



Geneva Programme on Global Leadership: Accelerate 2030 Development Agenda and Sustainable Future (v.1)

14 August to 27 August 2026

(Please add one extra day before the start and after the programme for your travel plan)

John Knox International Centre, Geneva, Switzerland

Inquiry & Registration:

Centre for Socio-Eco-Nomic Development (CSEND)

Prof Lichia Saner-Yiu, Email: GLP@csend.org, Phone: (+41 22) 906 1720

or Appointed **Contact Persons at the partner institutions.**

This learning programme adopts an intersectoral and multi stakeholder approach to promote ecosystem thinking, critical mind-set and inclusive practices. In turn, participants will be encouraged to explore existing phenomena from an interdisciplinary orientation and apply analytic tools to generate new policy options to solve complex social, environmental and economic challenges. Participants will also be encouraged to deploy digital tools in their exploration and brainstorming of possible solutions at scale.

Experts from key international organisations and non-state actors of the international community in Geneva will be invited to give lectures on different aspects of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Lectures on digital future including artificial intelligence (AI) will be part of the curriculum.

The first GLP was commenced in 2015. GLP 2026 will be the eighth edition of the programme. For previous edition of the GLP, please visit <https://www.csend.org/programmes-a-services/summer-schools/413-geneva-global-leadership-programme?highlight=WyJnbHAIxQ==>

Programme Highlights

- Learn from experts in UN agencies and NGOs.
- Work in cross-cultural, interdisciplinary teams.
- Explore trade, climate, working conditions, stakeholder engagement and digital futures.
- Develop policy skills and global leadership literacy.
- Present capstone projects on global challenges.

Key Competences Developed

- Global Leadership Competence (GLC) – Global perspective and systems leadership.
- SDG Intelligence (SQ) – Interdependency over SDG goals and targets.
- System Thinking Intelligence (AQ) – Policy making competence and eco-system.
- Public Speaking & Communication Literacy (PSCl) – Public speaking and communication skills in English



Programme Description

This Global Leadership programme aims to provide future young leaders with an in-depth briefing and exposure to the global governance structure, the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development (2015) and the Pact for the Future (2024). It is envisioned that such briefing and first-hand exposure to the related core issues will enable a more global outlook and strengthen one's global leadership literacy. In addition, with this mindset, participants will gain new awareness and insights that could lead to needed social innovations and global solidarity at a time of increasing instability of the global structure and mounting needs for international collaboration and partnerships.

It is also envisioned that these future young leaders will be the pathfinders for their communities. Working together in a cross-boundary learning environment through the GLP 2026, they will develop cross-disciplinary knowhow and transcultural confidence to participate internationally. It is plausible to suggest that graduates of the GLP Summer Programme will be more inclined to participate in the deliberations of public interests and policies.

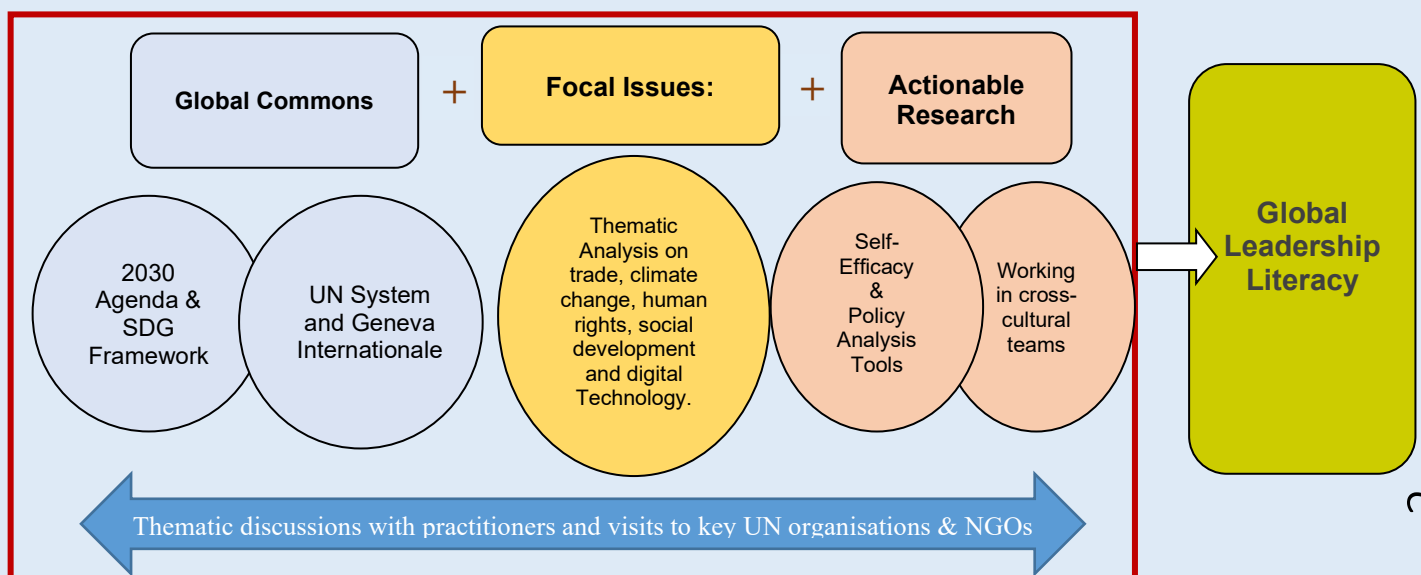
Programme Components

This two-week programme will be composed of four different learning activities:

1. **Expert briefings** on global commons, specific focal issues
2. **On-site visits** and discussions at different UN agencies and selected NGOs on key contemporary sustainable development issues
3. A **team policy research project** that will call on the newly gained knowledge and analytic tools to brainstorm feasible solutions to a specific social, economic, and environmental challenge
4. Practicing **public speaking** through team presentations.

Programme Roadmap

The roadmap below illustrates the programme flow over two-week period:





Programme Outline

1. Learning Objectives:

- a. To gain an overview of the international governance framework and the current policy deliberations on sustainable future
- b. To connect the current issues regarding trade, environment, human rights, social development, youth employment and digital technologies with the 2030 Development Agenda and explore innovative and sustainable solutions that include better data and cyber security
- c. To understand the ecosystem and multi-stakeholder approach to effective governance of public affairs
- d. To acquire skills in policy analysis, working in culturally diverse teams and develop minimum comprehension regarding universal rights for development.
- e. To raise awareness regarding new digital tools such as artificial intelligence (AI) and citizen science.

2. Learning Methods: Interactive and Experiential

- a. **Mini lectures** – - Lectures, discussions, case studies, simulation and dialogue sessions with experts from key international organisations and other actors of the international community in Geneva.
- b. **Site Visits and issue-based discussions** - Study visits to select international organisations and non-state actor organisations based in Geneva for a thematic discussion selected for each year.
- c. **Policy research and solution generations** – Team based research will be organized to analyse an issue concerning economic, social and environmental development.
- d. **Capstone team presentations** at the end of the programme separately organized by the partner universities or synchronized.

3. Working Language: English

4. Number of Participants: Max 30 per programme

5. Qualification Requirements for Participation:

- 5.1 English proficiency (Listening comprehension, speaking and reading)
- 5.2 Interest in global public affairs
- 5.3 Good academic standing
- 5.4 Adaptability and intellectual curiosity

6. Programme Components (10 study days in Geneva)

Component 1 - Orientation & Culture Activities (Arrival Day)

- ✓ Orientation of the residential facilities and daily logistics
- ✓ Guided walking tour of historical Geneva (2-3 hours)

Component 2 – Team Formation (Day 1)

- ✓ Course introduction and townhall meeting with the tutors



- ✓ Short introduction of the thematic issues to be address during the GLP
- ✓ Team formation and team meet with the tutors

Component 3 – Thematic Areas of Lecturing & Methodology

- ✓ **Theme 1:** The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development & Inclusive society (“Leaving No One Behind”)
- ✓ **Theme 2:** Financing for Development and Trade
- ✓ **Theme 3:** Environmental Sustainability and Planetary Boundaries
- ✓ **Theme 4:** Resilient and Sustainable Cities
- ✓ **Theme 5:** Stakeholder Engagement and Partnerships
- ✓ **Theme 6:** Policy Research Methodology - Analytic and Solution Generation tools

Component 4 - Visits to the International Organisations and lectures – ILO, WTO, IOM, UNHCR, WMO, WBCSD WIPO, ITU etc. based on the GLP programme requirements and availability of the host organisations

Component 5 – Capstone Team Policy Analysis and Presentation based on the thematic focus of the GLP. Participants are encouraged to identify a theme for more-in-depth analysis.

Thematic Areas for Capstone Research

Corresponding to the Thematic Areas of Lecture, participants of the GLP course will work in teams and conduct secondary research on one of these interdisciplinary topics. Specifically,

1. Social Inclusion and Human Dignity (Theme 1)
2. Trade & Financing for Development (Theme 2)
3. Environmental Sustainability and Responsible Consumption and Production (Theme 3)
4. Resilient and Sustainable Cities (Theme 4)
5. Stakeholder Engagement and Partnership (Theme 5)

Analytic tools and other research methods (Theme 6) will be applied when conduct the group research.

Certification

Upon successful completion of the course work and submission of the final group project report in PowerPoint format, the participants will be granted a GLP certificate issued by CSEND.

Academic Credits

Upon registration with individual partner university, participants of the course will receive credits in accordance to the academic requirements of respective university and their fulfilment.

Tuition

CHF 1,500 per student.

Travel and local expenditures such as room and board will be paid directly by the students themselves to the housing and other service providers, unless otherwise agreed with the partner institutions.

CSEND Profile



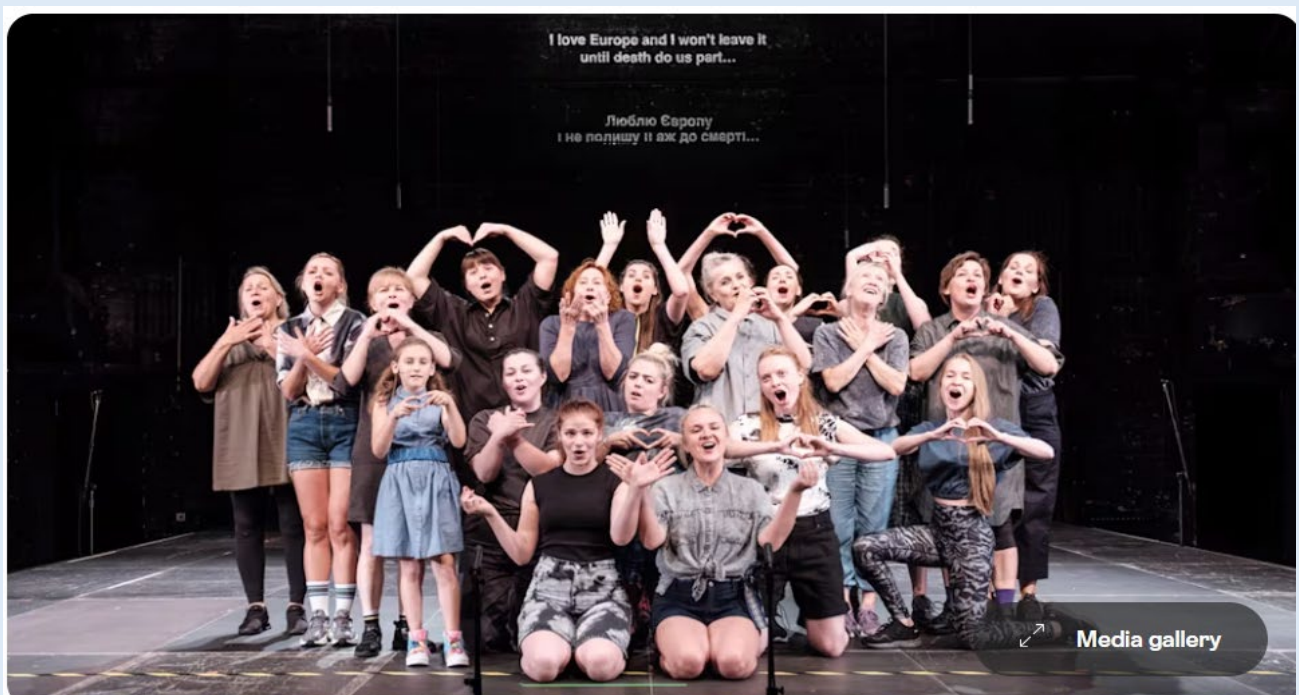
The Centre for Socio-Eco-Nomic Development (CSEND) promotes inclusive, equitable, sustainable and integrated development through dialogue, reflection and collective learning since 1993. CSEND provides

research, capacity development and consulting services on leadership development, institutional development and change processes, especially in institutional strengthening, human and social capital development, trade and development, quality education, aid effectiveness, international negotiations and new diplomacies.

CSEND is an ECOSOC-accredited NGO with special consultative status to the United Nations since 2014 (<http://esango.un.org/civilsociety/showProfileDetail.do?method=showProfileDetails&profileCode=622181>).

CSEND also has official observer status at the WIPO, WTO, UNFCCC, UNTFSSSE, UNEP, and UNCTAD. For publications, programmes and current projects of CSEND, please refer to the following webpages:

www.csend.org, www.diplomacydialogue.org, and www.adequate.org



La Batie-Festival of Geneva

<https://www.myswitzerland.com/en-ch/experiences/events/la-batie-festival-of-geneva/>