Our Global Commons—An International Dialogue

National Academy of Sciences, Washington DC

Day 1: Wednesday, October 12, 2016

(* = confirmed)

08:30 – 09:00  Registration

09:00 – 10:45  Opening

From Holocene to Anthropocene: What is the State of our Global Commons?

Narrative: Scientists tell us that we are at a critical juncture in the state of our global commons. Various pressures are intersecting and pushing us toward a non-stable state, which if not fixed will undermine all efforts of global economic growth, political stability and the 2030 Agenda. The good news is action on the environment is increasing and an economic and business case to do-so is emerging. However, it is clear that we are just not moving fast enough. Given the scale of the challenge, a step-change in cross-sector collaborative effort is required to augment current international, government and individual business efforts; despite some emerging examples, a much more widespread movement needs to be triggered, fast.

Session Chair: Naoko Ishii*, CEO, GEF

Presentation by Johan Rockstrom*, Director, Stockholm Resilience Center
Keynote by Helen Clark*, Administrator, UNDP
Reflection by Inger Andersen*, Director General, IUCN

Discussion among speakers and audience, moderated by Session Chair

10:45 – 11:15  Networking Break

11:15 – 12:30  New Opportunities for Breakthroughs, Panel Discussion

Narrative: How can we use systems thinking to “flip” where we are to where we need to be—a panel discussion drawing on a WRI/WEF background paper and augmented by
illustrations as to how this taps into wider expertise on systems thinking; how scientists can engage better with systems thinkers to design for systems change rather than simply suggest policy change; and how business itself needs to radically innovate its own systems for sustainability.

Chair: Homi Kharas*, Brookings Institute
Presentation by Andrew Steer*, President WRI; Dominic Waughray*, WEF
Reactions by Gail Whiteman*, Professor in Residence, WBCSD; Cyrus Wadia*, Vice President, Sustainable Business and Innovation, Nike.

12:30 – 13:30  Lunch


Format: 2x60 minute sessions

Chair: Peter Lacy* Global Managing Director Sustainability Accenture

Mobilizing Movements
Narrative: on the importance and tactics of moving citizen/voters/consumers, business leaders, and politicians; how many seemingly small approaches, rather than necessarily one big project, can build to a sea-change/systems “flip”

Jo Confino*, Executive Editor, Impact and Innovation, Huffington Post; Keith Tuffley*, Managing Partner and CEO, B Team; Glenn Hurowitz*, Director Waxman Strategies; Lalanath de Silva, Frm. Director of the Access Initiative.

On the Digital and Technology Revolution
Narrative: on the increasing influence of disruptive technologies to “flip” existing systems such as energy, oceans management, and farming; rise of big data/digital transformation as an enabler in this process

Craig Hanson*, Senior Director, World Resources Institute; Juan Carlos Castilla-Rubio*, Founder CEO Planetary Skin Institute; Jennifer Holmgren*, CEO Lanza Tech.

15:30 – 16:00  Networking Break

16:00 – 18:00  Catalysts for Systems Disruption Part II

Format: 2x60 minute sessions

Chair: Celine Herweijer*, Partner, Global Lead Climate Change and International Development, PWc
**Coalitions and Public-Private Leadership Models**

Narrative: on the increasing influence of collaborative platforms and multi-actor partnerships to help deliver goals and reshape wider global agendas – and what it takes to lead the change

Nigel Topping*, CEO We Mean Business; Changhua Wu*, Asia Director TIR Consulting, Peter Bakker*, CEO, WBCSD.

**Making the Message “Sticky”: Communicating the Global Commons**

Narrative: We have seriously failed to convey the urgency of the Global Commons in a manner that provokes action. Why have we failed? What would it take to change this?


18:30 – 20:00  
**Dinner in the Great Hall, National Academy of Sciences**

*Dinner Speaker TBC*

**Day 2: Thursday, October 13th, 2016**

09:00 – 09:15  
**Welcome and Recap—Naoko Ishii, GEF CEO**

Narrative: Building on yesterday’s plenary sessions, today will focus on digging deeper into how we can disrupt key economic systems.

09:30 – 11:10  
**Parallel Discussion Sessions: Designing Widespread Systems Disruption:**

Narrative: Starting with a blank page, in 100 minutes how might we begin designing - from where the agenda stands today - the ideal multi-dimensional, cross-institutional play that brings influential constituencies and efforts together to collectively disrupt the given global system, such that by 2030 this combined effort has helped to “flip” where we are today into a better state that also reduces pressure on our global commons?
Session 1: Flipping Our Urban Systems – Ani Dasgupta*, Global Director of WRI Ross Centre for Sustainable Cities; Changhua Wu*, TIR Consulting; Guido Schmidt-Traub*, CEO SSDN.


Session 3: Flipping Our Land, Terrestrial Food and Agriculture Systems – Peter Bakker*, WBCSD; Dan Zarin*, CLUA; Marcelo Vierra*, VP Sociadade Rural Brasilia; Marco Albani*, Director TFA 2020.


Session 5: Flipping Our Oceans and Marine Food Systems – Andreas Merkl*, CEO Ocean Conservancy; Rupert Howes*, MSC; Nishan Degranain*, WEF Senior Oceans Adviser; Douglas McCauley*, UC Santa Barbera; Greg Stone* Conservation International.

11:20 – 13:00 Interactive Read Outs

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch

13:40 – 14:00 Special Session: Our Cross Cutting Water Management Systems.

14:00 – 15:15 Bringing It Together

What have we learned from this Dialogue, and what are next steps in this agenda?

Moderated by Geoffrey Lean*

Panel: Inger Andersen*, Naoko Ishii*, Johan Rockstrom*, Andrew Steer*, Dominic Waughray*

15:15 - 15:30 Closing Remarks and Thanks, Naoko Ishii