

Societal Leadership Summit 2017

Building Civil Society in Bhutan:

An inclusive approach to the development of Bhutan and Bhutanese society

Organised by BCMD in collaboration with the Institute of Societal Leadership, S'pore Management University, and CSOs. Supported by Helvetas Intercooperation.

DAY ONE Tues 2nd May – Opening reception

4.00 pm – 6.30pm

Time	Programme
4:00 pm	Guests arrive
4:25 pm	The Chief Guest, Hon'ble Lyonchhen, arrives
4:30 pm	Welcome
4:35 pm	The State of Civil Society - CSO rep. and CSOA chairperson, Sonam Dorji
4:45 pm	Opening address by Hon'ble Lyonchhen
5:20 pm	Thank you note
5:25- 6:30 pm	Evening reception and networking towards greater collaboration

DAY TWO, Wed. 3rd May

- Registration opens at 8.30 am
- Welcome
- “What is Leadership?”
- Keynote Panel followed by Q & A

Topic: The Need for Societal Leadership

Today, it is widely accepted that no country can go it alone. Social, political, cultural and economic changes the world over shows that leadership needs to be redefined in the context of national governance and international relations.

It is in this environment that we look at what societal leadership means. Who should direct change and make the difference that will cater to changing needs? What kind of challenges do we foresee and what kind of leaders do we need to take us forward?

In Bhutan, governance has been evolving with the times. In today's context – as a democratic constitutional monarchy – the government is calling on the business community and civil society to partner in a more inclusive approach to the development of Bhutan and Bhutanese society. This is described as a strategy of “3 Cs”- “Coordination, Collaboration and Consolidation”.

Even as the mandate of the state and government is redefined, what is the responsibility of non-state/non-government actors such as civil society and the private sector? What do we need to know about inclusive governance and how do we implement it in Bhutan? How do we create the space and opportunities for citizens and civil society groups to contribute to the

functioning of society as a whole? How can we develop a new generation of leaders who are dedicated to serving society?

Panelists:

- Dr Karma Phuntshog, Board member Loden Foundation, Shejun
- Damchae Dem, Pelden groups of company (To be confirmed)
- Thinley Wangdi, chairperson, Kenrig Namsum Co-Op, Zhemgang (verbally confirmed)
- Sonam Chuki, Royal Education Council (TBC)
- Martin Tan, Director, Institute for Societal Leadership

Moderator:

- Tea Break
- Breakout Sessions held concurrently

Breakout Session 1: Strategies for a more inclusive societal leadership and civic space

His Majesty the King has pointed out that Bhutanese are good at planning plans but implementation is a challenge. How then can we support this call for collaboration and coordination? What are the mindsets to overcome? How will we define collaborations and divide responsibilities? Are we wanting in skills and capabilities? How will we, in the social sector, attract, train and retain talent? How can we cross defined boundaries and sectors to bring skills and capable people to the social sector? How can we professionalize the sector to make it more credible and sustainable?

Outcome: Having learnt from academic and other perspectives and our own internal studies on how the sectors (govt and CSO) can do better, what can be put forth to the government of the day and to CSOs?

Speakers:

- Sriven Naidu, S'pore Management University, on cross-sector collaboration
- Chencho Tshering, Government Performance Management System

Moderator: Adrian Chan, Acerpacer Leadership Consulting, S'pore

Breakout Session 2: A. Innovating a Sustainability Model: How do we fund the non-public sectors?

The concept and culture of development assistance is changing. ODA has shrunk. Donors are distracted by new priorities and global concerns about terrorism, refugee and other humanitarian issues. For organizations with well-meaning and critically needed long-term social impact causes, funding is a dilemma. As they strive towards creating impact for causes they believe in, the reality of operational feasibility takes its toll, as traditional donor support runs dry and the costs continue to grow. How do organizations like CSOs ensure that their activities are sustainable – how do they even know if they are going to be financially sustainable themselves? What can we, in Bhutan, do to prepare for ensuring sustainable civil society organizations and activity that will serve the needs of society? What are we doing now

that's sustainable? If Bhutan were to create a development fund or a mechanism for supporting civil society, how might that look like?

Outcome: End with prioritising steps and recommendations to both government and CSOs.

Speakers:

- A rep for the UN BIOFIN initiative (To be confirmed)
- Tashi Pem, Country Director, Helvetas Intercooperation

Moderator: Martin Tan, Director, Institute of Societal Leadership , SMU

- Lunch Break
- Breakout group sharing of recommendations
- Closing Plenary followed by Q & A

Closing Plenary: Topic: Innovative strategies for the 3 C's – co-ordination, collaboration, consolidation.

Today, it is widely accepted that no country can go it alone. For example, the sustainable development goals (SDGs) call on governments to partner with other sectors and to consider cost sharing practices. The UN and other development partners emphasise the need to bring people and civil society and the business sector on board in creating new solutions to pressing problems and needs to tackle social issues.

Having learnt valuable lessons from the Millenium Development goals, the United Nations has emphasised the need for governments to partner with other sectors and to consider cost-sharing practices. The sustainable development goals (SDGs) bring civil society and the business sector on board in creating new solutions to pressing problems and needs to tackle social issues.

How can officialdom, civil society and the private sector collaborate to generate better solutions for the changing needs of countries and societies, and for Bhutan? How do we go beyond rhetoric? What are the challenges and the opportunities for civil society? Even as CSOs emerge in Bhutan to fulfil a variety of new needs, how can CSOs partner with the government and private sector and development partners? How do we prioritise issues? What specific steps can we come up with for Bhutan to enable us to be more collaborative and to consolidate efforts across sectors? How can we learn from past experiences?

Outcome: Specific recommendations on collaborative steps ahead.

Panelists:

- Dasho Neten Zangmo, Samdrup Jongkhar Initiative director (Former Anti-Corruption Commission chairperson)
- Gerald Daly, UN resident co-ordinator
- Dechen Dorji, Country Director, WWF Bhutan
- Chime Payden, Exec. Director, Tarayana Foundation

Moderator: Dr Karma Phuntshog

- Thanks and end of day tea

DAY THREE, Thurs. May 4th

- Leadership Labs – for 3 groups of pre-registered participants. Preference to CSOs and board members.

The leadership coaching labs will work in small groups of about 20 persons each on specific subjects. It will begin with a reflective session on individual leadership styles and to trigger an evaluation of our ability to lead in organizations. It will enable participants to map out priorities while working on ways to capitalize on opportunities to strengthen existing CSOs for the longer-haul. The facilitated sessions may also have the option of discussing issues raised from the breakout sessions on May 3rd.

Labs to be led by:

- Martin Tan, Director, ISL, SMU,
- Sriven Naidu, SMU
- Adrian Chan, founder/director Acerpacer Leadership Consulting

Topics:

1. Personal leadership development
2. Cross -sector collaboration
3. Leadership in the Asian and Bhutanese context (To be confirmed)

- Workshop with CSO core committee members and others