



Ethics & Values in Assessments
September 16-18, Berlin

Divergent values in sustainability assessments: love them, leave them, or change them?

An interdisciplinary conference

This conference organized by the MCC is about promising approaches to legitimacy at the science-policy interface in light of divergent normative viewpoints. What would a legitimate assessment of the desirability of alternative sustainability futures look like?

We envisage a novel practically-informative evaluation of different approaches to divergent normative viewpoints – with a particular focus on the potential and limitations of deliberative approaches. We aim to identify and discuss responses that potentially meet the crucial, though ambiguous, criterion of liberal-democratic legitimacy (excluding, e.g., dogmatic or authoritarian approaches), without falling into cynicism or fatalism (e.g., radical relativism) regarding divergent values and ethics in sustainability governance.

Collaboration across disciplines is essential here. The conference therefore brings together experts from philosophy, economics, social-science and integrated assessment communities. The ambition is to inform future integrated assessment processes (such as by the IPCC, IPBES or UN Environment) and to inspire future critical-constructive research in this field.

We gratefully acknowledge funding by DKN Future Earth. For more information about the conference, see: <https://www.mcc-berlin.net/en/valuesconference.html>

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Conference program

(As of 26.08.2019)

Talks take 12min each, followed by 20min plenary discussion.

Perspectives take 20min plus 15min discussion.

Keynotes take 25min plus 35min discussion.

Day 1 – Mon, 16 Sep 2019

From 10.15	Registration and tea & coffee	
	I) Setting the scene: Divergent values for sustainability governance	Mod.: M. Kowarsch & D. Lenzi
11.00–12.25	Introduction: Divergent values: Love them, leave them, or change them?	M. Kowarsch & D. Lenzi
	Talk: Relationship between values and knowledge	A. Horcea-Milcu
12.25–13.15	Lunch break	
13.15–14.50	Keynote speech: Understanding values in environmental governance	T. Dietz
	Talk: Risks of a 'business case' discourse	J. Rode
14.50–15.05	Tea & coffee break	
15.05–16.15	Perspective: Science-policy interfaces and divergent values	M. Saner
	Talk: From multiple values to just futures (IPBES)	U. Eser
16.15–16.25	Short break	
	II) Ethics and values in integrated assessment modelling	Mod.: C. Heyward & D. Lenzi
16.25–18.00	Keynote speech: Towards policy-oriented climate ethics	H. Shue
	Talk: The explorative and performative faces of IAMs	E. Kriegler
19.00	Reception & dinner in restaurant "PATIO" (https://patio-berlin.de/)	

Day 2 – Tue, 17 Sep 2019

09.15–11.00	Talk: Value assumptions in integrated assessment models (IAMs)	H. Thorén
	Talk: The 'feasibility' of bio-energy carbon capture and storage	S. Low
	Talk: Illustrating the "pathway exploration approach" to ethics in assessments	D. Lenzi & M. Kowarsch
11.00–11.15	Tea & coffee break	
11.15–12.15	Keynote speech: Integrating Ethics into Economic Modelling: The Social Welfare Function	M. Adler
12.15–13.05	Lunch break	

Continuation from Day 2 – Tue, 17 Sep 2019

	III) Enhancing democratic and ethical legitimacy		Mod.: D. Lenzi & C. Heyward
13.05–13.40	Perspective: Navigating the plurality of social values		C. Raymond
13.40–13.50	Short break; changing location		
13.50–16.40	Parallel sessions of Talks		
	Room I	Room II	
	Taking on the perspective of others	A. Koessler	Legitimacy assessments and normative criteria
	Axiological-narrative analysis	V. Morales	Geoethics in/for the Human Niche
	Intersection points of values and scenario modelling in the IPCC	F. Creutzig	Integrating divergent values into SDGs
	Democratic legitimacy and future generations	F. Gillerke	Pedagogy of geoethics: eco-political resistance
15.00–15.30	In between: Tea & coffee break, including book presentations		
16.40–16.50	Short break; changing location		
	IV) Deliberation, learning and shifting normative positions		Mod.: M. Kowarsch & M. Böttcher
16.50–17.25	Perspective: From meta-paradigms to deliberative value formation		J. Kenter
17.40	Optional: Video tour “Seminarsschiff”: carbon-neutral technology		

Day 3 – Wed, 18 Sep 2019

09.15–10.50	Keynote speech: Divergent values or divisive language?	S. Niemeyer
	Talk: Social learning and conflicting values	S. Fesmire
10.50–11.05	Tea & coffee break	
11.05–12.45	Talk: Shared goals, frames, and commitment in social learning processes	G. Scholz
	Panel discussion (60 min): Towards a deliberative science-policy interface?	T. Jafry, B. Muraca, M. Bohle, Mod.: M. Böttcher
12.45–13.30	Lunch break	
	V) Research and practices: The way forward	Mod.: T. Jafry & M. Kowarsch
13.30–15.00	Concluding panel discussion (75 min): Wrap-up & future practice at the science-policy interface	M. Adler, T. Dietz, S. Niemeyer, H. Shue, Mod.: T. Jafry
	Plenary discussion: Conference outputs, outcomes & next steps	
	Closing remarks	M. Kowarsch
15.00	End of conference	