Geneva Day
@ House of Switzerland World Economic Forum,
Davos
January 21, 2020
FULL
The Annual meeting of the World Economic Forum in Davos will convene leaders from business, academia, government, international organizations and civil society to build a “more coherent and sustainable world”. Leaders flock to the Swiss village to explore new ideas and learn about new developments that will affect their organisations. For the second time, the Swiss Confederation will contribute to the discussions with a “House of Switzerland” (HoS), which will serve as the base of the Swiss delegation as well as a platform where debates on global issues will be held.

On January 21 the Swiss House will be dedicated to a series of high-level events to discuss global issues and connect leaders present in Davos with Geneva-based global governance institutions. The “Geneva Day” will explore innovative solutions and new international governance mechanism in the field of global health, digital trust or financial inclusiveness.

We invite you to participate actively in this multi-stakeholder dialogue. As a community, we all have a voice and a role to play in designing a sustainable future.

— Ignazio Cassis
Head of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs
A new perspective on the economics of Global Health

A healthy population contributes to economic development and the health sector is a significant provider of employment. But half the world’s population still does not have access to health services and future affordability of health systems is challenged by the development of new and expensive treatments and an ageing population with growing healthcare needs. A change in perspective, which considers investing in health as contributing to sustainable and inclusive economic growth, and global markets and their impact on health is needed.

How can we expand the fiscal space for health to ensure that no one is left behind? Is a rethink of the health insurance system and the social contract for health needed? Can improved health data help better engage finance and economy ministers, as well as investors, to meet the vision of SDG 3?
Invitation – 18:00-20:00
House of Switzerland, Vaillant Arena, NordSide

Panel: How to govern Digital Interdependence

Keynote
Ignazio Cassis, Swiss Federal Councillor, Foreign Affairs
Antonio Hodgers, President, State Council of Geneva

Speakers
Doris Leuthard, President SDI, former Federal Councillor
Peter Brabeck-Letmathe, President GESDA
Brad Smith, President Microsoft

Moderated by
Jovan Kurbalija, Director, DiploFoundation

The speed of technological change and increasing interdependence requires new governance mechanisms. It is increasingly evident that digital tools and platforms, while being convenient, connected, and transparent also present critical risks. Few industries are exempt from the challenge of maintaining trust in an environment of rapidly evolving technology, vastly increased volume, availability and complexity of data. Are existing forms of institutional governance designed for the digital age?

Formal Launch Swiss Digital Initiative Foundation

Keynote
Ueli Maurer, Swiss Federal Councillor, Finance
Gillian Tans, Chairwoman, Booking.com
Doris Leuthard, President SDI, former Federal Councillor
Martin Vetterli, President EPFL
Urs Rohner, Credit Suisse

Followed by Reception

The Swiss Digital Initiative, a long-term and sustainable process for safeguarding ethical standards in the digital world, was kicked-off in September 2019 in Geneva. On the occasion of the Forum in Davos, the Swiss Digital Initiative foundation will be formally launched and a first project presented.
Invitation — Dinner — 20:00-22:00
House of Switzerland,
Vaillant Arena, Crystal Lounge

Speakers
David A. Marcus
Head of Calibra

Achim Steiner
Administrator, United Nations Development Programme

Patrick Njoroge
Governor, Central Bank of Kenya

Moderated by
Katherine Brown
Head of Sustainable and Impact Investing
at World Economic Forum

Fintech for sustainable development

Innovative finance has been identified as one of the most important catalysts for achieving Agenda 2030. 2 billion people worldwide are still excluded from financial services due to a lack of access, valid identification or financial knowledge. In the absence of inclusive financial systems, individuals are limited in their ability to save and invest or store their money safely. They are therefore also less resistant to economic shocks or hazards.

Disruptive new financial technologies, including cryptocurrencies, claim they can create new opportunities for financial empowerment and inclusion by bypassing expensive bank infrastructure or international transfer fees. What is the potential of these initiatives and how should regulators respond to these rapid changes?
Invitation – 22:00-24:00
House of Switzerland, Vaillant Arena, NordSide

Geneva Day Nightcap

Welcome remarks
Valentin Zellweger
Ambassador, Permanent representative of Switzerland to the United Nations and other international organisations in Geneva

Speakers
Dorothy Ng'ambi
Executive Director a.i., International Trade Centre (tbc)
Florian Kemmerich,
Managing Partner Bamboo Capital Partners
Peter Bakker
President and CEO, WBCSD

Moderation
Alexandra ‘Santu’ Boëthius
Co-founder, Impact Hub Geneva and Accelerate2030

Request an invitation
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Factory17: Today’s Action, Tomorrow’s World

“We are now faced with the fact that tomorrow is today. We are confronted with the fierce urgency of now. This is a time for vigorous and positive action.” Martin Luther King Jr.

We welcome you to an evening fireside conversation alongside some of Geneva’s leading visionaries, innovators and disruptors, sharing their stories of inspired action and vision for what’s needed to create a sustainable future.

Networking event.
Program of the Geneva Day
January 21, 2020
House of Switzerland, Vaillant Arena

12:00–14:00 Lunch
A new perspective on the economics of Global Health

18:00–20:00 Panel followed by launch event
How to Govern Digital Interdependence
Formal Launch of Swiss Digital Initiative Foundation

20:00–22:00 Dinner
Fintech for sustainable development

22:00–24:00 Night Cap
Factory17: Today’s Action, Tomorrow’s World