**The Bridging Leaders Program**

**Supporting Leaders to Advance SDG Results**

**Facilitator: Elizabeth Soltis**

The purpose of this six-month leadership development program is to generate local action and partnership bridge-building by collaborating on sustainable solutions. It is a UN flagship offered in over 40 countries. The intention is to draw on the power of the collective.

**Objectives**

**i)** To bring together multi-stakeholder leaders from different sectors to collaborate on SDG solutions

**ii)** To build organizational capacity and empower leaders to be effective in dealing with complex issues

**iii)** To grow a network of bold thinkers and doers to partner on innovation projectsand generate results

**Program Overview**

This learning by doing program enables leaders to work together to co-create change. People from varied backgrounds gather to translate their vision into action in order to produce results - benefiting their organizations and the community at large. Since the answers are found within, the focus is on the only thing leaders can control – the way they think, speak and listen. While skill-building is tailored to the group’s needs, topics include relational intelligence, stakeholder engagement, feedback, project management, collaboration, conflict mastery and systems-thinking.

Leaders design and implement their own innovation projects, based on what they and their organizations care about. They apply their learning and access the courage to shift unsustainable systems with game-changing ideas. Ongoing project team coaching supports participants in overcoming obstacles so that real progress is made.

**Audience**

Approximately 45-60 leaders and influencers participate in three 3 day workshops, scheduled over six months. The group consists of 3-5 participants from 8-10 organizations. Different stakeholders are involved; government, First Nations partners, academia, business, youth, entrepreneurs, social profit agencies, media, arts and civil society.

**Benefits**

* Multiple stakeholders form strategic alliances, mobilizing people from all walks of life
* Leadership capacity is developed while generating high-impact positive results for the community
* Silos are broken and connections are made with the sharing of knowledge, technology and resources

**Why now?**

The complex issues of our day require an expanded way of thinking and powerful courageous action. With a systems-lens, we need to bring together uncommon allies for a common purpose. Afterall, if we continue doing what we have always done, we will generate the same results.

Now is the time to invest in community leadership development to tackle these challenges effectively. Now is the time to grow the leadership potential within people, regardless of role or title. Now is the time to inspire leaders to access their own wisdom and creative intelligence. Future generations depend on the leaders of today. Together, we can produce extraordinary results with a quadruple bottom-line focus – **people, planet, partners and prosperity.**

**Further Details and Success Stories:** [**www.bridgesglobal.net**](http://www.bridgesglobal.net) **~** **esoltis@bridgesglobal.net** **~**

***“We cannot solve problems by using the same kind of thinking we used when we created them.” Einstein***