

The Geneva Partnership Forum

66 Boulevard Carl-Vogt – September 3, 2015

Context: Complex societal challenges related to poverty, education, health, and climate change for example, call for dynamic and innovative solutions. By bringing together multiple stakeholders to combine their strengths, public-private partnerships (PPPs) and other new forms of boundary-spanning collaboration have the potential to offer solutions for today's and tomorrow's challenges. Brokering, governing, and scaling up a successful partnership can, however, be challenging.

The Forum: The first Geneva Partnership Forum will convene experts and practitioners who work on collaborations across a range of social and environmental issues to explore and discuss the process and content of successful partnerships. The Forum will encourage individuals from multinational corporations, international organizations, NGOs, and academia to think beyond their sectoral or thematic silos. Participants are encouraged to bring other stakeholders from their partnerships to contribute to a shared learning journey.

The range of topics will include mobilizing change, creating suitable governance structures, capacity building, and scaling up impact. The general focus will be on *how* partnerships can be more efficient in resource use and effective in delivery. Vivid discussions, interactions, and learning will be encouraged among all participants, especially when splitting into topical workshops. Moreover, we will present the most practical insights of recent partnership research, give an overview of practical tools, and offer insights into how a PPP case study can provide learning opportunities.

Format: The Forum will be run as an interactive laboratory over a full day. While it will include plenary sessions to share new ideas and latest trends, it will mostly comprise interactive workshops in which everyone can engage and share their thoughts and experiences.

Outcomes: The Geneva Partnership Forum will be a celebration of cutting edge research, practical tools to managing partnerships, and real-life good practice. Participants will leave the Forum energized and with renewed inspiration. While the learnings and ideas exchanged at the Forum will be captured in a report, the biggest outcome will be the inspiration and learning from likeminded practitioners and thought leaders.

Why Geneva? Geneva is a focal point of international co-operation: Approximately 35 International Organizations and more than 250 NGOs are based in Geneva, about 130 Multinational Companies have their headquarters in this city, and 170 foreign States are represented. With this range of stakeholders, Geneva has become an epicentre of partnership experience in Europe.

Organizers: The first Geneva Partnership Forum is organized by The [Geneva PPP Research Center](#) of the Geneva School of Economics & Management and [Constellate Global](#), a solutions provider for transformative partnerships.

Contact Information: For further details and any questions, please contact: lea.stadtler@unige.ch or randall@constellate.org



Draft Program

08:00	<i>Coffee & Registration</i>	
08:45	Welcome Prof. Gilbert Probst	
09:00	Introduction to the Geneva Partnership Forum <i>Prof. Gilbert Probst, Randall Krantz, Lea Stadtler</i>	
09:30	Keynote Address Partnering: Probable Myths and Possible Truths <i>Ros Tennyson (Partnership Specialist, Founder / Development Director – Partnership Brokers Association)</i>	
10:00	Plenary 1) Partnership Update Guiding questions: What are the latest innovations in different forms of boundary-spanning partnerships (e.g., partner composition, issue addressed, main goals)? To what extent can we learn across different types? <i>Moderator: Petra Kuenkel, Executive Director, Collective Leadership Institute</i> <i>Panel Speakers:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Juan Luis Coderque Galligo, Head of the Corporate Partnerships Unit, International Committee of the Red Cross</i> • <i>Dr. Timothy Geer, Director, Public Sector Partnerships, WWF International</i> • <i>Lionel Bodin, Global Programmes > Europe Lead, Accenture Development Partnerships</i> • <i>Nicole Thonnard Voillat, Director Sustainability, BATA Brands SA</i> 	
11:00	Break	
11:15	Workshops in Parallel:	
	WS 1) Design for Impact Guiding questions: How are partnerships shifting from showcasing outputs to measuring outcomes? What is the latest in change theory, monitoring, and evaluation of performance on the ground? How can this be designed into a partnership from the outset? <i>Facilitator: Hilary Nathan, Independent Partnership Specialist</i> <i>Conversation starter: Nan Buzard, Executive Director at International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA)</i>	WS 2) Unity in Diversity Guiding questions: What does it take to build genuine commitment despite different sector interests? How can the partners establish a common language among stakeholders despite different backgrounds? <i>Facilitator: Rainer Gude, Chargé de Mission and UN representative at Initiatives of Change</i> <i>Conversation starter: Ros Tennyson (Partnership Specialist, Founder / Development Director – Partnership Brokers Association)</i>
12:30	Networking Lunch	
13:45	Workshops in Parallel:	

	<p>WS 3) Governance & Accountability Guiding questions: How formal or rigid do partnership governance structures need to be? What are the best practices in terms of governance structures and shared discretion for effective partnerships? <i>Facilitator: Kate Halff, Executive Secretary at Steering Committee for Humanitarian Response (SCHR)</i> <i>Conversation starter (i): Ivana Milovanovic, Coordinator, World Health Organization</i> <i>Conversation starter (II): Mark Halle, Vice-President, Strategy & Executive Director, IISD-Europe</i></p>	<p>WS 4) Case Study: Corporate Partnering This case session, hosted by a corporate partner, will allow participants to strip down a real life example of corporate partnership to its bare essentials and explore what worked and what didn't. <i>Facilitator: Paola Geremicca, Fundraising and Communications Director, Better Cotton Initiative</i> <i>Conversation starter (i): Linda Freiner, Flood Resilience Program Manager, Zurich Insurance Group</i> <i>Conversation Starter (II): Bineta Mbacké, Public Affairs Manager (Partnerships), Nestlé</i></p>
15:00	<p>Integration of Workshop Results (Workshop Facilitators)</p>	
15:30	<p>Plenary 2) Completing the Partnership Cycle: Winding Down or Scaling Up? Guiding questions: How can the life cycle of a partnership be planned for the greatest impact over a fixed time period? When is the right time to phase out a partnership? What are best practices and when is it appropriate to scale up change to the next level? <i>Moderator: Nicholas Davis, Head of Society and Innovation, Member of the Executive Committee, World Economic Forum</i> <i>Panel Speakers:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Patrick Gordon, Senior Advisor, Technology Partnerships, UN OCHA</i> • <i>Paola Geremicca, Fundraising and Communications Director, Better Cotton Initiative</i> • <i>Alex Wong, Head of Global Challenge Partnerships, Member of the Executive Committee, World Economic Forum</i> • <i>Marti van Liere, Director, Nutritious Foods for Children and Mothers, GAIN</i> </p>	
16:15	<p>The Future of Partnerships Integration of emerging insights via a mapping exercise and discussion of questions such as: How are changing advocacy landscape and evolving corporate mandates blurring the lines of traditional stakeholder roles? How will the Sustainable Development Goals foster a new generation of public-private partnerships? How is technology changing the way we partner? <i>Facilitator: Dr. Lea Stadler, Geneva PPP Research Center and Randall Krantz, Consultant, Constellate</i> Concluding Note (<i>Prof. Gilbert Probst, Dr. Lea Stadler, Randall Krantz</i>)</p>	
17:00	<p>Cocktail Reception</p>	

With financial support of the SSOM (Stiftung für Systemorientiertes Management, St Gallen).