

Climate Change – Perspectives on well-being, human agency and transformation

Maynooth University Department of Geography invites you to attend a joint seminar and discussion with two of the leading international scholars on the human dimensions of climate change

Prof. Neil Adger Department of Geography
University of Exeter

Prof. Karen O'Brien Department of Sociology & Human
Geography, University of Oslo

Date: February 22nd

Time: 4.00pm to 5.30pm

Location: Rocque Lab, Rhetoric House



Climate change and impacts on well-being – Prof. Neil Adger

Climate change is already affecting the natural world and ecosystems globally and has significant economics costs. But how do the impacts of climate change affect the things we care about, given that well-being involves material, health, subjective and relational elements? This talk outlines how impacts of weather-related extremes affect individual and relational elements of well-being, based on ongoing analysis of flood risk and its burden on people and communities, and the implications of the wider conception of well-being for responses and strategies for adaptation.



Climate Change: From Adaptation to Transformation – Prof. Karen O'Brien

Adaptation has been increasingly promoted as a key strategy for reducing risk and vulnerability to the impacts of climate change. Yet what qualifies as successful adaptation when the impacts are the result of human activities? Who decides the future to which we must adapt? In this talk, I distinguish between technical problems and adaptive challenges and discuss why successful adaptation to climate change will only be realized through social transformations. The talk will draw on research from the AdaptationCONNECTS project, which focuses on the role of creativity, collaboration, empowerment and flexibility in realizing adaptation through transformation.

Department of Geography Seminar Series

All are welcome

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