



## SESSION DESCRIPTION

### ID: T18

Conserving ecosystem services for sustainable recovery and sustainable development: Locking in opportunities from the COVID-19 pandemic

### Hosts:

	Title	Name	Organisation	E-mail
<b>Host:</b>		Felix Donkor	University of South Africa (UNISA)	felixdonkor2002@yahoo.co.uk
<b>Co-host:</b>		Emuriat Julius Emmanuel	ASAF	emuriat25@yahoo.co.uk

### Abstract:

The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in severe disruptions in the daily activities of people globally. The pandemic has shown that progress made in tackling poverty, hunger, good health and well-being can be eroded unless the global community also urgently tackles the global environmental threats that have are capable of undermining the systems that enable humanity and the planet to survive and thrive. Human health and wellbeing was a key issue in the pandemic with ecosystem services given prominence as one of the solutions such as visits to parks etc. Moreover, strict laws were introduced to encourage responsible environmental behaviour as well as mediate human environment interactions. However, it has become clear that the destruction of wild habitats will result in increased animal-human interaction directly and thus the increases the chances of spread of zoonotic diseases such as the corona virus. This makes it necessary to consider how key stakeholders can build back by working with, not against the environment in order to manage and create resilience to future systemic threats and human wellbeing. This session will consider some of the opportunities that the corona pandemic highlighted for the management of environment and related ecosystem services. Sustainable recovery and sustainable development are viable when sound environmental measures, plans and policies are given priority and implemented by governments.



### Goals and objectives of the session:

To consider how behavioural changes and sound environmental laws implemented during the pandemic can be maintained in a post-covid era for conserving ecosystem services and sustainability

### Planned output / Deliverables:

Blog post

Policy brief

### Voluntary contributions accepted:

Yes, I allow any abstract to be submitted to my session for review

### Related to ESP Working Group/National Network:

[Thematic working group: TWG 18 – Governance & Institutional aspects](#)