

Shaping the Future of Education, Gender and Work

The World Economic Forum has developed System Initiatives to serve as platforms to bring together leaders and experts to tackle global issues that require public-private collaboration to find viable solutions. Each initiative is comprised of bodies of work with results-oriented projects and activities that mobilize leadership, expertise and resources from business, government, civil society and international organizations.

How talent can be reinforced through private-public cooperation to meet the demands of the 21st century

Technological change will have a significant impact on job creation and displacement, skills gaps, education and gender gaps. Preparing talent for this new world will be key for ensuring that everyone gains from the opportunities of the Fourth Industrial Revolution. This will require breaking down old silos between education systems and labour markets, agile approaches to regulation, new forms of public-private collaboration, and new norms and values.

The World Economic Forum's **System Initiative on Shaping the Future of Education, Gender and Work** seeks to ensure that talent is developed, nurtured and deployed for maximum benefit to the economy and society by mobilizing business, governments, civil society and other leaders to rethink education, close skills gaps, accelerate gender parity and boost employment. It aims to:

- Build an ecosystem of leaders by bringing together a community of business, policy-makers, civil society and other leaders
- Address the need for better knowledge, forecasts and metrics by disseminating analysis and insights
- Facilitate dialogue by bringing together the most relevant stakeholders, thought leaders and experts to advance the global dialogue and develop a common vision
- Drive action, especially through collaboration between business, government, civil society and the education and training sector, at the global, industry and regional level

Core Activities

The System Initiative focuses on the following three bodies of work: education and skills, work and employment, and gender parity. The portfolio of projects and activities under these modules includes:

Education and Skills

The **Closing the Skills Gap** project is designed to engage in a collective dialogue to explore how to best reshape education and skills for the needs of the 21st century, prepare both today and tomorrow's workforce and citizens, address regional challenges and opportunities, and use analysis and insights, such as the Human Capital Report, to catalyse, develop and maintain productive public-private partnerships. Current regional applications include:

- New Vision for Arab Employment
- India Skills Initiative
- Africa Skills Initiative

The **Transforming Education Ecosystems** dialogue series focuses on defining the core features of a successful future-ready education ecosystem – from primary education to lifelong learning – that can meet the requirements of the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

Work and Employment

The **Preparing for the Future of Work*** project strives to build multistakeholder communities in order to contribute to a better understanding of the changing nature of work. Building on our recent analysis of the Future of Jobs, it addresses specific challenges and opportunities for adapting to the future of work in sectors.

The dialogue series on **Regulating New Models of Work** explores policy options and highlights the most successful adaptation strategies and regulations for emerging labour markets.

Gender Parity

The **Gender Parity Task Force** project seeks to understand the current state of gender parity at a national and industry level, help leaders devise mechanisms to close gender gaps, and replicate and scale existing models of public-private collaboration in order to help close the economic gender gap – as measured in the Global Gender Gap Report – through collective commitments. Specific national applications include:

- South Korea Gender Parity Task Force
- Chile Gender Parity Task Force, in collaboration with the IADB
- Other country task forces under consideration with relevant development banks

The dialogue series on **Advancing the Care Economy** will explore the core features of the care economy models that have had the most positive effects, direct and indirect, on the economic and social fabric.

The dialogue series on **Accelerating Gender Parity in High Growth Sectors** will allow policymakers and business leaders in specific sectors to use the current window of opportunity to prioritize and accelerate gender parity.

**Under development*

How to Engage

Companies, governments and organizations have multiple opportunities to engage in the initiative:

Stewardship Board: Nominate the global chief executive or chair for consideration on the Stewardship Board, the principal-level, multistakeholder body of 20-40 members that provides strategic guidance to the system.

Module/Project Steering Committees: Each module and project is guided by a Steering Committee that includes senior executives from partnering organizations and selected experts.

Core Community: Senior executives, experts and public officers may participate in the multistakeholder Core Community of approximately 100 to 150 leading actors and engage directly in the activities of the System Initiative to advance public-private cooperation more broadly on the given topic.

Partnering Organizations

- Accenture
- Adecco Group
- African Rainbow Minerals
- Alcoa
- Alghanim Industries
- AlixPartners
- A.T. Kearney
- Bahrain Economic Development Board
- Bank of America
- Barclays
- Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- Bloomberg
- Burda Media
- Centene
- Chobani
- EY
- GEMS Education
- GSK
- Heidricks & Struggles
- JLL
- Johnson Controls
- Infosys
- LinkedIn
- ManpowerGroup
- Mercer (MMC)
- Microsoft Corporation
- Nestlé
- Omnicom
- Ooredoo
- Pearson
- PwC
- Renault Nissan Alliance
- Saudi Aramco
- Siemens
- Tata Consultancy Services
- The Coca-Cola Company
- The Rockefeller Foundation
- Tupperware Brands Corporation
- Uber
- Workday
- WPP
- Zain Group

Key Dates

September 2016

- Leadership Group Update (virtual)
- Projects Virtual Meetings, Education and Skills (13 Sept.), Gender Parity (14 Sept.), Work and Employment (15 Sept.)

October

- India Economic Summit, Workshop, New Delhi, India (6-7 Oct.)
- Launch of the *Global Gender Gap Report 2016*, (26 Oct.)
- Projects Virtual Meeting (4, 5, 6 Oct.)
- Projects Workshop, New York City, US (27-28 Oct.)

November

- Annual Meeting of Global Future Councils 2016, Dubai, United Arab Emirates (13-14 Nov.)
- Stewardship Board Pre-Davos Virtual Meeting (17 Nov.)

- Launch of the Chile Gender Parity Task Force, Santiago, Chile (date TBD)

December

- Projects Calls Virtual Meetings, Education and Skills (6 Dec.), Gender Parity (7 Dec.), Work and Employment (8 Dec.)

January 2017

- World Economic Forum Annual Meeting 2017, Stewardship Board Meeting and other sessions, Davos-Klosters, Switzerland (17-20 Jan.)

Contact

For more information, contact Saadia Zahidi at saadia.zahidi@weforum.org, or visit www.weforum.org