



United Nations
Office at Geneva



World Academy of
Art and Science

UN-WAAS Initiative on Global Leadership in the 21st C.

UN-WAAS Collaboration

- WAAS was founded in 1960 to address global social challenges
- UN ECOSOC Special Consultative Status
- UNESCO Consultative Status
- Future of Education Conferences in association with UNESCO
- Future of Capital Initiative in collaboration with UN Office of Partnerships & UNCTAD
- UNOG-WAAS Conference in 2013– Challenges and Opportunities in the 21st C.

Global Social Challenges & Opportunities

UNOG – WAAS Conference -- 2013

Need for a Paradigm Shift

- Political
- Economic
- Financial
- Technological
- Social
- Ecological

Need for Global Leadership

- Unprecedented speed, complexity and uncertainty of global change
- Evolutionary, existential, ecological challenges
- Timebound urgency to implement the SDGs
- Retreat from multilateralism
- Paradox of needs and resources
- Breakdown of conventional leadership model

Essence of leadership is an inspiring vision of the future



Elements of Leadership

Individuals

Ideas

Goals

Types of Thinking

Measurement

Social Movements

Organizations

Theories

Values

Narratives

Institutions

Education

Project Stages

1. Consultations with stakeholders
2. Summit of stakeholders at UN Geneva in October 2020
3. Final Report to the UN
4. Development of educational and outreach content
5. Support for SDG implementation

Multi- stakeholder Consultations

1. International Organizations
2. Nation-States
3. Educational Institutions
4. Scientific & Technological Community
5. Business & Financial Community
6. Civil Society Organizations
7. Next Generation Youth Groups
8. Media Groups

Next Steps in Collaboration

1. Identify core team to participate
2. Survey your staff
3. Prepare a briefing paper
4. Roundtable discussion with project team
5. Inputs for final report
6. Global Leadership Conference on October 27-28, 2020
7. Leadership Alliance with renewed sense of mission

Key Leadership Questions

1. Examples of highly effective leadership at the global level?
2. Principles, values drawn from these examples?
3. Innovative leadership initiatives your organization is currently applying?
4. Insights to enhance and accelerate global progress?
5. What change in thinking is needed to unleash effective action?
6. ... and to mobilize social initiative?
7. Other unanswered questions and innovative practices?

Project Management Team

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National social transformations that went global

- 1930s – New Deal to humanize capitalism
- 1950s – American Civil Rights Movement
- 1960s – Anti-apartheid Movement in S. Africa
- 1960s – Green Revolution in India
- 1970s – Environment Movement
- 1980s – Personal computer empowered the individual
- 1990s – Internet as first global social system
- 2000s – Uncentralized networks
- 2010s – New public political consciousness & activism

International social transformations

- Founding of the UN
- Collapse of Colonial Empires
- Multiplication of nation states
- Bretton Woods Agreement
- End of the Cold War
- European Union
- Democratization of Eastern Europe
- Emerging youth leadership on environment

Global Leadership by UN Agencies

- Enhanced Child Health, Nutrition & Life-span (UNICEF)
- Eradication of Smallpox & fight against AIDS (WHO)
- International Labor Standards (ILO)
- Global Food Security (WFP)
- Gender Equality in Education (UNESCO)
- International telecom technical standards (ITU)
- Convention on Biodiversity (UNEP)
- Eradication of Landmines (ICBL)
- Adoption of Agenda 2030