

Chat Discussion

Steven Szostak: Chris L....whilst sitting at home 'outside' Scotland, I actually run a property development social enterprise in Dumbarton.

Derek Rankine: More information on SURF's 2021 manifesto process is available on our website: <https://www.surf.scot/2021-surf-manifesto/>

Andy Milne: Katherine is here with us as well as being 'on film' so do think about any questions or comments you would like to make to her in the open discussion later.

Annette Hastings: film deserves to be very widely shared

Emma Scott: A video of the event will be available on YouTube tomorrow and presentations on the SURF website

Steven Szostak: I especially like Katherine's slide... a role for everyone...needs broad circulation.

Ian Wall : As all previous new ways of behaving collectively for the shared good eg religious communities, communes, especially, the co-operative movement, have failed or reverted to 'business as usual' what needs to be different this time?

Rhiannon-Jane Raftery: Like the role for everyone slide too brilliant

Andrew Paterson: Catherine, you did an input in the recent Scotland's Citizens Assembly. What role do you think approaches like this have in building a consensus around working towards a wellbeing economy?

Martin Avila: It seems like we need to embark on a long-term journey to achieve this change. How do we set the first set of milestones that we want to aim towards and what would Katherine say they should be?

Isabelle Davies: This needs to be driven by people - institutions, business and politicians. Line of least resistance means inertia. Change will need to be driven by consumers and voters to shift and share power. This is the hard bit...

Linda Christie: The public sector and private sector work in different ways - importantly, private sector are preoccupied by profit maximisation...how does the focus on CWB affect private sector thinking and how to we get them to agree to potentially compromise their wealth maximising attitude?

Steven Szostak: But we have all worked our socks off empowering our communities...in my case for over 30 years. We must be sure the top tier of policy and resource decision makers are lined up before we raise expectations again.

Annette Hastings: yes and transnational corporations. What are the levers of change on them?

Linda Christie: we need to get private corporates on board - how do we do this?

Steven Szostak: Katherine...SURF members and us today are the converted. Until top business leaders and public policy makers join a Zoom like this...we will always be talking to ourselves.

Isabelle Davies: can social media play a role in giving the disenfranchised a voice....

Elaine Cooper: Martin Avila's point is a good one (Hi Martin!) Priorities, targets, markers, milestones. What are the first goals we need to achieve?

Linda Christie: I agree Katherine and think Government are on side...so this is where we now also need to push boundaries because the corporates are key to this, they provide the jobs, and income distribution systems

Martin Avila: Thank you Dr Cooper.

Jamie Baker: I met with a major house builder recently with reference to renewable energy, he got it, they got it, but "have a Plc board and if this increases build cost at all they won't go for it".

Linda Christie: We need to be mindful that GDP I only one indicator that is still useful to monitor, the key is measuring OTHER indicators alongside and that they also get key focus...so GDP is still useful and a very important indicator and I would be reluctant to say that it isn't, so I would like to stress it needs to be managed as part of a package of indicators

Steven Szostak: I do it through a 'procurement' contract with businesses wanting to buy plots of our land we were gifted 20 years ago. But we are lucky.

Rhiannon-Jane Raftery: Yes long roots & lots of evidence BUT we haven't progressed hence we are where we are max 10 years to solve the climate problem and the societal ones go alongside that everything is connected

Andy Colvin: The system will always bite back and the more we centralise the harder positive change becomes - it's the nature of the beast.

Kate Wimpress: Andy's question how would citizens see a wellbeing economy work is tempered by how clearly people can now see that 'business as usual' is not working for so many.

Steven Szostak: sorry I have to exit...thanks for a very stimulating discussion....my view put on big boots and target decision makers across sectors....using some of SURF's and Katherine's examples.

Isabelle Davies: Are UN sustainability indicators a start point for indicators in a global economy? Future markets depend on consumers so they need access to wealth to feed the system

Linda Christie: absolutely and I think that's a great point Katherine

Rhiannon-Jane Raftery: solving climate change is likely incompatible with growth difficult to square that one unless we focus on reducing the overconsumption of the top 10%

Andrew Paterson: Agree the onus shouldn't be on communities but we do need to support communities to participate meaningfully - this is key to wellbeing. The emphasis on community development infrastructure in SURF's manifesto is welcome

Linda Christie: are you suggestion that zero growth is ok - and if so, this needs to be talked about and this is exactly the point that politicians are not willing to say...so, does a wellbeing economy mean we need to be honest about zero growth being a good thing?

Rhiannon-Jane Raftery: growth in the context of net zero too much greenwash every time climate action is discussed with business generally we have to close down the fossil fuel economy

Annette Hastings: Really important point on how we all benefit when we don't have the additional costs of re-distribution rather than pre-distribution. BUT similar argument (Wilkinson) around how we ALL benefit from reduced inequality not gained traction.

Linda Christie: Valid point Katherine, and maybe we just need to talk about 'prosperity' more

Annette Hastings: What you are proposing makes total sense. Really hope that we can all get this in the deep sense that you mean.

Kit Scott: Here in Perth Australia, there was research into the NFP sector in 2016 and the Australian Charities and Not for Profit Commission (ACNC) recorded 52,817 charities, covering 1.3 million employees and 2.9 million volunteers. Their economic contribution was estimated at about \$129 billion or roughly 8 % of Australia's GDP. Those figures do not include the value of volunteering, estimated to contribute a further \$12.8 billion through 328 million unpaid hours, see screen shots from the Learning for Purpose report

Katherine Trebeck: Such a pleasure - thank you for hosting this conversation. Stay in touch folk - wellbeingeconomy.org

Hazel Cross: Thank you Katherine, extremely informative & interesting.

Rhiannon-Jane Raftery: Thanks Katherine and SURF

Isabelle Davies: Thanks for an interesting session

Rhiannon-Jane Raftery: Have to leave now see you next week

Anna Young: Thank you, very interesting debate