

Global Health Histories Seminar 83

| 7 November 2014 | 12.30-14.00 |

| Auditorium 3 | UN City |



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How satisfied are you with your life these days?

The rise of well-being in public health

If you find yourself filling in a national survey in the next few years, you'll probably come up against this unusual question: "All things considered, how satisfied would you say you are with your life these days?" It's designed to measure your well-being.

Over the last decade, well-being has become a powerful idea intended to help governments focus on targets beyond GDP and mortality figures. Many academics and policy makers argue that it's no longer enough to only report on how much money we generate, or how long we live. A well-functioning government must also be able to take stock of how its citizens feel and how satisfied they are with their lives.

But how revolutionary is the concept of well-being really? This seminar will seek to chart its rise from a variety of angles, tracing the deeper history of an idea that reaches back into antiquity, challenging the modern conceptions of the term, and reflecting on how well-being and well-being measurement have been incorporated into WHO's work in Europe.

For more information and to register, please contact: GHHistories@euro.who.int