

## Virtual Workshop - Call for presentations

# Action-oriented research in practice

Wider Calls have rapidly grown for new ways of doing research for sustainability transformations. The transdisciplinary turn emphasises the need for actionable knowledge that is co-created with the practitioners.

As co-created solutions are demanded from research to tackle the wicked sustainability problems of our time, questions about how we conduct such research, which research methodologies are the most appropriate for providing co-created transformative knowledge and what problems arise from these entangled forms of research practice need to be addressed. We need to have a critical look on what kind of knowledge action-oriented research can produce and how this knowledge participates in the making of sustainability transformations.

**We invite you to share your experiences in conducting action-oriented research and discuss the various approaches together with your colleagues from three different research organisations SYKE, CDE, SPRU.**

Transdisciplinary approaches have been much applied in sustainability science and environmental governance. In sustainability transition studies interest in experiments, living labs and other action-oriented methods have also increased rapidly. Action-oriented research has a strong methodological background in pragmatism, but the approaches and methods applied vary a lot between different fields of research and cultural contexts. Further exchange between the different approaches is needed to develop more robust research strategies on the approaches suitable for specific contexts.

**We welcome insights from different cultural, societal and environmental contexts.**

This is the first webinar of a webinar series organised to promote reflective and critical discussion on methodologies and new research questions posed by sustainability transformations. The webinar series is collectively organised by Finnish Environment Institute (SYKE, Finland), Centre for Development and Environment (CDE) at the University of Bern (Switzerland) and Science Policy Research Unit (SPRU) at the University of Sussex (United Kingdom).

**If you are interested in sharing your experiences in conducting action-oriented research, please send your abstract (max 250 words) by 28 February 2021.**

In preparing your presentation, please consider the questions below. The questions are framed to stimulate reflection between the different approaches to action-oriented research.

- What kind of action-oriented methods have you used in your research and for which kind of research questions?
- What is the theoretical base of your methodological approach?
- What kind of action-oriented knowledge were you able to produce?
- What problems did you encounter in conducting research together with the practitioners?
- How your approach to action research helped to understand and interpret sustainability transition? On which issues the approach directed your attention to? What was left behind?

# Welcome!

Virtual Workshop - Programme for Friday 19 March 2021 at 2:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. EET

## Introduction to the theme

Minna Kaljonen (SYKE), Theresa Tribaldos (CDE)

## Insights from research practice

Presentations from SYKE, CDE and SPRU researchers

10–15 min presentations and collective discussion

Short break in between

## Next steps

Minna Kaljonen

## Registration

[Please register and/or send your abstract here \(Webropol\)](#)

## More information

- Minna Kaljonen, Research professor, Finnish Environment Institute SYKE, [firstname.lastname@syke.fi](mailto:firstname.lastname@syke.fi), Tel. +358 295 251 252
- [Seminar series web page \(www.syke.fi/projects/reflect\)](http://www.syke.fi/projects/reflect)
- Join the conversation on Twitter: #ReflectWebinar

