which i2Insights contributors hail and the number of contributors per country. Of the 50 countries represented by authors or co-authors, about half are in the Global South, with the number of countries contributing increasing over time (those results are not shown here, but can be found at <https://i2insights.org/about/#milestones>). Considering the number of authors, however, shows a marked discrepancy, with most authors coming from the Global North. Ideally, we'd like high levels of contributions from all countries!



More statistics, updated every three months, can be found at:
<https://i2insights.org/about/i2insights-statistics/>

Blog posts added since the last i2S News

Integration and implementation insights (i2Insights) has added the following blog posts to its repository since the last i2S News:

A framework for building transdisciplinary expertise

By ANU Transdisciplinarity Working Group

<https://i2insights.org/2023/08/08/transdisciplinary-expertise-framework/>

Diffusion of innovations

By James W. Dearing

<https://i2insights.org/2023/08/01/diffusion-of-innovations/>

Children as research actors

By Frédéric Darbellay and Zoe Moody

<https://i2insights.org/2023/07/25/children-as-research-actors/>

A practical framework for transforming academia through inter- and transdisciplinarity / Un marco práctico para transformar el mundo académico mediante la interdisciplinariedad y la transdisciplinariedad

By Bianca Vienni Baptista and Danilo Streck

<https://i2insights.org/2023/07/18/transforming-academia-framework/>

Six lessons for connecting evidence to policy and practice in the Global South

By Fréjus Thoto

<https://i2insights.org/2023/07/11/evidence-for-policy-and-practice/>

Challenges to science-policy-society interactions in transdisciplinary research

By Oghenekaro N. Odume, Akosua B. K. Amaka-Otchere, Blessing N. Onyima, Fati Aziz, Sandra B. Kushitor and Sokhna Thiam

<https://i2insights.org/2023/07/04/science-policy-society-interactions/>

Four approaches to shifting mindsets for decolonising knowledge

By Peter Taylor and Crystal Tremblay

<https://i2insights.org/2023/06/27/decolonising-knowledge/>

Using the arts to flip understanding: An arts intervention for non-arts researchers

By Margot Greenlee, Martina Jerant and Veronica Dittman Stanich

<https://i2insights.org/2023/06/20/arts-intervention-for-new-insights/>

Using archetypes as a systemic lens to understand the complexity of sustainable development

By Hossein Hosseini, Enayat A. Moallemi, Sibel Eker, Edoardo Bertone and Katrina Szetey

<https://i2insights.org/2023/06/13/systems-archetypes/>

Towards a theory of change to institutionalise integration experts and expertise

By The Aeschiried Integrators

<https://i2insights.org/2023/06/06/institutionalising-integration-expertise/>

i2S-TALKS

Establishing career paths for integrators in inter- and trans-disciplinary research

Dr Sabine Hoffmann argues that integration is essential for inter- and transdisciplinary research to formulate socially robust responses that cross boundaries of not only different disciplines (*ie.*, interdisciplinary integration), but also research, policy and practice (*ie.*, transdisciplinary integration). She contends that—given the importance of integration—it is surprising that the current academic system does not provide permanent positions for integration experts, *ie.*, experts who lead, administer, manage, monitor, assess, accompany, and/or advise others on integration.

She addresses a number of questions, including: “What are integration experts?”, “What roles do they assume?”, “What personal qualities and expertise do they need?” and “What career challenges do they face?”. The talk concludes by suggesting different ways to support integration experts in building their academic careers.

The seminar by Dr Sabine Hoffmann, Cluster Leader Inter- and Transdisciplinary Research at Eawag (the Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology), on "Integrating the integrator! A call for establishing academic careers for integration experts" was presented on September 1, 2022 as part of the NITRO-Oceania (Network of Interdisciplinary and Transdisciplinary Research Organisations in the Oceania region) seminar series. It was co-organised and co-hosted with Monash Sustainable Development Institute. Videos from the series are hosted on i2S-Talks. The direct link to this hour long video is: <https://youtu.be/48ru9u-y2ck>

i2S WEBSITE

Dismantling of the resources repository has been completed

The repository of resources on the i2s website has been dismantled, making i2Insights the consolidated repository of tools relevant to i2S. For more information on what has happened to the resources that were in the dismantled repository see: <https://i2s.anu.edu.au/resources/list-of-relocated-resources/>

OTHER UPDATES

New working group on Integration Experts and Expertise

The [Global Alliance for Inter- and Transdisciplinarity](#) (ITD-Alliance) now has an active working group on [Integration Experts and Expertise](#), which anyone interested is welcome to join. Sabine Hoffmann (see above under i2S-Talks) is one of the co-leaders and Gabriele Bammer is a member of the core team. One of the first activities of the working group was to convene a workshop to develop a [theory of change for institutionalising integration experts and expertise](#), with the results

published in i2Insights in June.

New book: *Foundations of Interdisciplinary and Transdisciplinary Research. A reader*

A new book was published in July 2023 by Bristol University Press: [*Foundations of Interdisciplinary and Transdisciplinary Research. A reader*](#), edited by Bianca Vienni Baptista, Isabel Fletcher and Catherin Lyall.

The eight chapters offer extracts from key academic texts on topics such as the design, funding, evaluation and communication of interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research, aimed at providing those new to the field with a thorough grounding. Each chapter has an introduction and concluding commentary. Extracts are included from work that Gabriele Bammer has been involved in on expertise and on organisational leadership. The introductory essay and chapter 1 are available in open access.

ABOUT i2S NEWS

The aim of this newsletter is to provide regular updates (4 times per year) about what's new in Integration and Implementation Sciences (i2S), especially in three major repositories:

- the i2S website (<http://i2s.anu.edu.au>), which provides a range of information about Integration and Implementation Sciences
- Integration and Implementation Insights (<http://i2Insights.org>), which functions as a community blog, as well as a repository, for sharing concepts, methods and other research tools for understanding and acting on complex real-world problems
- the i2S YouTube channel (<https://www.youtube.com/i2S-Talks>), which provides a range of videos about various aspects of i2S.

Other updates about i2S are also provided and, from time to time, we also post news that is not directly related to i2S, but that is in line with i2S objectives.

Our target audience is researchers who tackle complex societal and environmental problems and who are interested in:

- Synthesizing knowledge from different disciplines and stakeholders,
- Understanding and managing diverse unknowns, and
- Supporting improved policy and practice responses to problems by government, business and civil society.

The three i2S repositories therefore provide new tools, as well as compiling and sharing existing tools, in 11 main areas:

- understanding the processes involved in *change*
- improving *communication*
- understanding *context*
- effective *decision making*
- incorporating, harnessing and managing *diversity*
- *integration* of multiple and varied perspectives about any problem and insights into acting on it
- *research implementation*
- *stakeholder engagement*

- taking a *systems* perspective
- *teamwork*
- understanding and managing *unknowns*.

i2S News is archived at: <http://i2s.anu.edu.au/what-i2s/i2s-publications/i2s-news>.

Useful links:

- i2S website: <http://i2s.anu.edu.au>
- i2Insights blog and repository: <http://i2Insights.org>
- i2S-Talks on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/i2S-Talks>
- Twitter: [@GabrieleBammer](https://twitter.com/GabrieleBammer)
- LinkedIn group "Global Network for Research Integration and Implementation": <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/4888295/>

To subscribe or unsubscribe to the newsletter go to "i2S News" at <http://i2s.anu.edu.au> or contact Gabriele Bammer or Peter Deane at i2S@anu.edu.au.