

# Knowledge Transfer in and through Living Labs

## International Conference & Training School

RWTH Aachen University | 24 - 28 June 2024

### With keynotes by:

- Jun.-Prof. Dr. Karoline Augenstein, Leuphana University
- Dr. Dr. phil. René von Schomberg, RWTH Aachen University
- Dr. Barbara van Mierlo, Wageningen University & Research (tbc)

### And including:

- ENoLL InfoDay by the European Network of Living Labs on ENoLL certification, Responsible Innovation and best practices | Tuesday, 25 June 2024

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## Call for Participation

From 24 - 28 June 2024, the TRANSFER project funded by the German Ministry of Research and Education, will host an international conference and a training school on the topic of *Knowledge Transfer in and through Living Labs* at the premises of RWTH Aachen University. Both events are organised back-to-back to allow training school participants to join the international conference as part of their educational experience.

### International Conference | 24 - 26 June 2024

Living Labs have become central research infrastructures for participation in innovation and sustainable development. They establish new environments of transdisciplinary knowledge production. However, the diversity and specificity of Living Labs across many different settings and areas – from urban planning, sustainable energy transformation and medical research to artificial intelligence applications – make it difficult to develop methods, standards, and indicators for successful knowledge generation and transfer. How knowledge integration in Living Labs is best achieved and supported remains a challenge and an open question for both theory and practice. The same holds true for ensuring knowledge transfer within and beyond Living Labs.

The international conference *Knowledge Transfer in and through Living Labs* seeks to identify and explore methods, standards, and indicators for successful knowledge generation and transfer. We are looking forward to host a vibrant community of Living Lab scholars and practitioners concerned with the theory and practice of a research and co-creation format which aims to build the society of tomorrow. Of central interest are the processes involved in combining different epistemic perspectives

within Living Labs, and the changes knowledge undergoes while travelling between and among actors involved, both directly or indirectly.

Next to methodological contributions and theoretical considerations, we also highly welcome recounts and reflections on personal experiences based on practical work in Living Labs. Furthermore, analyses of how insights gained and advances made move beyond the individual lab and become effective in society at large are strongly encouraged. In this regard, relevant points of consideration include the diffusion or generalisation of innovations through political processes, and research policy or the transfer or scaling up of results. In short, the conference will address the following themes but submissions addressing other topics are also welcome:

- Methods and formats for knowledge transfer and integration in different Living Lab settings;
- Questions and challenges pertaining to scaling and knowledge transfer into other contexts;
- The synchronisation of Living Lab processes across several locations and domains;
- The current and the potential role of Living Labs in higher education;
- Social evidence and epistemic processes in Living Labs;
- Regulatory frameworks or research policy derived from or fostering integrated interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research in Living Labs.

## Training School | 24 - 28 June 2024

The interdisciplinary, international Training School builds on the topics of the International Conference on *Knowledge Transfer in and through Living Labs* and deepens them in workshops and conjoint working groups. Master- and PhD-students of all disciplines working with or interested in Living Labs as well as Living Lab researchers and practitioners are cordially invited to participate and join this unique experience of and exchange on knowledge transfer in such a setting.

Over the course of two and a half days, the training school combines individual impulse presentations, group work and outings to the campus of RWTH Aachen University. Through interactive workshop formats, we aim to facilitate engaged debate with all faculty members and participants. Main topics covered will include methods for co-creation and transdisciplinary knowledge creation, participation in technological innovation and environmental issues, and indicators for knowledge transfer. The programme is designed to accommodate participants with different academic backgrounds, including but not limited to engineering, environmental sciences, social science and humanities.

Interested applicants are asked to apply with a short biography (100 words) and a statement of interest (200 words) until **15 March 2024** via e-mail ([transfer@humtec.rwth-aachen.de](mailto:transfer@humtec.rwth-aachen.de)). Limited funds are available to help cover travel and accommodation costs. To apply, please provide a one-paragraph statement detailing your request for financial support with your application.

## Schedule

The Training School runs from Monday, 24 June 2024, through Friday, 28 June 2024, starting at 9am and finishing at 6 pm each day. On Wednesday, 26 June 2024, the afternoon will be off to explore the city or surroundings of Aachen. Participation in the full event is expected.

## Training School Faculty

[Dr Gabriele Gramelsberger](#) is Professor for Theory of Science and Technology at RWTH Aachen University.

[Dr Riccardo Chesta](#) is Assistant Professor in comparative sociology at Politecnico di Milano.

[Dr Viola Schiaffonati](#) is Associate Professor of Logic and Philosophy of Science at Politecnico di Milano.

[Dr Dr Paolo Volonte](#) is Associate Professor and coordinator of META – Humanities and Social Studies Unit on Science and Technology at Politecnico di Milano.

[Dr Stefan Bösch](#) is Professor for Technology and Society and spokesperson of the Human Technology Center at RWTH Aachen University.

[Julia Backhaus](#) is Coordinator of the University of Excellence project “Living Labs Incubator” at the Human Technology Center at RWTH Aachen University

[Stefan John](#) is Researcher in the University of Excellence project “Living Labs Incubator” at the Human Technology Center at RWTH Aachen University

[Gudrun Rohde](#) is Researcher in the German Ministry of Research and Education funded research project “TRANSFER – Transfer indicators of transdisciplinary knowledge production and evaluation in and through real-world laboratories” at the Human Technology Center at the RWTH Aachen University

[Juri Dachtera](#) is Researcher in the German Ministry of Research and Education funded research project TRANSFER at the Human Technology Center at the RWTH Aachen University

[Inge Leurs](#) is Researcher in the Horizon Europe funded project and network The European Universities of Alliance ENHANCE at the Human Technology Center at the RWTH Aachen University

## Venues



### International Conference

SuperC  
RWTH Aachen University  
Templergraben 57  
52062 Aachen  
Germany



### Training School

Guesthouse Königshügel  
RWTH Aachen University  
Melatener Str. 31-35  
52074 Aachen  
Germany

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**Contact** | Gudrun Rohde & Juri Dachtera | [transfer@humtec.rwth-aachen.de](mailto:transfer@humtec.rwth-aachen.de)

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