

# Future of Institutions

## DIALOGUES OVERVIEW

Institutions allow people to work together at scale to solve big problems. Facing crises of climate, inequality, democracy, and health, humanity has never needed institutions more. And yet, looking around the world, we see institutions that are too slow, irrelevant, mistrusted or ineffective compared to the complex, fast-moving problems we face today. We believe it is time to rethink and reimagine institutions as problem-solving tools that can help us craft a better future.

The Future of Institutions Dialogues are a series of conversations led by diverse organizations representing a variety of regions with a shared belief that a new vision for institutions is necessary to craft a better future. Taking a blank-slate approach, the conversations take a critical lens to institutions, including both organizational and behavioral ones, at scales from local to planetary.

From June to August 2022, hosts will convene approximately 15 Dialogue meetings. Each Dialogue will bring together leaders and thinkers to propose ways that new or transformed institutions can help overcome humanity's greatest challenges. Each Dialogue will focus on a specific challenge, asking:

- **What new (or reborn) institutions will humanity need to build** over the next ten years to overcome this challenge?
- **What innovations in how institutions work** can serve as models for building—or rebuilding—these institutions, for today and the future?

To encourage connections across sectors and issues, the first set of Dialogues will focus on two global challenges requiring renewed institutional approaches:

- **Climate** – Changing our catastrophic course on climate emissions will require societal-level changes that are beyond those today's institutions are prepared to address; even if we succeed, the consequences of climate change will create problems that today's institutions are unequipped for.
- **An intentional digital future** – Institutions can no longer simply react to technology if we are to ensure that the benefits of digitization are equitably shared and that use of AI and the machine interface make our societies, economies, and lives more humane, connected and creative – rather than less.

Summaries and insights from the Dialogues will be available at [FutureofInstitutions.org](https://FutureofInstitutions.org). The intent is to use the Dialogues to surface solutions for better institutions and build a community of collaborators that can put the ideas into action in 2023.

## DIALOGUE HOSTS AND TOPICS<sup>1</sup>

### HOST ORGANIZATION

### INTENDED TOPIC(S)



- Co-governance for trust and participation
- A shared digital commons



- Climate change and urbanization in low-and middle-income countries
- Digital public infrastructure



- Maturation of privacy enhancing technologies



- Post-global governance: New planetary institutions for the climate
- Building deliberative democracy



- The role of new or reborn institutions in enabling intergenerationally fair transitions
- Building ecosystems of foresight-driven institutions



- Implementation for scale amidst complexity



- New models or new missions: Institutional reform for the data-driven economy
- Diagnosing governance issues created by the data-driven economy



- Designing institutions to direct finance for transformative decarbonization



- New institutions for research and discovery



- Climate change communication and advocacy

<sup>1</sup> As of June 6, 2022. Topic titles are preliminary.