

School of System Change

School of System Change – open for applications and an opportunity for a scholarship | Creating big change for sustainable development | Feb – March 2017 | London and remote | Intense course and internship | For mid-career professionals and future leaders from all sectors

ABOUT THE PROGRAMME

Today's challenges are complex and interconnected, and the responses we must deploy to move swiftly towards a sustainable future require specific capabilities. How can we discern what needs to change at a systemic level? How might we lead and implement that change? We think more people like you should develop these capabilities to make more positive impact.

Forum for the Future and our partners have 20 years' experience in making this sort of change happen, and **equipping the next generation of leaders to face system-wide challenges**. This is why we are catalysing an international School of System Change for a cross-sector cohort of early adopters.

We have an amazing opportunity for **three Russian practitioners or future leaders** to get a scholarship to attend the **first intensive short course of the School of System Change**. The scholarships provide a unique chance to understand the systemic change needed to get us to a sustainable future, to explore practical ways to do that, to be equipped with the tools needed and to build networks and connections and become part of a global community of people working on big change for sustainable development.

Successful applicant/s **would be given a grant, covering course fees and subsistence**, to take part in a programme including intensive sessions and field work in London that will give them the knowledge, skills and connections to accelerate sustainability in their Russian context.

Programme schedule:

- ⇒ **February 21 – March 21:** one month the initial intensive session in London, UK
 - February 21 – February 24: four days face-to-face learning at the School
 - February 27 – March 17: three week “placements” in UK organisations (*affiliated businesses include Sainsbury's, Marks and Spencer's, and Unilever*)
 - March 20 – March 21: two days face-to-face learning at the School
- ⇒ **April – mid-June:** two months of fieldwork back in Russia, developing a project to implement within their own (Russian) organisation, to the benefit of that organisation; combining with online action learning sets every week
- ⇒ **Mid-June:** a three-day intense session of face-to-face learning time and networking opportunities in London, UK (*exact dates will be announced by the end of November*)

PORTRAIT OF IDEAL CANDIDATE

We are looking for three talented individuals already working in the field of sustainable development who have a specific systemic challenge that they are working on, or would like to work on.

We recognise you as an ideal candidate if you are:

- **Russian citizens**
- **have a university degree** (Bachelor, Master, Specialist)
- **already working in the field of sustainable development** or **social entrepreneurship** or related field (have **at least 2 years** of working experience and fairly well versed in sustainable development as a concept and recognise the interconnected nature of issues like climate change, water, technology and wellbeing that means that a systemic response is required)
- **facing a specific systemic challenge** that you are working on, or would like to work on and /or implementing a complex project in your area of sustainability that requires system thinking, partnerships building and change management skills
- **perceive yourself as a leader** and demonstrate leadership intention in your professional background
- **highly motivated** to bring positive impact within sustainable development concept and plan to develop your future career in this field
- **fluent in English**
- **available** to join **one month** educational program in **February – March 2017** in London, UK (can get study leave from your organisation) and **three-day** session in **mid-June** in London.

STAGES OF ADMISSION PROCESS

Three candidates will be identified on the basis of competition process, which includes application form and essay for all candidates and an interview with Admission committee for shortlisted candidates.

There are three steps of admission process:

- Stage 1: **October 17 – November 13, 2016** – fill in the application form (*presented below*) – by filling the application form you identify your intention to take part in competition
- Stage 2: **October 17 – November 13, 2016** – prepare and send an essay (*please find requirements below*) – after sending an essay you become a part of the competition process and can be included in the short list of candidates invited for an interview
- Stage 3: **November 24 – November 25, 2016** – short listed candidates will have a meeting and interview with members of Admission Committee (conducted in English) to present his/her perspective and project his/she is working on

Final results will be announced **by December 10, 2016**.

TOP-50% applicants will be invited to join the workshop and networking session with sustainability experts from UK and Russia conducted **November 24, 2016** where short listed candidates will be announced.

APPLICATION FORM

In order to apply to the Programme online, please follow the [link](#). In case you are facing technical issues, please fill in the form below, save it in PDF and send it to the e-mail drive_change@skolkovo.ru. Please name the file: **Application form_First and last name_Date of submission**. Attached documents should be named accordingly.

1. General and contact information		
1.1	First Name*	
1.2	Last (family) name*	
1.3	Gender identity (male, female)*	
1.4	Age*	
1.5	Citizenship*	
1.6	Contact information: e-mail and actual phone number*	
2. Education		
2.1	Degree*	
2.2	Name of University / Graduate School*	
2.3	Additional education / courses	
2.4	Level of English language*	
2.5	Other certificates	
2.6	Articles / Publications (<i>please, copy the link on it or attach in PDF</i>)	
3. Working experience*		
3.1	Years of working experience in sustainability area / social entrepreneurship*	
3.2	Your company name*	
3.3	Your current position*	
3.4	Your current responsibilities*	
3.5	Name the project / complex challenge you are working / would like to work on*	
4. Additional information that will help us to understand you better		
4.1	What are you expectation from this educational program – (<i>max 150 words</i>)	
4.2	What are your biggest achievements in sustainability field by now (please include facts and figures) – (<i>max 250 words</i>)	
4.3	Please continue the statement: I think that sustainability matters, because __ (<i>max 150 words</i>)	
4.4	Please describe the voluntary and extra-curriculum activities that you are involved in (<i>max 150 words</i>)	
4.5	What questions should we have asked but didn't? Please write them down and answer them – (<i>max 250 words</i>)	
5. Documents and files attached		
5.1	Photo*	
5.2	Diploma*	
5.3	CV*	
5.4	Essay* (<i>can be sent later than the application form</i>) Please, describe the complex challenge you face today in your work. Why is it complex? Where do you feel you can act to create change?	
5.5	Other (<i>please specify</i>)	
6. Other		
6.1	Please state the information source for the project announcement*	
6.1	Agreement for personal information processing* (<i>yes / no</i>)	

***Mandatory fields**

TIPS FOR WRITING ESSAY

Please describe, using words and/or pictures, the complex challenge you face today in your work. Why is it complex? Where do you feel you can act to create change?

Here are some tips to refer to in preparing your essay:

- 2-2.5 pages (max 1500 words) of original text
- **Describe specific systemic challenge** that you are working on, or would like to work on and /or complex project that you are implementing in the area of sustainability or social responsibility or related field that requires system thinking, partnerships building and change management skills
- **Propose your approach to the project implementation / problem solving**
- **Describe scope of impact** of the project / scope of impact you are expecting from the project (what should systematically change after implementation)
- **Describe existing or future challenges** for project implementation
- What do you need to succeed, **how the program will help you to achieve your goals**
- **How will you measure your success** (or describe what will be a success for your project)

Please note, that you can send you essay separately from the application form **before November 10, 2016**, via the e-mail drive_change@skolkovo.ru. Please, name the file **Essay_First and last name_Date of submission**

If you believe that someone can be interested in such Programme and are capable in driving changes in the field of sustainability, please share the information and application form.

ABOUT THE ORGANIZERS

Forum for the Future

An independent non-profit working globally with business, government and organizations to solve complex sustainability challenges. For 20 years Forum ran our Masters in Leadership for Sustainable Development, producing almost 250 leaders creating impact across organisations and places. As the first of its kind, we contributed to the mainstreaming of sustainability education at graduate and postgraduate levels, and we are proud to have pioneered what is now a mature market. Now, in our 20th anniversary year, we're raising our ambition in response to the urgency of the challenges we face, and doing so by remaining at the cutting edge of learning. To learn more about Forum for the Future, please follow the [link](#)

SKOLKOVO Sustainable Business Center

A center of excellence in the field of sustainability based within the Institute for Emerging Market Studies in Moscow School of Management SKOLKOVO, one of the leading private business schools in Russia and the CIS. The Center was founded in 2014 in partnership with Unilever and support of International Paper with the aim to promote sustainability agenda in Russian and CIS markets. We are conducting problem-oriented interdisciplinary research with a focus on business models that combine economic, environment and social dimensions, facilitating open dialogue among various stakeholders and developing education and leadership platforms. To learn more about Moscow School of Management SKOLKOVO and Sustainable Business Center, please follow the [link](#)

