Heading towards
a fair and sustainable society

INTERNATIONAL FORUM FOR WELL BEING

GRENOBLE FRANCE
From June 29th to July 1st, 2022

CALL FOR PROPOSALS
Guidelines to propose a contribution for the main programme

CLOSING DATE FOR SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS: JANUARY 21ST, 2022
forumbienvivre.org

The International Forum for Well-Being is co-organised by:
BE PART OF THE INTERNATIONAL FORUM FOR WELL-BEING!

FROM JUNE 29TH TO JULY 1ST, 2022 IN GRENOBLE – FRANCE

In 2018, the International Forum for Well-Being “Wealth, happiness, what indicators to build tomorrow?” brought together for 3 days more than 1,000 participants from 25 different countries around the question of a new “compass” of society. A first in Europe! Testimonies from all over the world have made more visible and concrete a vision of development based on well-being, and no longer on purely economic considerations.

Building on this, Grenoble will host the second edition of the International Forum for Well-Being in June 2022, going one step further to initiate a systemic transformation. This event is part of the Grenoble European Green Capital 2022 program.

The International Forum for Well-Being 2022 will pursue 3 main goals

1. Accelerate the transition towards a new compass

Because it’s so intertwined with the environmental crisis, the COVID-19 crisis has disrupted the western lifestyle, which is unequal and based on consuming without taking into account the planetary boundaries. The pandemic has confirmed the urgent need to rethink our models of society, and made our planetary interdependencies very real. The various lockdowns made us experiment on a daily basis mainly because we suffered from the lack of them - some aspects of well-being that are invisible in the common indicators: friendliness and social contacts, freedom of movement, a good health of course, public services and helpfulness among human beings.

The second forum will give us the opportunity to take another critical step towards accelerating the change for a new frame of reference. It is high time we made life-sized experiments, integrating new norms and scaling things up in those places were decisions are made.

2. Translate well-being into action and indicators, between the environmental ceiling and the social foundation

The first forum addressed the economic aspect, the development model. Held in Grenoble, the newly elected “European Green Capital 2022”, this second forum will take the environmental issue as a starting point to go one step further in defining and translating this new development model into action. The Forum 2022 will focus on an ecologically sustainable well-being. It will be built around the challenge of holding together the social and the environmental stakes, which will be the common thread for the programme and this call for contributions.

This is no longer necessary to define the social and planetary boundaries: the scientists and testimonies from those affected have taken care of it. It is time to take practical steps to take them into account in social and economic organisations, lifestyles and collective choices.

3. Support, develop and nurture the community of change agents

For the past 4 years, the different actors in the forum have continued to work together and within their own networks, towards integrating this “compass” of well-being and its indicators into the places and moments where decisions are made. The first forum sparked the desire to try to discuss among territories, researchers and players, to understand...

The second forum will raise the opportunity to consolidate the community formed by all those seeking to move from indicators to action.

The time has come to focus on open science, hybrid methods and pragmatism. This will allow us to face, understand and even overcome the complexity by relying on scientific, technical and citizen knowledge.

This forum is the result of a collaboration between local authorities (Grenoble-Alpes Métropole and the city of Grenoble), members of Grenoble universities (Université Grenoble-Alpes and the Economic Peace Chair of GEM) and civil society with CCFD-Terre Solidaire and the FAIR collective (Forum for other wealth indicators).

*We’re borrowing these words from Kate Raworth and her “Doughnut Economics*
For this forum to be a place where as many people as possible can share and raise their voices, the event’s agenda will be co-built from answers to this call for contributions. We will structure different pathways based on the proposed content.

What are the different areas of focus of the International Forum for Well-Being 2022?

We have identified 3 main areas for reflection and discussion for the 2022 Forum. For each of these challenges, we have formulated a questioning. Contributions can shed a light on two areas: developing a “knowledge factory” (data, observations...) as well as taking action.

Our particular focus on indicators and monitoring tools lies at the interface between the two: how can we draw on findings to make decisions? How do we know if we’re on the right track?

1. The challenge of a society that is “rich for everyone and rich of everyone”*: fighting inequality and building a “social foundation”

An ecologically sustainable world would make no sense if it was reserved to a minority. The experience of the yellow vests protests in France revealed how difficult it is for us to reconcile “end of the world and end of the month”. It is yet the most vulnerable who suffer most from the impact of environmental disruption: exposure to risks, unequal access to services and resources needed to change lifestyles, and therefore health inequalities. And they are also the ones who live furthest from the influential and power places where the so-called “transition” policies are being made. This very close interdependency between social and environmental issues is too often invisible or overlooked.

- How to make visible the way environmental stakeholders affect, increase or transform all sorts of inequalities (social, geographic, gender-based, etc.)?
- How can we make compatible goals that are too often considered as antagonistic?
- How to consider and overcome those inequalities in the way we respond to environmental challenges, both locally and globally? Which synergies are already in place?
- How to stay the course with an ecological transition that leaves no one behind?

2. The change of model challenge: reducing our footprint and maintaining an “environmental ceiling”

Existing models on carbon neutrality or biodiversity conservation, two critical pillars for the survival of humanity on the Earth, show the need for a dramatic change in consumption and production patterns. On the consumption side, this change in western societies is associated with renunciation, with the end of a “well-being” based on prosperity and the hope of an ever easier life, generation after generation. And on the production side, questioning our development model is worrying, both because of the risks it implies for a certain number of jobs and because of how difficult it is for us to imagine a more energy- and resource-efficient model.

- How can we support and spread the observation that our development model is incompatible with the respect for living beings?
- How to spread the word in order to engage as many people as possible and enhance everyone’s ability to contribute freely to make a change?
- How to move away from our habits and paths of dependency? And more practically, how can we, as individuals, reconcile sobriety and well-being? How can we politically and economically support the transition towards a more circular, sober and inclusive system?
- How to find the right scale between local and global intervention? And between individuals, collectives and the whole society?

3. The political and democratic challenge: staying the course of well being

In the face of the climate emergency, it’s becoming increasingly urgent to take action. However, we also need to take some time to discuss and let things sink in. This paradox, this tension between words and action, urgency and reflection, brings out the pressing need for politics to get involved. It requires finding the right place for actors, citizens and public debate.

The reflection on new indicators that are more suited to this “well-being course” reveals the need for a new convention, an agreement between all.

- How to rethink what makes the common good, including through public debate?
- How to develop a “new social contract”, a “convention of well-being” that rethinks our relationship with ourselves, with others and with the world?
- How to ensure that the commitment of the various stakeholders is possible, effective and strong (public actors, companies, citizens...)?
- How to draw on thresholds and indicators that have been collectively chosen and accepted by sharing various expertise?
- How to integrate this “compass” of well-being into the places and moments where decisions are made, in order to support political, economic or lifestyle choices in times of transition?
CONTRIBUTIONS : USER MANUAL

You feel concerned or you have carried out experiments or researches that can feed the questions asked by the Forum and help us rise to the challenges... Feel free to offer your contributions!

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

WHO IS THIS CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS AIMED AT?

Whether you are an elected representative, a technician, a researcher, an actor from the civil society or from the business sector, or “just” a citizen, your contribution matters to us! We need all sorts of contributions to “make the shift”.

CONTRIBUTORS’ COMMITMENTS

While submitting a contribution, you commit to:
- Build up a workshop in line with the forum’s main issue and gather speakers/contributors if needed
- Identify one person who will be the contact for the forum organisers
- Prepare and facilitate your workshop on D-day
- Support as much as possible the crossing of different point of views
- If possible, make sure to be available for the 3 days of the forum
- Provide a description of your workshop that will be integrated in the main programme
- Respect the time frame given by organisers
- Use the forum’s style guide for all communication material
- Allow organisers to circulate this material and give up your rights to personal portrayal

ORGANISERS’ COMMITMENTS

The organisers commit to:
- Give you the space you need for your presentation
- Keep you updated about the main updates on the program and the date and time of your workshop
- Promote your workshop on the forum’s website
- Provide visibility to your participation after the event by posting content on the forum’s website

SUBMITTING THE CONTRIBUTIONS

Please send your proposal before January 21st using the online form (access the form) or via forumbienvivre.org

SHARING EXPERIENCES

You want to showcase a project that has already been carried out or that is currently being carried out? In these workshops, project initiators can share their experiences, describe how their project was rolled out, what were the outcomes and the key learnings.

COLLECTIVE INTELLIGENCE:

You are facing a problem, a “lock” is holding you back? This workshop is meant to think and build a solution together. Participants will resort to collaborative formats and collective intelligence to explore new leads for a solution, together.

POPULAR EDUCATION

You have ideas on how to involve different sorts of people who are not experts on the question of indicators? Come and make the most of these workshops to speak, to facilitate friendly discussions and to raise awareness among groups of people!

DEBATE

You want to suggest a debate on an issue that matters to you, that seems key to you? The goal of these workshops will be to invite a great number of people to have a participative discussion and debate about substantive issues.

The main ambition of this forum is to facilitate exchanges between actors, knowledge and experience so that we can achieve it all together!
OUR ADVICE TO BUILD UP YOUR CONTRIBUTION

• A descriptive title is good, a catchy title is even better!

• Try to make a clear and precise description: the participants will come to your workshop to speak about a specific subject and not another.

• Your description should mention what the workshop will bring to the participants.

• Do you tend to get bored in presentations with endless Power Points and no interaction with the audience? So do we. Use original and participative methods to facilitate your workshop!

• Your presentation will lead to discussion. Remember to include enough time for it in your plan.

• The content of the session must be arranged to stick to the format and duration.

• Tell your story, your challenges as well as your success. It is this overview that will help participants to follow your steps.

• Your workshop is a place to meet: take a time at the beginning of the session to give participants who came to listen an opportunity to introduce themselves.

• The discussion will go on after the workshop: invite the participants to speak to you after the session or, even better, in meeting areas all along the Forum.

• A workshop is not an advertisement but an opportunity to exchange views. If you want to promote an initiative or a tool, describe its strengths and weaknesses and encourage participants to share their own experience on the matter.

CALENDAR

December 1st 2021: Call for proposals launch
December 9th, 2021: Virtual meeting to present the call for proposals in French. 1pm to 2:30pm. (link)
January 21st, 2022: End of call for proposals
February 2022: The program committee examines the proposals.
End of February: Responses given to the contributors
March 2022: Release of a provisional program and registration opening
Mid-April 2022: Release of the final program in French, English and Spanish

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