





## **UK Systems Society**

<u>School of Organizations, Systems and People, Responsible Project Management and UKSS</u> hybrid one day conference on December 7<sup>th</sup> at the University of Portsmouth and Online

## Sustainable Systems; the importance of Systems thinking and Practice.

Enterprises and Communities exist in turbulent environments and face evolving challenges as they seek to engage in health, education, business, development, leisure and other activities. Systems thinking (ST) offers a framework to address these complex, emergent problems. Public, Private and third sector management professionals need to create resilient organizations to manage rapid developments and applications in technology, recruit and develop adaptive staff. This challenge is within the context of increasing accountability for social and environmental responsibility, including the need to support climate adaptation (infrastructural, societal and personal changes) and mitigation (preventing or reducing emissions) activities. The Responsible Project Management community and the UK Systems Society offer the opportunity to bring together systems theorists and practitioners to discuss ideas relevant to these challenges.

We invite abstracts, talks and posters that apply a systems perspective (an overview is here: <a href="https://www.systemsforum.org/download/documents/presentations/Intro-to-systems-Frank-Stowell-Part-1-2021.pdf">https://www.systemsforum.org/download/documents/presentations/Intro-to-systems-Frank-Stowell-Part-1-2021.pdf</a>) relate to the following:

Systems Education- Contributions that present examples of systems thinking and how these ideas can enrich the perspectives of learners about sustainability.

Sustainability and systems research: Conceptual, empirical and methodological approaches that incorporate a systems approach to aid our understanding of sustainability practices, mindsets, climate adaptation, climate mitigation and sustainable transitions in communities and societies.

Health and wellbeing: Conceptual, empirical, policy and practitioner contributions that examine how systems approaches aid our understanding of public health, wellbeing and healthcare management.

Sustainable Systems in Business, Projects and Networks: Conceptual, empirical and methodological approaches that incorporate a systems approach to aid our understanding of organizational, inter organizational and project (program and portfolio) sustainability practices, sustainability mindsets and sustainability outcomes in public, private and third sector organizations.

Case studies of examples of organizational and project (program and portfolio) initiatives that address environmental and social sustainability issues such as carbon emissions, climate adaptation, food waste, biodiversity preservation and social cohesion.

Systems Practice: Practitioner perspectives and examples on how systems approaches can support management of change, organizational interventions and community transitions. The event will be hybrid comprising face-to face and online presentations. With particular encouragement for contributions from industry practitioners, academic researchers and educators from all disciplines

## Types of contributions:

- Abstracts and short (10 min) in person or online presentations require:
  - o Title and short abstract outlining the topic
- Case Studies
  - o Title of a Case Study to presented
- Presentation max of 15 minutes abstract of maximum of 200 words
- Poster

Title of Poster and format that you wish to present

Please email your abstracts and contributions to either:

<u>Nigel.Williams@port.ac.uk</u> (Reader in Project Management and Research Lead, School of Organizations, Systems and People)

<u>frank.stowell@port.ac.uk</u> (Professor Emeritus Systems and Information Systems)