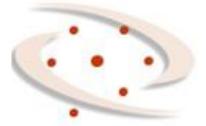




**International Society for
Quality-of-Life Studies**

"exploring wellbeing and happiness"



The Regional Science Academy

Advanced Brainstorm Carrefour (ABC)

Host:

2024 ERSА CONFERENCE
26 - 30 AUGUST, 2024

The Regional Science Academy (TRSA)

Tuesday, 27 August, 2024, 14:30-16:15 (local time)

Theme:

Spatial Wellbeing and City Love

Location:

Centro Cultural e de Congressos de Angra do Heroísmo
Canada Nova
9700-130 Angra do Heroísmo
Terceira Island, Autonomous Region of the Azores, Portugal

meeting room: **Small Auditorium**

Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81728347364?pwd=FWkW0n4xtIKQSVJBUc8C02bD278bmF.1>

Meeting ID: 817 2834 7364

Password: 066399

Organizers:

Peter NIJKAMP
Martijn BURGER
Karima KOURTIT
Carolina GUEVARA

in cooperation with the International Society for Quality-of-Life Studies (ISQOLS)

The Regional Science Academy (TRSA)

International Society for Quality-of-Life Studies (ISQOLS)

Spatial Wellbeing and City Love

Aims & Scope

Over the past years a worldwide interest has arisen in the measurement of wellbeing and happiness. Several disciplines (e.g. sociology, social psychology, micro-economics and human geography) have made significant advances in conceptual and applied research on these issues. Recently, we observe also a shift from macro and meso levels of happiness research to more disaggregated and multi-scalar research endeavours, e.g. at city or neighborhood level.

Cities are dynamic hubs of diverse qualities and livability conditions that profoundly impact the wellbeing of individuals, firms, and communities. Urban areas offer numerous advantages, including a wide variety of goods and services, access to essential physical amenities such as healthcare, education, and cultural infrastructure, and increased opportunities for interaction among economic agents. However, excessive urban agglomeration can lead to significant negative externalities, including congestion, pollution, high crime rates, and increased living expenses, ultimately reducing overall wellbeing. The multidimensional and dynamic assessment of cities, often referred to as 'city love', reflects the complex interplay between these positive and negative factors.

In contrast, rural areas boast different sets of amenities, primarily natural, and benefit from lower levels of agglomeration, such as reduced crime rates and a more tranquil environment. As a result, wellbeing in rural areas is influenced by distinct factors, fostering a unique form of appreciation known as 'rural love'.

Moreover, elements of happiness and the concept of "happy proximity" play crucial roles in both urban and rural settings. Happy proximity refers to the closeness to amenities, services, and social interactions that significantly enhance the quality of life and overall happiness of residents. The presence of green spaces, community centers, and other social infrastructures in close proximity can greatly contribute to individuals' happiness and satisfaction with their living environment.

TRSA organizes an Advanced Brainstorm Carrefour (ABC) on the theme of 'Spatial Wellbeing and City Love', as a (pre-)conference event for the annual conference of the European Regional Science Association (ERSA), end of August in the Azores. This event takes place as a joint activity of TRSA (The Regional Science Academy), ISQOLS and ERSA.

This special session aims to explore the complexities of urban and rural dynamics by inviting original contributions that address these themes, covering topics including, but not limited to:

- Elements of happiness and happy proximity
- Regional economic structure and productive networks
- Social-economic segmentation
- Welfare, economic performance, and city love
- Resilience of people in cities
- Natural amenities in cities and rural areas
- Physical amenities in cities and rural areas

Through in-depth analysis and vibrant discussion, this session seeks to provide valuable insights into the factors that shape the wellbeing and livability of urban and rural environments. By exploring these dynamics, participants can contribute to enhancing the quality of life in both settings, fostering sustainable development and promoting equitable growth.

Speakers

Martijn Burger (The Netherlands)

Carolina Guevara (Ecuador)

Karima Kourtit (The Netherlands)

Philip Morrison (New Zealand)

Peter Nijkamp (The Netherlands)

Soushi Suzuki (Japan)

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME OF ABC

Spatial Wellbeing and City Love

Date: Tuesday, 27 August, 2024, 14:30-16:15 (local time)

Meeting room: Small Auditorium

Join Zoom Meeting:

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14:30 Welcome and Introduction to ABC:
Peter Nijkamp, Vice-President, **The Regional Science Academy (TRSA)**

Moderators:
Karima Kourtit & Kingsley Haynes

14:30 – 14:45 Martijn Burger
Understanding Spatial Disparities in Subjective Well-Being

14:45 – 15:00 Carolina Guevara
The Butterfly-Vitality Matrix for Spatial Happiness

15:00 – 15:15 Karima Kourtit
Neighbourhood Love and City love

15:15 – 15:30 Philip Morrison
The Urban Wellbeing Paradox: Education and Social Contact

15:30 – 16:45 Peter Nijkamp, Abdul Shaban & Karima Kourtit
Socio-ecological Shocks, Weak Community Support Systems, and Tragic Responses of Farmers in India

15:45 – 16:00 Soushi Suzuki, Kouhei Kikuchi & Peter Nijkamp
Effects of Bullying on Pupils' Performance

16:00 – 16:15 **Concluding Words (Kingsley Haynes) /Reception**