

Evolutionary Insights on Transdisciplinary Research and Human Development Practice

Transdisciplinary research helps us address complex scientific problems. It helps us address an emergence of complex issues in global changes, fluidity of global public diplomacy and advances in humanities and sciences.

It's a practice of incorporating varying knowledge bodies of local and international stakeholders, various academic disciplines, diversified policy contexts, different dimensions of arts, cultures, technology and sciences. It's an art of blending knowledge bodies on local socioecological systems and global environmental changes along with global technological progress and global businesses including advances in humanities and sciences towards new development discourse. It helps us enter into new dimensions of human development ranging from individual preferences to wholistic life systems transformation (body, mind and beyond), self-realization to existential realization, collective consciousness to cosmic consciousness. It sets us ready to grasp an understanding of life including material and spiritual development.

To tap these potentials, it demands a proper blend of various knowledge bodies through trans disciplinary life learning and research process.

Transdisciplinary approach to advances in sciences and humanities could bring a broader understanding on new dimensions of human development. Newly evolved development discourses could be aided with new bodies of knowledge to augment the progress in scientific and technological advancement of our age.

Evolution of transdisciplinary fields of knowledge like ecological economics, political ecology and economy, cultural and political geography, integrated Organic life systems, ecosystem management approaches are significantly broadening the scope of contemporary science and transforming it towards wholistic life science.

In our age, transdisciplinary research practices are gaining importance and they are being considered as global approach.

Key strategies to develop a transdisciplinary research framework

Basic understanding on the trans/inter/multidisciplinary approaches:

Transdisciplinary: blending 2 or more well established disciplines that helps us to transform the existing knowledge bodies and establish a new discipline.

Interdisciplinary: blending the insights of 2 or more established disciplines and enhancing the scope of the selected disciplines.

Multidisciplinary: blending many disciplines (more or less established) and checking with a possibility of addressing complex research problem and generating a new knowledge system of problem solving.

Setting the framework:

A. Aligning well established theories to emerging thoughts and course of action:

Step 1: developing theoretical framework with established theories and principles

Step 2: linking theories to well Discussed Paradigm and perspectives

Step 3: discussing theories and perspectives to newly emerged thoughts and course of action.

B. Aligning evolving practice to a realized philosophy:

Step 1: Framing a research agenda through specific Views (currently engaged thoughts behaviors actions and results).

Step 2: linking views to Perspectives (widely accepted dialogues and discourses).

Step 3: discussing specific views and perspectives with Theories (well established collective worldviews).

Setting a worldviews and Philosophies (realized and experienced knowledge or established wisdom):

It could be an outcome of an appreciative inquiry on emerging individual preferences, interests, choices, views and perspectives that aligns with collective world view. Ultimately it rests on wholistic world view which informs that the whole humanity is moving towards infinite progress and, the whole existence is offering life for realizing infinite human progress.

Weblink to Author's Transdisciplinary Research Profile:

https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=NOK4_v0AAAAJ&hl=en



Bio of the Author:

S. K. Sharma

A trans disciplinary researcher reflecting philosophical and practical insights on wholistic human development/ Founder President of Sundar Nepal Creation (SNC), Kathmandu, Nepal

Inspired from enlightened visionaries, innovative world leaders and scholars of 21st century, Mr. Sharma has set a course of total life (“totality of life”) experiencing with the advances of sciences and humanities. Being a life experimenter, Sundar’s ultimate choice is to rest on wholistic understanding of the human world and beyond. During this venture of life experiencing, Sundar found some significance of special geographies around the globe, diversified human institutions and cultures with varying trends of changes due to modernity. According to him, all the changes under the Sun keep human civilization alive on the Earth. The Himalayas is the most amazing geography where Sundar experienced much deeper and enriched life course of himself for decades. Travel research experience to a couple of beautiful organic landscapes of East and South Asia and research tour to different Asian cities have added more about the flavor to his life experience with remarkable changes due to modernity in making.

As Mr. Sharma is eager of new development discourse, he doesn’t refuse to experience the changes (whatever!) under the Sun. At the same time, his life course teaches himself that life has a possibility of spontaneous transformation and there is no chance to miss this if we choose a path of self-research, experience and realization.

Since last decade, Sundar set himself traveling to special destinations and extended his travel research program around European communities and Australian cities in an adverse situation too (during pandemics and adverse situation with hardships in traveling around the globe).

He has some observation to share that transdisciplinary life course and academic research are being popular in research institutions and universities too. Sundar informs that the new changes on the earth demand transdisciplinary research and human development practice. The changes should be realized within time and knowledge should be grasped without waiting. Only right knowledge in right time can make us free from any dangers to the life systems on the Earth.

Sundar has something to say about the new generation to come:

“Our life on the earth and the earth system both offer us an opportunity to learn from diversities and differences. Based on this, we make a choice in life. It offers us an opportunity to shape idea and action to make a special choices of living style.

But, why there is a dearth in practicing and promoting multidisciplinary science for social transformation! Why should one confine oneself within the boundaries of certain disciplines while the whole earth and sky above us is openly available to learn and enrich the whole life course and go beyond?

We have ample ways of creating special knowledge for welfare of human kind, that’s what we call Science! Is there a boundary of thinking? Imagining? Experiencing? Realizing? The answer is ‘NO’! Then, new questions arise: should there be any boundary line in creating new effective approach to shape a new way of finding a meaning of life with higher appreciative values? Why don’t we set for a new development discourse? Why don’t we get ready for an evolution of new generation with multitude of high value potentials to celebrate on the Earth? All the future possibilities demand an approach to multidimensional thinking, acting and practicing for total life course at present. That’s the insight of multidisciplinary life learning and scientific research practice too. To begin with new dimensions for multidisciplinary life learning, we can practice on Organic and Yogic Life Systems, New Generation Capabilities Programming and New Human Development Discourse (these are only the examples of some evolving strands in transdisciplinary life learning) that aid to an advancement in Sciences and Humanities!”

Please find more about Sundar at: <https://scholarprofiles.com/0000-8868-6857>

The views in this article are reflected through Sundar’s self-learning and life experiencing with/from various scientific communities, academia, research institutions and local geographies around the world. His wholistic understanding on life learning and knowledge building is a blend of insights on ancient and post-modern knowledge systems and scientific practices too.

An acknowledgement for contribution to transdisciplinary research initiatives!

SNC Network, Kathmandu, Nepal / 24 March 2025

SNC (Sundar Nepal Creation), a newly found initiatives in wholistic life learning and research practices, greatly acknowledged its founder president Mr. Sundar Kumar Sharma for his significant contribution to transdisciplinary research and knowledge building practices. Most of his academic and life researches are a blend of world sciences and humanities. He has developed research frameworks that can philosophically address prescriptive research agendas that we need to realize to take the humanity forward. At the same time, he practically addressed local knowledge and cultures for the sustainability of the world and continual progress in science and technology. His recent works in new development discourse are based on real life experiences and insights that are grounded on human awareness, spiritual and organic development that we call the pillars of wholistic human development. Sundar’s approach to life learning and knowledge building ranges from localized or individual issues to global changes and advances in sciences and humanities.

“Human progress is a pleasure when Science meets Arts. Human society can experience new dimension of life when Arts create a stage to celebrate the achievement of Sciences” — SUNDAR SHARMA / Founder President, SNC Network