
A safe operating space for humanity? How palaeoecology can help us to plant the seeds of a sustainable Anthropocene

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Abstract

Global environmental challenges can only be addressed by multifaceted approaches that integrate biodiversity conservation with sustainability targets. While multi-disciplinary research is helping to define a **safe operating space for humanity**, as yet there is relatively little use of **palaeoecological data** in defining how close we are to environmental and ecological tipping points.

In this keynote talk, I will argue that a **past-present-future perspective is vital** to developing realistic future scenarios, and in informing management options that maintain and restore ecological function, and that sustain biodiversity and ecosystem services.

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