GL-21

Project on

Global Leadership in the 21st C.

2013
UNOG – WAAS Conference

Paradigm Shift to address pressing global challenges

➢Financial – Market Instability, Regulation,

➢Economic – Persistent Poverty, Unemployment & Rising Inequality

➢Technological – Speed of adoption and its Social Impact

➢Social – Cultural Conflict, Immigration, Alienation, Extremism & Violence

➢Political -- Security, Global Governance, Human Rights & Democracy

➢Ecological – Climate, Pollution, Biodiversity, Resources

Context

- Evolution of global society is unable to keep pace with the magnitude of political, economic, technological, social, cultural and ecological challenges affecting humanity today.

- Global leadership vacuum precisely at the time that humanity as a whole confronts challenges of unprecedented planetary scope, speed, and complexity.

- Paradox of unprecedented global resources and capabilities co-existing with unconscionable threats, deprivation and unmet needs.

- Paradox of the breakdown of conventional leadership alongside a break through in the emergence of new forms of social leadership

Requirements to meet these Challenges

Global Scope – strengthening of multilateralism

Understanding Complexity – systemic understanding of interdependencies

Institutional Coordination – coordination of specialized functions

Comprehensive Policies – integration of piecemeal, sectoral approaches

Person-centered Education – multidisciplinary, contextual, active learning

Integrated Knowledge – values-based, human-centered social theories

Synthetic Thinking – paradigm change in thought that leads to action

Transformative Leadership – higher types, forms and levels of Leadership

UN - WAAS Initiative on
Global Leadership in the 21st Century

- Multi-disciplinary
- Multi-sectoral
- Multi-stakeholder

Quest for transformative leadership to
address the full spectrum of global social challenges

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**

GL-21 Project Stages

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

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
9. Arts & Humanities

Forms of Leadership

- Individuals
- Organization – IPCC
- Ideas – "Sustainability"
- Values – Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- Goals – 17 SDGs
- Measures of progress – Human Development Index
- Education – Finland
- Institutions – Nobel Prize
- Theories – ecological economics
- Types of Thinking – systems & complexity
- Narratives – global society, one world, one planet for all
- Social Movements – environment, gender equality

Leadership is a transformative social process

Leadership can accomplish what leaders cannot

What we need today is coherent, coordinated leadership to address the full spectrum of global challenges

Key Leadership Questions

1. What examples can you cite of highly effective leadership at the organizational, local, national or global level?

2. What principles of effective leadership can be drawn from these examples?

3. What innovative leadership initiatives is your organization currently applying to adapt to the rapidly changing needs of 21st century and how are they working?

4. What insights can be drawn from these examples to address pressing global challenges through innovative leadership initiatives?

5. How can we apply these insights to enhance and accelerate global progress on these issues?

6. How can we nurture a new paradigm in thought that will unleash, guide and support a new paradigm in action?

7. How can we generate the awareness, release the energy, and empower the agency to catalyze global society for transformative action?

WAAS Project Leaders

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Next Steps in Collaboration

1. Designate a responsible person for this project

2. Identify a core team to participate

3. Survey your staff to identify relevant success stories and principles

4. Prepare a briefing paper summarizing your team's conclusions and share it with GL-21 Project Team

5. Schedule a briefing roundtable to discuss your team's examples and recommendations as inputs for the conference and final report

6. Participate in the Global Leadership Conference in October 2020

7. Develop a strategy to uplevel the contribution of your organization to building the global social leadership network

For more information see
www.worldacademy.org
www.worldacademy.org/new-paradigm
www.wunicon.org

Thank You