Course Announcement IGS North-South

Spring Semester 2017

Time: 31 May – 2 June 2017

Title: Doing Transdisciplinary – Increasing the relevance of your research for society

Module: DTM

ECTS: 1.5

Institution: Centre for Development and Environment (CDE), University of Bern

Lecturers: PD Dr. Flurina Schneider, Tobias Buser, others

Content: In the face of increasingly severe problems of global change, science is requested to produce knowledge that can help society to advance sustainable and just development. Scientists and development experts increasingly agree that transdisciplinary research approaches are needed for achieving this goal. However, bringing research results to fruition and achieving societal impact is not an easy task. It involves adapting research strategies and collaborating with stakeholders from the very beginning. The aim of this course is to acquaint the participants with approaches, and methods for designing and conducting impact oriented transdisciplinary research. We will introduce main steps required for preparing a stakeholder interaction plan, and assist the participants in applying them to their own research projects. Practical exercises for acquiring new competences in doing transdisciplinary research is a core part of the course (e.g. stakeholder analysis, participatory problem identification, moderation and facilitation techniques, methods for knowledge co-production). Moreover, the participants will be encouraged to critically reflect on their own role identities as researchers, on their resources for conducting that kind of research, and about potentials and limitations of the explored approaches.

Learning outcomes:
• The participants get acquainted to principles and approaches of transdisciplinary research and co-production of knowledge.
• The participants learn the main steps required for preparing a stakeholder interaction plan.
• In exercises, the participants practice and apply these main steps on their own projects.
• the participants acquire new competences in designing and doing transdisciplinary research

Place: tba

Contact: PD Dr. Flurina Schneider, flurina.schneider@cde.unibe.ch

Registration: igs-north-south@cde.unibe.ch

When applying, please answer very briefly the following questions: 1) What is the (working) title of your PhD? 2) Are you planning (or have you already conducted) transdisciplinary research for your PhD? If yes, in which country and which thematic context?