

## New Paradigm of Sustainable Human Development November 5-7, 2014 ~ Almaty, Kazakhstan

## "Pathways to a New Paradigm" Building Awareness & Support for Paradigm Change

Next Year will be a year of great significance for how we will influence the future health of our planet. 2015 is the year we will be measured on the Millennium Goals; the Sustainable Development Goals will be launched; we mark Beijing +20; and the Paris Climate Summit will be the proof of whether or not there is political will and courage to take the necessary steps to save our planet.

Challenges abound as we enter the next phase in the new millennium. New faces of terrorism and threat of Ebola pandemic add to the already well-known threats to stability, equality and sustainability.

Governments alone cannot tackle these challenges. Neither can business, nor nations alone. To turn the tide, we see a need for all sectors to work together, cooperating to ensure a sustainable future. Therefore Partnership for Change has initiated a process bringing the global community together towards the same goal, to create a platform for <u>action</u>.

The process was launched in May 2014 with the PfC 2014 Conference – Turning the Tide, in Oslo. During 2014 and 2015 there will be numerous milestones, workshops, and summits around the world, culminating in the Minnesota 2015 October summit: *MN2015 – Democracy for a Sustainable Future*. MN2015 will represent the call to action, where local groups will be challenged to identify and act on necessary change to be part of the UN-SDG solutions.

International and multi-generational thought leaders will come together to determine and endorse an actionable platform of sustainability policies, and to inspire democratic nations to enact laws that meet the triple bottom line of people, planet, and profit, as well as to provide routes for all sectors of society to fulfill the SDGs as defined by the UN weeks earlier.

Minnesota has always been a model for cross-sector collaboration, a result of cooperation among politicians, business leaders, academics, philanthropists, and citizens. Minnesota has a high standard of living, a robust economy, strong academic institutions, a vibrant arts community, and a clean and accountable political culture. MN2015 will showcase Minnesota as a cross-sector model for developing and adopting sustainability policies.

Minnesota has a culture for innovative sustainability. Many companies based in Minnesota are global leaders in sustainability issues, especially in the areas of food, water and health care. Additionally, the University of Minnesota and other colleges and universities have a host of leading sustainability programs.

While disruptive innovation may come from amid chaos in the most challenged areas of the world, there are pathways to a new paradigm to be found in the Minnesota model where refugee/diaspora communities have thrived for many decades. Building awareness and support for paradigm change will come through cross-sector collaboration in communities such as Minnesota with a highly educated, highly tolerant populace and a well-developed collaborative community.

At the conclusion of this report the presenter will welcome the New Paradigm of Sustainable Human Development initiative to continue their conversation in Minnesota in October 2015, coinciding with the culmination of the Partnership for Change's Turning the Tide initiative, either prior to and following the conference MN2015: Democracy in a Sustainable World.