

PROGRAMME



21–22 September 2026



GFZ Potsdam – Telegrafenberg



1.5-day workshop

Day 1

Monday, 21 September 2026 | 13:00–18:00

Science communication and research pitching

- 13:00–13:30** **Welcome and introduction**
Meet the organisers and fellow participants, discover the workshop objectives, and begin building your interdisciplinary network.
- 13:30–14:30** **Science communication and research-pitch training**
Learn practical techniques to communicate your research clearly and confidently. Prepare and refine your short research pitch through interactive exercises and discussion.
Participants will receive guidance in advance.
- 14:30–15:00** **Coffee and networking break**
Take time to meet other participants, exchange ideas and continue conversations informally.
- 15:00–17:00** **Telegrafenberg campus tour and practical exercise**
Participants will be divided into two groups: one group joins a guided tour of the historic Telegrafenberg campus, while the other takes part in a practical science-communication exercise. The groups will then switch, ensuring that everyone participates in both activities.
- 17:00–18:00** **Optional ECSNet video interviews**
Interested participants may volunteer for a short filmed interview presenting their research to an international audience.
*Participation is voluntary and separate from the workshop.
Further information will be provided before filming.*



The final programme and any last practical updates will be shared with confirmed participants before the workshop.

Day 2

Tuesday, 22 September 2026 | 09:00–17:30

Career stories and interdisciplinary proposal development

- 09:00–09:15** **Opening and orientation**
A short introduction to the day's objectives, the collaborative proposal challenge, and the expected group outputs.
- 09:15–10:45** **Career stories behind the science**
Prof. Micara Manda and Prof. Jens Wickert share their experiences, turning points and lessons learned. Includes a moderated conversation and time for questions and exchange.
- 10:45–11:00** **Coffee break**
Continue the discussion with invited speakers and fellow participants.
- 11:00–12:00** **Introduction to interdisciplinary proposal writing**
Practical guidance on designing strong interdisciplinary proposals, including key elements, common challenges and a case example.
- 12:00–12:15** **Introduction to the collaborative proposal challenge**
Explanation of the group task, expected output, timing and presentation format.
- 12:15–13:15** **Lunch and networking**
Lunch provided. Continue conversations and connect across disciplines.
- 13:15–14:30** **Interdisciplinary group challenge**
Work in small, multidisciplinary teams with an advisor to develop a short research concept and project idea.
- 14:30–15:00** **Preparing the mini-proposal pitch**
Teams refine their idea and prepare a short presentation.
- 15:00–15:45** **Mini-proposal presentations**
Each team presents to the workshop audience and panel.
- 15:45–16:15** **Coffee break and panel discussion**
Participants take a break while the panel prepares feedback.
- 16:15–16:45** **Review-panel feedback**
Constructive feedback on clarity, interdisciplinarity, feasibility and impact.
- 16:45–17:30** **Closing discussion and next steps**
Collective reflection, participant feedback and opportunities to stay connected beyond the workshop.