

SOCIETAL TRANSFORMATION LAB



A multi-local innovation journey for
co-shaping more sustainable
and equitable social systems worldwide

Overview / Approach

The → latest report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) indicates that, in the next decade, in order to avoid climate catastrophe, human civilization must undergo a radical transformation of unprecedented scale. This will require nothing short of a rapid, profound transformation in the paradigms of thought that underpin all of our social and economic systems. At the Presencing Institute, we characterize this transformation as an evolution from “ego-system awareness” (making decisions based on what’s best for my team / organization / community), to “eco-system awareness” (making decisions based on what’s best for the whole system, knowing my team / organization / community will benefit, too).

*How to facilitate this transformation in social systems,
rapidly and at an unprecedented scale,
is the number one leadership challenge of our time.*

The Societal Transformation Lab is designed to help teams, organizations and larger networks facilitate this shift in their stakeholder systems. Participating teams whose work relates to one of the key acupuncture points for societal transformation will join a four-month, online and offline innovation journey that includes rapid-cycle prototyping, systems mapping and global action research network for knowledge sharing. By the end of the journey, participants will have created new collaborative initiatives, or new types of collaboration within existing initiatives, that help bring about more sustainable and equitable social systems worldwide.

Partner Organizations

Networks and organizations currently exploring participation in the Societal Transformation Lab include ↪ WeALL, ↪ Teach For All, UNDP, ↪ PolicyLink, ↪ Ashoka, ↪ BMW Foundation, Impact Hubs (↪ Accelerate 2030), ↪ The Wellbeing Project, ↪ League of Intrapreneurs, a global network of universities (researchers and students exploring new economic and societal infrastructures) and more. The Lab also invites participation from teams without any organizational affiliation, or teams comprised of people from across organizations.

The Societal Transformation Lab is funded by ↪ Partners for a New Economy and the ↪ Kandeda Fund, and is delivered in collaboration with ↪ HuffPost's This New World.

How it Works

The Presencing Institute thinks about the transformation of the economy and society as having seven key acupuncture points that, if transformed through rapid-cycle prototyping and co-evolving of solutions that work at scale, could accelerate the transformation of the global economy.

Accordingly, in early 2019, the Societal Transformation Lab will convene approximately 100 teams from around the world that are working toward solutions in one of these seven areas for a four-month, multi-local, online-to-offline innovation journey. The Societal Transformation Lab will help these teams **to get support in methods and tools that will help initiatives achieve greater impact and scale; to build relationships and channels that showcase and amplify stories of transformational change; to identify new potential opportunities for innovation and joint action.** Teams will have access to the Societal Transformation Lab's online platform, which is designed to enable teams from across sectors, systems, and geographies to support each other's learning, facilitation and prototyping.

Initially, the purpose of this journey is to help participants build and deepen relationships across stakeholder systems and co-evolve new prototype initiatives that aim to address the root causes of challenges that matter locally / regionally. Ultimately, the aim is to activate and amplify a locally anchored, globally connected network of hundreds (and over time thousands) of cross-sector change initiatives that are working to build new economic infrastructures that generate well-being for all.

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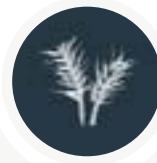
» How it works

Issue Areas



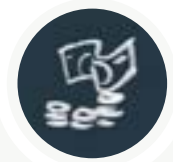
Democracy and Governance

advancing democracy by creating more direct distributed, dialogic and forms of governance locally, nationally, and globally



Farm and Food

Food as a medium for healing planet and people



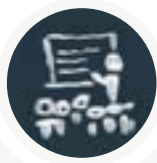
Finance

using finance as a tool / vehicle for social change



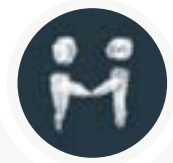
Health

strengthening the sources / roots of health and wellbeing



Education

re-inventing education by putting the learner into the driver's seat of profound societal renewal



Business

mission driven enterprises as a force for good in society



Cross-Cutting category

Actively co-shaping a critical local-global movement for profound civilizational renewal that serves to bridging the ecological, social, and spiritual divides of our time.

SOCIETAL TRANSFORMATION LAB

JOIN US

Interested in convening a team for the Societal Transformation Lab? Read more about the benefits of participation, eligibility criteria and time commitment below. If you're interested, apply to join by sending us a short video and filling out a brief application to tell us more about your team and why you want to join the Societal Transformation Lab.

Eligibility Criteria For a Team

- ▶ **Applications are for teams, not for individuals.** Each team should have a smaller, core convening team of 2-4 people who take initiative and responsibility for leading a larger team through the Societal Transformation Lab journey.
- ▶ **Your convening team has a prototype idea or initiative** that you are developing, or are looking to develop, related to at least one of the above acupuncture points.
- ▶ **Conveners should have previous experience or familiarity with Theory U** (u.lab, Presencing Foundation Program, or experience applying the U process) or related methods of awareness based systems change (Art of Hosting, etc.)
- ▶ **Your extended team should include an additional 5-15 people.** You don't have to have this team confirmed to apply, but should confirm their participation by mid-January 2019.
- ▶ **Conveners / teams should be in a position to influence** some element of the system you want to transform (either as a grassroots activist, an institutional leader or through some other mechanism of change (e.g., public opinion)).
- ▶ **The whole team should be committed to the whole journey** (February to May 2019)
- ▶ **Teams should be committed to share and learn as part of the global community**

Benefits of Participation

- ▶ **Prototyping** your dream or your shared intention within 3 months
- ▶ **Participating** in and co-activating an emerging global movement
- ▶ **Peer coaching** / engage with a global community of changemakers
- ▶ **Support from PI** in the form of global facilitation
- ▶ **Access** to resources on the Societal Transformation Lab online platform
- ▶ **Possible visibility** to our partners at
 - ➔ **HuffPost's This New World** for your initiative

Costs and Commitment

- ▶ Participation is free.
- ▶ Teams are responsible for covering all costs incurred during their participation.
- ▶ Estimated time required for teams is 3-5 hours per week.

Timeline

- ▶ Deadline for applications: **November 30th, 2018**
- ▶ All Decisions communicated: **December 10th, 2018**
- ▶ Program Launch: **mid-January**