

# A Climate for Change: New Thinking on Governance for Sustainability

SALZBURG, JUNE 23 TO 26, 2013



## Why this topic and why now?

Our global community faces critical challenges:

- Climate change intensifies natural disasters and species extinction, disrupts communities, helps spread disease, and opens up new geopolitical hotspots;
- Increasing inequalities and youth unemployment, persistent poverty, and food, water and energy insecurity heighten social tensions;
- Economic system failures that caused the 2008 financial meltdown continue to have global repercussions far beyond the Eurozone and other debt crises.

**The interconnected root causes and cumulative impact of these threats call for urgent and imaginative action at all levels - to enhance resilience and security in today's globalized world and improve the life chances of future generations.**

Salzburg Global Seminar is launching this multi-year initiative at a pivotal moment in the global policy and business landscape. The complex Post-2015 Agenda adopted at Rio+20 aims to combine social justice with new economic approaches to place countries on a more environmentally sound and equitable development trajectory. Working with the World Economic Forum's Global Agenda Council on Governance for Sustainability, we will connect a non-standard group of decision-makers, innovators and thought leaders to inject fresh thinking and credibility into this critical change agenda.

### Who will participate?

The seminar will bring together 60 participants from all regions, mixing established and emerging young leaders on equal terms. They will include politicians and senior officials from national and local governments and IGOs; CEOs and CSR officers from major companies; entrepreneurs and small businesses; civil society and youth leaders; scientists, economists and educators.



**Clare Shine**  
Vice President and Chief  
Program Officer  
Salzburg Global Seminar

*“ Building on Salzburg's strategic convening power, neutral setting and highly respected track record, this session will lead to a Salzburg Strategy to generate new thinking on governance for sustainability. The Strategy will be short and practical, setting out concrete recommendations to catalyze progress on priority issues and clear recurrent obstacles and blockages within the ongoing work at the United Nations, the Global Green Growth Forum, the World Economic Forum's Global Agenda Council on Governance for Sustainability, and civil society initiatives. ”*

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### Seminar format and key questions

This first seminar will frame systems challenges that cut across private and public sectors, geographic units and policy processes. Roundtables on 'big picture' questions will alternate with smaller working-group discussions of best practices to scale up action on climate change; the food-water-energy nexus; ecosystem services and biodiversity; trade, investment and supply-chains; growth models and unemployment; and disaster risk management.

Across issues, participants will prioritize actions and responsibilities to:

- build political urgency, ambition and coherence in multilateral negotiations;
- expand the pipeline of social capital and collaboration between business, science, civil society and all levels of government;
- overcome short-termism to embed future generations in our approach to growth and the design and delivery of policy and business operations;
- reform the incentive framework to catalyze innovation and efficiency, including growth indicators, natural resource pricing, regulation and taxation;
- build openness and accountability in operations of state and non-state actors.

### Expected results

The seminar will develop concrete recommendations in a Salzburg Strategy on actions to be taken by governments, the private sector and civil society at the global, regional, national and local levels. These will identify the most promising innovations in key sectors and levels of governance, and make suggestions on how to scale up innovative ideas and collaboration across additional sectors and levels.

The recommendations will inform the ongoing work of the WEF Global Agenda Council on Governance for Sustainability, due to report in 2014. Participants will be able to take the Salzburg Strategy recommendations back to their respective constituencies to inform preparations for the Post-2015 sustainable development framework, including discussions on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and metrics of progress beyond the Gross National Product (GDP).



**Georgios Kostakos**  
Program Director  
Salzburg Global Seminar

*“ This Session is not your usual conference for public speaking and predictable exchange of views. It is an interactive retreat that encourages focused discussions, shaping joint understandings and arriving at commonly-agreed solutions to major global challenges. Within the highly diverse group of participants, each individual is expected to contribute her/his dynamism and expertise, good practices and out-of-the-box proposals that will help advance sustainability through collaborative action in the real world. ”*

FOR MORE info. PLEASE CONTACT  
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# About Salzburg Global Seminar



SALZBURG  
GLOBAL  
SEMINAR

Founded in the wake of World War II, Salzburg Global Seminar has become, over six decades, one of the foremost global institutions that brings together emerging and established leaders from every region of the world to broaden thinking, challenge perspectives, encourage collaboration, and build networks that support future cooperation.

Without adopting any political agenda of its own, the Seminar asks critical questions on the most pressing topics of our times.

Since 1947, Salzburg Global Seminar has brought more than 25,000 participants from 150 countries for more than 500 sessions at Schloss Leopoldskron, a secluded setting on the edge of historic Salzburg, where ideas matter and where those seeking a better world find common ground.

Rather than being just a space for speakers to deliver presentations, seminars are designed to move participants beyond their 'comfort zones', by being participatory, prompting candid dialogue, fresh thinking and constantly in the

search for innovative but practical solutions. The length of our sessions, lasting up to six days, encourages in-depth, creative and collaborative discussions.

The Seminar program convenes imaginative thinkers from different countries, cultures and institutions enabling them to forge connections across national, cultural and professional boundaries. In this age of globalization and the cross-border, multinational and interdependent issues that it brings, these connections are vital to finding solutions to these complex problems that the world now faces. These connections will continue to remain useful during the coming decades as our emerging leaders themselves progress on to more senior positions.

Our sessions are devised with timeliness and pertinence in mind. Because of our desire to respond to a rapidly changing global environment, our program is under continuous development, so please check the calendar on our website for updates:

> [www.SalzburgGlobal.org](http://www.SalzburgGlobal.org)