



Global Conference for Social Change

Turn Social Responsibility Into Business Opportunity featuring

Women & Girls Education Summit

Driving Economic Progress for Gender Equality

October 5-6, 2011 | UN Plaza Hotel | New York

New York, August 22, 2011—The Foundation for Social Change (FSC) and the United Nations Office for Partnerships (UNOP) will host the annual **Global Conference for Social Change: Turn Social Responsibility Into Business Opportunity** and the **Women & Girls Education Summit: Driving Economic Progress for Gender Equality** on October 5-6 in New York.

The Global Conference for Social Change honors the **2011 Leaders of Change** – those visionary, inspirational leaders, who through their actions exemplify how leadership, creativity and innovation can engage in initiatives that solve social problems.

In a climate of economic and environmental uncertainty, the Leaders of Change Award exemplifies how corporations can have a financial impact to their bottom line by addressing social and environmental problems. These Leaders demonstrate that "doing good is good for business." With a special emphasis on gender equality, the Global Conference this year focuses on the economic drivers of educating women and girls throughout the world.

The 2011 Leaders of Change awardees include: Billabong, Carbon Disclosure Project, Domini Social Investment Fund, DSM, Green Mountain Coffee Roasters, Marks & Spencer, NatureWorks, Philips, Seventh Generation, and Unilever.

Special Honoree for Leader of Change Award is Ricky Martin, UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador and President of the Ricky Martin Foundation (video acceptance only, will not appear in person).

The **Women & Girls Education Summit** focuses of the financial impact around the world by educating young women and girls in poverty. There will be powerful presentations made by leading NGOs about how educational empowerment is the key to economic development. NGOs are from Venezuela (Wayuu Taya), Colombia (Fundacion Pies Descalzos), Ghana (IDP Foundation), India (Pratham) and Brazil (Consulador da Mulher/Whirlpool), Puerto Rico (Ricky Martin Foundation) and Rwanda (SameSky), GirlUp/UN Foundation (Teen Advisors from the US),

Highlights of this year's Conference & Summit:

- Guest Speakers include: Cherie Blair of the Cherie Blair Foundation for Women and Lakshmi Puri,
 Assistant Secretary General of UN Women, Amir Dossal, Chairman, Global Partnerships Forum, and
 John Paul DeJoria, Co-Founder, Paul Mitchell, Patron Spirits, JPSelects.com
- Presentation Moderators include: Jane Bornemeier, **The New York Times**; Amy Resnick, **Thomson Reuters**; Heidi Moore, **Marketplace, American Public Media**; Mia Haugen, **TheStreet.com**; Femi Oke, **New York Public Radio**; Diane Brady, **Bloomberg Business Week** and David Ushery of **WNBC-TV Channel News 4 New York**, Genevieve Bahrenburg, **Above-magazine**.
- Over 200 attendees from across the range of organizations involved in solving social problems:
 Prudential Foundation, Citicorp, General Electric, UNIFEM, UNDP, Millennium Challenge Corporation,
 PriceWatershouseCoopers, Wyeth Pharmaceuticals, Ambassadors from Egypt, Rwanda and Norway,

Johnson & Johnson, NYU Stern School of Business, Alwaleed Bin Talal Foundation (Kingdom of Saudia Arabia Foundation) and many others.

Highlights from the most inspiring examples of corporations solving social problems throughout the world and in the United States.

"This year's Leaders of Change honorees are an exemplary group of individuals and organizations who represent the strong leadership role needed to address social issues," said Roland Rich, Officer-In-Charge of UNOP. "Corporate engagement is essential to the international community's efforts to alleviate poverty, ensure clean water, and help underserved populations realize healthy living. We want to recognize the creativity, technology and resources that the private sector brings to our collective efforts in solving social problems."

A committee consisting of representatives from UNOP, NYU Stern School of Business, and the Foundation for Social Change chose the Leaders of Change awardees.

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- **UN Women**
- NYU Stern School of Business
- Cherie Blair Foundation for Women
- mWomen / GSM Association
- World Computer Exchange
- Global Partnerships Forum
- 10x10 Women

For further information, and to arrange interviews, please contact:

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To register: http://globalconference.eventbrite.com

About the Foundation for Social Change

The Foundation works with corporations and NGOs around the world to create programs that define how doing good is good for business. It is not charity. It is not philanthropy. It is not impact investing. It is just doing the right thing. We prove that there is a bottom-line financial impact to solving problems. One example of this is through our eLife - Economic Opportunity for Women & Girls education program teaching life and business skills.

About the United Nations Office for Partnerships

The United Nations Office for Partnerships serves as a gateway for collaboration between the private sector and foundations, and the United Nations family. It promotes new partnerships and alliances in furtherance of the Millennium Development Goals and provides support to new initiatives of the Secretary-General.

Global Conference for Social Change and Women & Girls Education Summit October 5-6, 2011

One United Nations Plaza | 1st Avenue at 44th Street | Millennium UN Plaza Hotel | New York, NY 10017

2010 Leaders of Change: Anvil Knitwear, Calvert Investments, Ceres, Coca-Cola, Danone, Dow Chemical, Interface, Nike, Reebok, Santander Bank Brazil, Stonyfield Farm. Special Honorees: Sir Richard Branson, Shakira