



i2S News

October - December 2023, #65

Welcome to the October-December 2023 i2S News with the latest developments in Integration and Implementation Sciences (i2S), especially in the 3 repositories we curate:

- 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 feature Integration and Implementation Insights (i2Insights) contributions from sub-Saharan Africa. We also discuss the likely effects of changes in Twitter (now X) on the number of views of i2Insights contributions. And on November 25, i2Insights is eight years old!

Brief reviews are presented of four videos recently added to i2S-Talks from other YouTube channels. They cover evidence use by politicians (John Thwaites), the importance of metaphors and framing (George Lakoff), systemic intervention into marginalization (Gerald Midgley) and how system dynamics that incorporates participatory practices can be used to reduce biases in the development of products relying on artificial intelligence (Donald Martin Jr.).

The repository on the i2S website has been dismantled and we are currently planning how we will best use and revitalise this website. Reporting on the i2S website is therefore currently suspended.

Other news covers 'save the dates' for two 2024 international conferences, on system dynamics and transdisciplinarity, respectively, videos and highlights from the 2023 International Society for the Systems Sciences conference and the newsletter of the Network for Transdisciplinary Research.

Feedback and suggestions for i2S News are always welcome!

We hope that the rest of 2023 goes well for you and that 2024 allows us all to continue our efforts in a world that is at peace, upholding human rights and taking effective climate action.

Gabriele Bammer and Peter Deane

CONTENTS

i2Insights blog and repository

- Highlighting contributions from sub-Saharan Africa
- Update on i2Insights statistics
- There have been 12 new contributions since the last i2S News

i2S-Talks YouTube channel

- Highlighting four videos recently added to i2S-Talks from other YouTube channels
- Three additional videos have been added to this repository since the last i2S News

Other updates

- 'Save the dates' for the International System Dynamics Conference, ISDC24, and the International Transdisciplinarity Conference, ITD24
- Videos and highlights from the 2023 International Society for the Systems Sciences conference
- Featuring td-Info, the monthly newsletter of the Network for Transdisciplinary Research.

About i2S News

- Aims
- How to subscribe and unsubscribe

i2INSIGHTS BLOG AND REPOSITORY

Highlighting contributions from sub-Saharan Africa

i2Insights aims to help build a truly global community of researchers tackling complex societal and environmental problems, so we are delighted that there is a steadily growing number of contributions from countries in sub-Saharan Africa. There was one contribution in each of 2017, 2018 and 2020, with two contributions in each of 2021 and 2022, and three contributions in 2023, with another to be published soon.

There have been seven lead authors from Benin, Ethiopia, Nigeria and South Africa. Co-authors have numbered 28 from Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal and South Africa.

Topics covered are:

Decision making

- [Using the concept of risk for transdisciplinary assessment](#) by Greg Schreiner

Decolonisation of research:

- [Understanding the links between coloniality, forced displacement and knowledge production](#) by Alemu Tesfaye and Truphena Mukuna

Institutionalisation

- [Setting an agenda for transdisciplinary research in Africa](#) by Basirat Oyalowo
- [A collaborative vision and pathways for transforming academia](#) by The Care Operative and "Transforming Academia" workshop participants at 2021 International Transdisciplinarity Conference

Leadership:

- [Effectively leading interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research organisations](#) by Global Leaders of Interdisciplinary and Transdisciplinary Research Organisations

Research implementation:

- [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

- [Six lessons for connecting evidence to policy and practice in the Global South](#) by Fréjus Thoto

Stakeholder engagement:

- [Participatory scenario planning](#) by Maike Hamann, Tanja Hichert and Nadia Sitas
- [Two lessons for early involvement of stakeholders in research](#) by Obasanjo Oyedele, Martin Atela and Ayo Ojebode

Teamwork

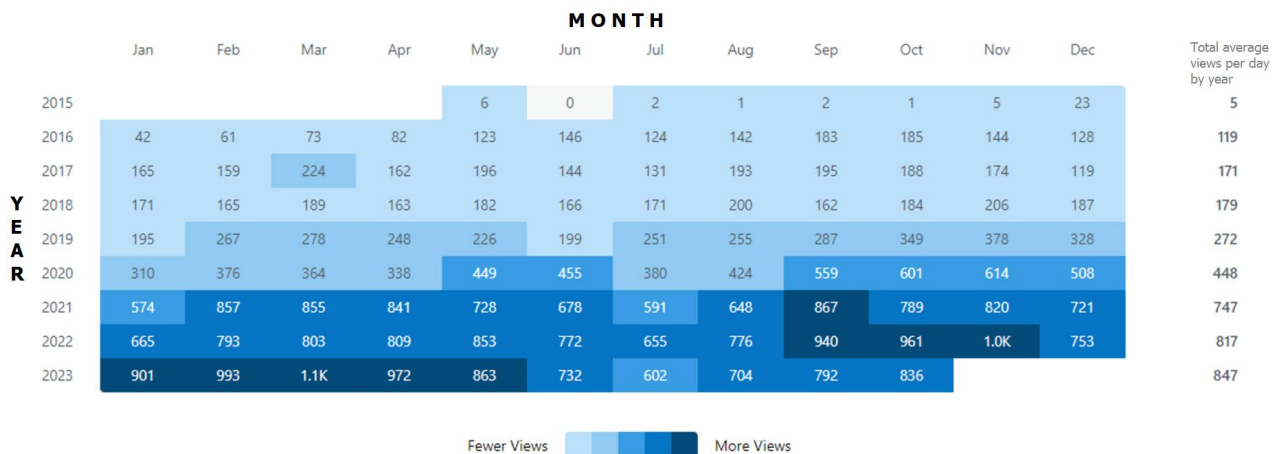
- [How can social network analysis benefit transdisciplinary research?](#) by Leonhard Späth, Rea Pärli and the RUNRES project team

More contributions are welcome!

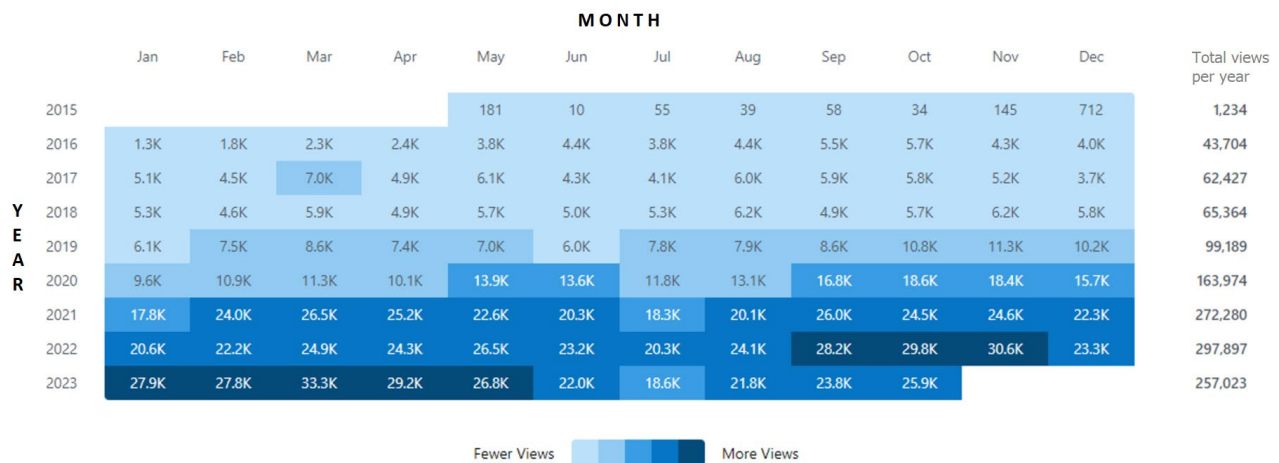
Update on i2Insights statistics

Since June there has been a drop-off in views of i2Insights contributions compared with the first five months of 2023, as can be seen in the average daily and monthly views in the figures below and over the page. There is typically a drop-off in views in June, July and August, corresponding with summer holidays in the northern hemisphere, which explains part of the decline. We suggest that the other major factor has been changes in Twitter (now X), which has made it much less effective as a platform for letting potential viewers know about new posts. Many of those who would retweet or comment have left the platform or become inactive. We are now also tweeting less, instead working on attracting more subscribers, as well as building a stronger presence on LinkedIn, which is the other social media platform we use. For example in October 2021, i2Insights received 698 referrals from Twitter and 339 from LinkedIn; in October 2022, the corresponding referrals were 312 and 588; and in October 2023 they were 177 and 553.

Average views per day (by month and year) from May 2015 to October 2023



Total views per month and year from May 2015 to October 2023



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:

The Strategic Choice Approach in shaping public policies

By Catherine Hobbs

<https://i2insights.org/2023/10/31/strategic-choice-approach/>

Systemic interventions for complex problems: The Intervention Design Process / Para problemas complejos, intervenciones sistémicas: el Proceso de Diseño de Intervención

By Daniel Marín Vanegas

<https://i2insights.org/2023/10/24/intervention-design-process/>

Generating evidence using the Delphi method

By Dmitry Khodyakov

<https://i2insights.org/2023/10/17/delphi-method/>

Co-producing knowledge: Phases, issues and the td-net toolbox

By Sibylle Studer and Theres Paulsen

<https://i2insights.org/2023/10/10/co-producing-knowledge-td-net-toolbox/>

Key systems thinking lessons from Donella Meadows

By Geoff Marlow

<https://i2insights.org/2023/10/03/meadows-systems-thinking-lessons/>

Six lessons from Iran for strengthening cross-disciplinary research

By Reza Dehnavieh

<https://i2insights.org/2023/09/26/cross-disciplinary-research-in-iran/>

Towards a taxonomy of synthesizing

By Howard Gardner

<https://i2insights.org/2023/09/19/synthesizing-taxonomy/>

How to organize an "all-hands" meeting

By Gemma Jiang, Diane Boghrat and Jenny Grabmeier

<https://i2insights.org/2023/09/12/organizing-all-hands-meetings/>

Making the Nominal Group Technique more accessible

By Jason Olsen

<https://i2insights.org/2023/09/05/accessible-nominal-group-technique/>

Understanding the links between coloniality, forced displacement and knowledge production

By Alemu Tesfaye and Truphena Mukuna

<https://i2insights.org/2023/08/29/coloniality-forced-displacement-knowledge-production/>

Interdisciplinary teamwork: Expert and non-expert at the same time

By Annemarie Horn and Eduardo Urias

<https://i2insights.org/2023/08/22/knowledge-integration-in-teams/>

Six lessons for newly-forming large research consortia

By Daniel Black and Geoff Bates

<https://i2insights.org/2023/08/15/lessons-for-research-consortia/>

i2S-TALKS

Four great videos have been added to i2S-Talks from other YouTube channels:

- Speaking Truth to Power, But are They Listening? by John Thwaites, which was a plenary talk at the 2021 Evidence and Implementation Summit (<https://youtu.be/MRq6gskrvmM>). John Thwaites, a former politician, discusses how evidence is used by politicians, why best evidence is not followed and what can be done to improve the likelihood of evidence-based policy. Highlights include how politics and science are different and the 10 commandments of influencing government.
- Moral Politics by George Lakoff, a public lecture sponsored by the Helen Edison Series at the University of California San Diego in 2005 (<https://youtu.be/5f9R9MtkpqM>). George Lakoff describes the importance of metaphors and their relation to framing, where frames are the mental structures that shape how people see the world. Although focused on US politics, with examples that are now dated, the basic message about the importance of framing is still relevant.
- A Systems Theory of Marginalization and its Implications for Systemic Intervention by Gerald Midgley, a talk for Systems and Complexity in Organisation (SCiO) in 2021 (<https://youtu.be/mz0rLoxqd8U>). Gerald Midgley presents his systems theory of marginalization, starting with a review of boundaries and values. He also presents strategies for challenging marginalization, especially amplifying marginalized voices and creating empathic connections, demonstrating connection between the central and the peripheral, uniting against a common enemy, transcending narrowly focused values, undermining negative stereotypes, and establishing rituals to reinforce the secondary boundary. He also cautions that some of these strategies have a "dark side."
- Applying Community-Based System Dynamics to Combat AI (Artificial Intelligence) Bias by Donald Martin Jr., which was presented at the 2021 International System Dynamics Conference (<https://youtu.be/LpOZXYIQOFw>).

Donald Martin Jr. sets context for machine learning and algorithmic bias and walks through a case study illustrating the root cause of racial bias in a medical algorithm to highlight problems that need to be addressed in the artificial intelligence space. He then reviews how including participatory practices and system dynamics can be used to develop explicit and transparent causal theories to reduce biases and improve the development of products relying on artificial intelligence.

Videos added since the last i2S News

In addition to the four videos described above, the following three videos have been added to the i2S YouTube channel since the last i2S News:

"Integration and Implementation Sciences (i2S) as "the arrow.""

By Gabriele Bammer, Christine Hendren and Bethany Laursen (2023, 51 min)

https://youtu.be/16qP1hkN_BA

(Playlists: Intereach Webinar Series; and, Integration and Implementation Sciences (i2S))

A higher quality version of Gabriele Bammer's recorded presentation is available at

<https://youtu.be/w8BSu-T89fQ> (2023, 16 min).

Introducing the Intereach (Interdisciplinary Integration Research Careers Hub) seminar series for the 2023-2024 academic year

By Kristine Glauber, Christine Ogilvie Hendren and Amalia Turner (2023, 49 min)

<https://youtu.be/6laQrK6SCM0>

(Playlist: Intereach Webinar Series)

OTHER UPDATES

Save the dates for:

- International System Dynamics Conference, ISDC24, August 4-8, 2024, virtually and in Bergen, Norway. See <https://systemdynamics.org/conference/>
- the International Transdisciplinarity Conference, ITD24, November 4-8, 2024 at Utrecht University, the Netherlands, with hybrid elements. See <https://transdisciplinarity.ch/en/veranstaltungen/itd-conferences/itd-24/>

Videos and highlights are available from the 2023 International Society for the Systems Sciences conference held in Kruger National Park, South Africa. See <https://www.iss.org/2023-kruger-memories2/>

Td-Info is the monthly newsletter of the Network for Transdisciplinary Research, covering events, courses, publications, general information, job offers and thematic discussions. See <https://transdisciplinarity.ch/en/aktuell/newsletter/>

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>
- X (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.