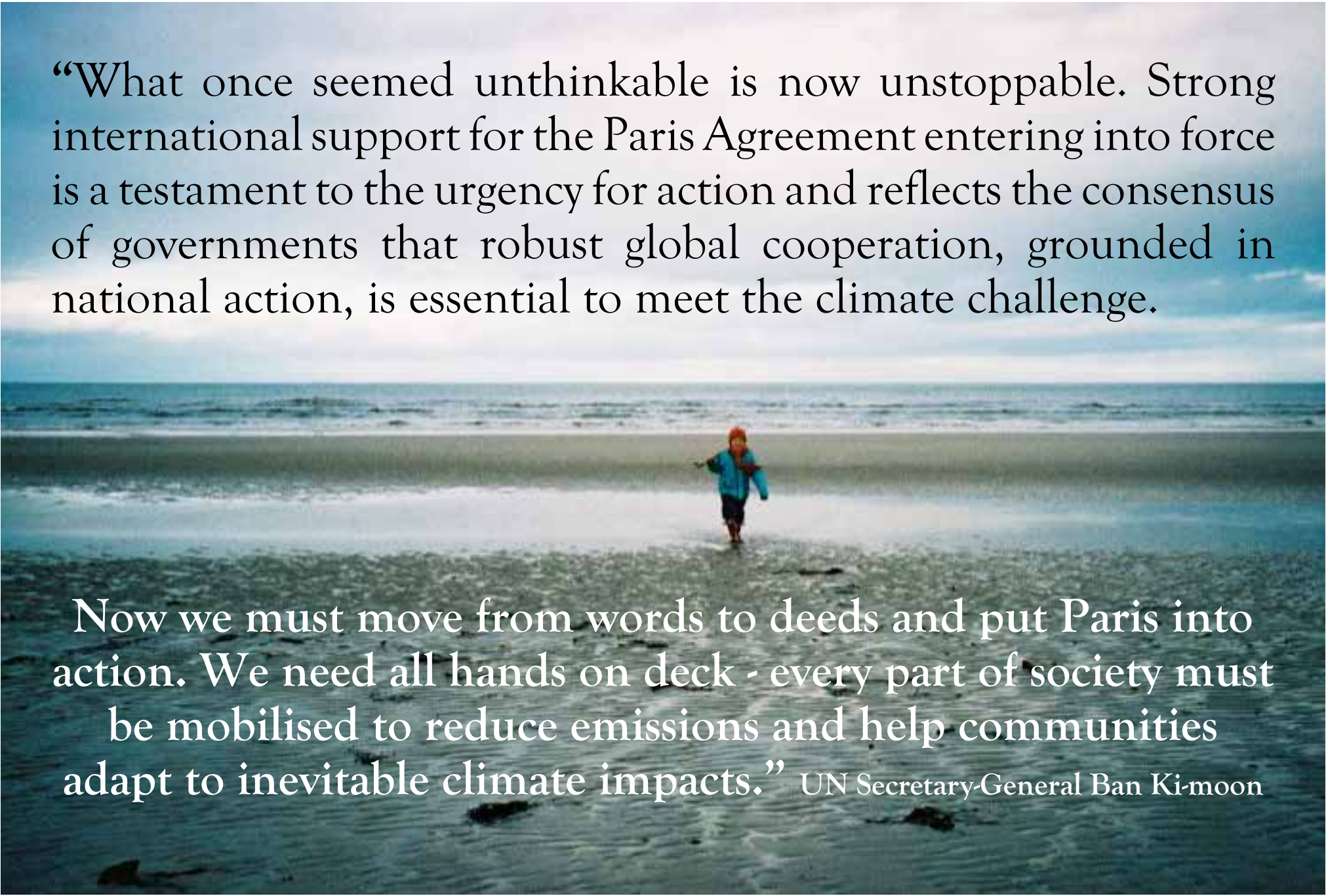


Findhorn International Forum on Sustainability: Empowering your response to the sustainability crisis

Sunday 15 - Thursday 19 April 2018 | Findhorn Foundation, near Inverness, Scotland



A person wearing a blue jacket and an orange hat is walking on a beach. The waves are crashing around them, and the sky is overcast. The person is walking away from the camera towards the ocean.

“What once seemed unthinkable is now unstoppable. Strong international support for the Paris Agreement entering into force is a testament to the urgency for action and reflects the consensus of governments that robust global cooperation, grounded in national action, is essential to meet the climate challenge.

Now we must move from words to deeds and put Paris into action. We need all hands on deck - every part of society must be mobilised to reduce emissions and help communities adapt to inevitable climate impacts.” UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon

THE EVENT

The Findhorn International Forum on Sustainability (FIFS) in 2018 builds on nine highly successful events since 2010.

FIFS will once again combine carefully selected people who are influential in this critical area with an environment that stimulates new perspectives on old problems. The programme will continue to be a vibrant opportunity to meet inspiring people from businesses, NGOs, social enterprises and organisations, hatch new ideas and reflect on your own personal resilience - in the hands of an expert facilitator.

With the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) the world has committed to massive changes. At FIFS 2018 we will look at what global training for sustainability might look like and ways we can accelerate and intensify the actions and investments needed for a sustainable and low carbon future.

The format seeks to make optimum use of the environment of the Findhorn Foundation and Community, which is, in our view, a vigorous and thriving research centre for the future of the world.

The event will be professionally facilitated and the agenda will emerge from the interests and inspirations of the participants linked to the themes of sustainable development and the low carbon transition. This format of a flexible structure and an emergent agenda has proved to be highly creative, responsive, energising and productive.

THE EXPERIENCE

The experience will be stimulating, intensive and satisfying - a much needed space to retreat from your day-to-day concerns, press the pause button, review the year and consider the deeper currents that inform your life and work.

There will be group time as well as time alone to reflect and deepen your personal inquiry.

Pausing to consider 'first principles' and the 'wider context' has merit and Findhorn offers a place where visitors can reflect on questions like: how can governments and non-state actors accelerate implementation of the Paris Agreement and SDGs? Am I in the right place doing the right thing at the right time?

If not, what might need to change? How do I feel about my work and the energy I put into it? Am I on track? What is the biggest contribution I can make at this time? How can we support the implementation of the global climate change treaty and sustainable development?

There is significant social software available at the Findhorn Community to aid a process of examining the potential for localisation, mutual support and a profound respect for nature.

FIFS is a holistic experience – exploring the linear and the non-linear, the systemic and the intangible, the left brain and the right brain. As Einstein said, "I never made one of my discoveries through the process of rational thinking"

Many people have returned two, three, four and even eight times, and have brought key members of their work teams to experience the threads alive in Findhorn which tap all aspects of human potential and that can provide nourishment and inspiration.

The Findhorn Community is a great place to dream as well as to plan. Our five days are designed to help nurture you as well as provide specific ideas that could be implemented 'on Monday morning'.

WHAT PEOPLE SAY

"One visit to Findhorn is never enough. It stays with you and calls you back with irresistible promises of serene space to think more clearly than you've perhaps ever thought before; of collective, collaborative creativity and idea generation, from the occasionally foolish to the potentially world-changing; of love, laughter and great lungfuls of fresh Scottish air. As one resident puts it, 'Findhorn's an experiment in non-financial wealth' and reminds us over and over again we are all already rich beyond our wildest dreams. How can you resist? Like Arnie in the film, I'll be back."

Ed Gillespie, Co-founder and Creative Director, Futerra

"I arrived with a high level of anxiety about a number of complicated challenges and management issues. The programme at Findhorn provided me with the time, space and perspectives I needed to feel in control again. When I went back to the office the following week, colleagues commented on how much younger I looked!"

Craig Bennett, CEO Friends of the Earth

"Findhorn provides a safe, natural environment that allows event participants to retreat from their normal working lives to spend some time focusing on what really matters. Its remote location set amongst such natural beauty provides additional space to reflect on important issues and experience."

Julie Cotter, Professor of Accounting and Deputy Director of the Australian Centre for Sustainable Business and Development

"The four day course was a wonderful opportunity to meet passionate and well informed people while also allowing me the space to cultivate some of my own personal development insights. As a leader, if you believe supporting people in your organisation creates a great company and place of work, then you will greatly benefit from an experience at Findhorn. A very, very rewarding programme."

Alan O'Brien, CEO Sabien Technology Group PLC

"I get time to reflect and deepen connections at FIFS. I have some of my best ideas when I'm at Findhorn."

Helen Wildsmith, Stewardship Director - Climate Change, CCLA and a trustee of the Findhorn Foundation since May 2015

WHY FINDHORN?

The Findhorn Foundation and Community is a world-renowned 55 year old community fostering the highest in human potential, co-creating with the natural world and taking inspired action. Findhorn has been a thought leader, a living experiment and an innovator for over half a century, pioneering what were then new and radical approaches including low carbon, localised, integrated living. Its programmes address both the externals of sustainability and the importance of the inner life of humans in their search for meaning and purpose. Guests from across the world are drawn to the extraordinary combination of low carbon lifestyles with an organisational ethic dedicated to all areas of sustainability.

Findhorn is the 'alternative Davos' providing a holistic, human worldview that stops institutional truths from eclipsing individual truth. Localisation and sustainable economies need to be experienced to be understood and implemented. As the holder of UN Habitat Best Practice designation, Findhorn is an ideal place to not only dream dreams but to plan how to make them reality.

Findhorn provides a place to envisage a different version of modernity drawing on the authority of lived experience. Philosophising about life is interesting but there is no alternative to the practical demonstration of alternatives.

Jonathon Porritt, Programme Director of the Forum for the Future and former Chairman of the UK Sustainable Development Commission has observed:

"Findhorn has long been a beacon for a very different kind of engagement in meeting the challenges that currently confront us. Truly effective action requires thoughtful reflection, and education for transformation requires practical demonstration. But thinking holistically and acting in the spirit of interdependence is not as easy as it sounds! Nowhere has worked harder to give meaning to these precepts than Findhorn, to the benefit of the many thousands of people who have drawn on its inspiration and pioneering leadership."

For more information:
fics.findhorn.org

LOGISTICS

Dates: Sunday 15 12.30pm - Thursday 19 April 12.30pm 2018

Cost:

Corporate rate: £1450

NGO Rate: £1050

Individual rate: £900

Included: Four nights' accommodation (Sunday - Wednesday nights), all meals (vegetarian, local, organic where possible) and course content.

Optional: bed and breakfast Saturday before and Thursday, Friday only after the event, £45 per night, subject to availability.

We intend to confirm participants by early March 2018.

To register your interest in attending and for any further information, please email fics@findhorn.org.

In collaboration:

Helen Wildsmith and Yvonne Cuneo (co-convenors) with Robin Alfred (facilitator)

Contact: fics@findhorn.org





We look forward to engaging
with you in shaping a
truly sustainable world.



FINDHORN
INTERNATIONAL CENTRE
FOR SUSTAINABILITY