Rethinking design for a complex world: the systems track

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Theme-track context and outline.

The COVID-19 pandemic crisis has brought to light many complex emergencies that require urgent attention. The two-year experience has tested the resilience of communities, institutions, businesses, and governments alike. As well as its consequences for health systems, the pandemic has created a ripple effect on people's lives, affecting local and global economies and exposing inequalities, injustices, and assumptions in all aspects of life. More than ever before**, the complex interconnections between socio-technical, natural, political, and economic systems have become evident.** This surfaces paradoxes and dilemmas that disrupt design practice and trigger a need to explore and embrace *alternative ways of thinking and acting* that consider multiple scales and networks across domains.

This track responds to the need to establish a common ground to integrate a complex systems lens in the design practice. Areas of application include but are not limited to:

- Health and care systems
- Systems for alternative pedagogies
- Governance and resilience systems in the face of climate emergency
- Dismantling existing harm-causing systems

Within the aforementioned areas, we invite papers on the following topics:

- Emergence and unintended consequences in systemic design

- Non-traditional methods for working with systems: visualisation, sensemaking, and analysis.

- Engagement, power dynamics and multi-stakeholder participation

- Challenges and dilemmas around values in systems

- Transitioning toward alternative systems and radical possibilities

- Integration of critical systems thinking principles

This track grants a space for academics, practitioners, and students to share expertise, knowledge, and methods. We encourage applications from a diverse range of approaches, with special interest in work developed in the Global South and/or by/with marginalised communities.

References

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Submitting your paper

Information and templates are accessible here: https://www.drs2022.org/papers/

Important dates:

Deadline for full papers: 24th November 2021.

Notification of accepted papers: February 2022.

Conference dates: 25th June- 3rd July 2022.

In preparing your paper for DRS2022 please note the following:

- Submission is for **full papers only up to 5000 words**, including abstracts and references, and should adhere to the conference paper submission guidelines and template.
- Your initial full paper submission should be in PDF format. Should your paper be accepted, your final submission will be in Word and PDF formats to allow us to prepare the conference proceedings.
- Please register an account and submit your full paper at: http://www.conftool.pro/drs2022
- Indicate the track that you are submitting the paper (**Track 5: Rethinking design for a complex world: the systems track**).