

BUILDING BETTER SOCIETIES TO AVERT DYSTOPIAN FUTURES

The 2018 first IPSP Report, the work of more than 350 experts, provided a comprehensive global review of the state of societies. It covered economic, social, political, environmental and cultural issues and assessed the positive trends and the mounting challenges we face.



It offered a **vision of progress**, in the form of a broad picture of the type of institutions and reforms that, allowing for substantial variations around the world, might realize a “better” society, inspired by values of equality, freedom, emancipation, participation and inclusion.

Since then, the need to **address the interconnected challenges** of environmental protection, social inequalities, disruptive technological innovation, democratic regress, and global cooperation dysfunction has greatly increased. Adding to worrisome trends, the recent crises (pandemic, wars, extreme weather) are threatening social cohesion and democracy as well as revealing new vulnerabilities.

In order to tackle these challenges, it is our essential responsibility to develop research and tools that **support the actors** and processes which can lead the transition. How can social movements, civil society activism, business initiative, political action by networks of local officials, governmental and intergovernmental policies and platforms, and intellectual initiative better contribute to **steering our historical path in the direction of social progress**?

OPERATIONALIZING THE SOCIAL PROGRESS AGENDA

The crucial choices humanity will make in the first half of this century will lock in the future of our planet for a long time. At this very special juncture in the history of humanity, there is a vital need for:

- the continued production of reports and briefs based on **collective intelligence**,
- the identification, support and dissemination of **solution ideas**,
- the pursued implementation of **transformative social innovation**,
- the **facilitation of coalition-building** to foster action.

Many organizations and think-tanks already produce interesting reports and policy papers. **What the IPSP can bring** is a capacity for analysis that is guided by a **general vision** of promoting social progress and a keen awareness of the structural interlinkages between the components of societies. IPSP will produce **actionable knowledge**, develop an **open digital platform** and organize **outreach events** that will shed light on solutions for the active and forward-looking change-makers in our societies, at a global scale.

The work of the Panel as a network of thinkers and doers will **identify and give visibility to the most inspiring and replicable initiatives and solutions** as well as **help actors connect** particular topics and actions to key transversal challenges. The Panel will focus on key drivers and actions points for societal change: rights, power structures, social innovation/inspiration, information transparency and governance/regulation.

Social tipping points, power realities and sustainable collective aspirations will receive special attention given their importance in societal transformations. Elucidating and bridging gaps between perceptions among actors on the ground and statistics, between perceptions of different social groups on critical societal issues, as well as between civil society actors and policymakers will be among the priorities of the work of the Panel.

COLLECTIVE INTELLIGENCE FOR ACTION

The Panel is characterized by its strong emphasis on:

- **co-construction** with stakeholders and member-based organizations to make the work more relevant and informed about issues of concrete implementation;
- **transdisciplinary and cross-sectoral expertise** on every issue to provide a comprehensive understanding of the issues and avoid biases coming from sectoral approaches and disciplinary silos;
- solutions and roadmaps **accessible to all civil society change-makers** and not only to governments and policy-makers.

To support communities of sustainable practice with the most innovative and actionable knowledge on societal challenges, the Panel will develop activities on three fronts:

The International Platform for Social Progress	Delivering actionable knowledge and tools	Dissemination and participatory events
<p>The online, free, and global portal will provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - an expert-reviewed repository of inspiring practices and initiatives. - a dialogue tool and consultation mechanism for thinkers and doers. - a connecting hub for mobilizing change-makers and communities. <p>The platform will benefit from a rich, diverse, multidisciplinary, cross-sectoral, transnational network of 1,000+ thinkers and doers to promote collaboration and mobilization for social progress.</p>	<p>Reports and briefs will offer clear recommendations and relevant toolkits, knowing that priorities and implementation conditions depend on local contexts.</p> <p>All IPSP productions will be fully accessible online in the 10 most spoken languages globally.</p> <p>The selection of topics and the drafting process will rely on a participatory mechanism that will involve a large set of representative stakeholders and scholars from all regions of the world.</p>	<p>To share ideas and debate solutions with stakeholders and changemakers, IPSP events will have a broadest reach possible.</p> <p>The World Social Progress Forum will be organized every year on a different continent. World Social Progress Awards will showcase inspirational achievements. An annual declaration will be released during the World Social Progress Day and addressed to international organizations, national governments, and business leaders.</p>

ORGANIZATION AND CALENDAR

A not-for-profit association registered in France and with the United Nations, the Panel is supported by a scientific foundation based in Paris, France with a long experience in managing international, multi-partner initiatives.

The Executive Secretariat of IPSP supports the activities of **three main bodies**, all gathering scholars and actors from civil society organizations, business leaders, international organizations with a balanced distribution across genders, experience, geography, disciplines and themes:

- the **Honorary Committee**, composed of 25+ high-level personalities;
- the **Advisory Board**, composed of more than 60 leading actors and scholars, led by a **Coordinating Council** gathering experience from the first IPSP and new members;
- the **Contributors Network**, a 1,000+ global community of scholars, civil society actors, academic institutions, transnational organizations and international foundations supporting the Panel activities

2015-2019: Preparation and dissemination of the first Report

September 2023
Launch of the new International Panel on Social Progress

October 2024
1st World Social Progress Forum in Paris (France)

October 2025
2nd World Social Progress Forum and IPSP report