

SAGES 2020 ASM Online – SESSION DETAILS

PLANETARY WELLBEING FORA

Subjective wellbeing and sustainability

Over 30 years ago the Brundtland report (WCED 1987) established the concept of sustainable development as a process of change, whilst recognising wellbeing as the ultimate goal of all environment and development. But even with the adoption of the Millennium Development Goals in 2000 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in 2015, achieving a state of sustainability is still a challenge.

There is greater recognition that sustainability cannot be ‘business as usual but greener’. It requires fundamental change including regenerating and repairing the damage already done to society and the environment.

Landscapes influence quality of life and contribute to subjective wellbeing (swb) (how people experience and evaluate their lives, activities and environments). SWB can also influence environmental attitudes and behaviour. Theory concerning the interactions between environment and well-being are quite well established but there is a need to better understand what qualities of the landscape are important or relevant for different people’s health, wellbeing and quality of life. There is a need to learn more about the way in which swb is related to the extent to which people care about the environment or how they interact with it.

This one-hour session will explore new developments and progress being made in research, policy and practice that recognises the importance of wellbeing for environmental sustainability.

Discussions will be informed by questions around the contribution of sustainability for swb as well as the potential for swb to achieve sustainability. Topics include, but are not limited to:

- how we can conceptualise and measure subjective wellbeing to inform sustainability;
- the importance of enhancing subjective wellbeing to achieve sustainability and the extent to which sustainability initiatives can achieve this;
- the potential for subjective wellbeing to provide a new narrative for sustainability;
- How do we better understand what qualities of landscape (and landscape management) are important or relevant for subjective wellbeing.

We welcome abstracts for presentations that address any aspect of these themes in the Scottish and/or international context.

Submit here: <https://www.sages.ac.uk/sages-asm-2020-online/>

Further details on the ASM and on the registration and submission processes are available at: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/sages-online-annual-science-meeting-2020-tickets-111122899584>