JOINT IIASA AND AUSTRIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES LECTURE

COVID-19 RECOVERY: TOWARDS A JUST AND SUSTAINABLE SOCIETY

SIR PETER GLUCKMAN
The Centre for Informed Futures, University of Auckland, New Zealand

TUESDAY, 23 MARCH 2021
7:00 P.M. (6:00 P.M. UTC)
ZOOM WEBINAR
Professor Sir Peter Gluckman ONZ KNZM FRSNZ FMedSci
FRS is Director of Koi Tū: The Centre for Informed Futures at the University of Auckland, New Zealand. He is chair of the International Network of Government Science Advice (INGSA) and president-elect of the International Science Council (ISC).

From 2009–2018 he was first Chief Science Advisor to the Prime Minister of New Zealand. He has written and spoken extensively on science-policy and science-diplomacy and science-society interactions. Trained as a pediatrician and biomedical scientist, Sir Peter holds a Distinguished University Professorship at the Liggins Institute, University of Auckland. He also holds honorary chairs in University College London, University of Southampton and National University of Singapore (where he acts as chief science advisor to the Singapore Institute for Clinical Sciences).

He is a distinguished visiting fellow at IIASA. He has published over 700 scientific papers in perinatal and developmental physiology, neuroscience and endocrinology, evolutionary biology and medicine. He has authored or co-authored both technical and popular science books including (with Mark Hanson) Ingenious; the unintended consequences of human innovation (Harvard 2020). He chaired the WHO Commission on Ending Childhood Obesity (2014–2017).

Sir Peter has received the highest scientific and civilian honours in New Zealand and numerous international scientific awards. In 2016 he received the AAAS award in Science Diplomacy.
He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of London and the Royal Society of New Zealand, a member of the National Academy of Medicine (USA) and a fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences (UK).
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The COVID-19 global pandemic exposed our vulnerability as a society and highlighted the compound and cascading nature of existing and emerging global risks. Governments have had to deal with a host of extreme events, from earthquakes to flooding to social unrest, along with COVID-19, straining the agencies that deal with such crises.

The design of responses to multifaceted challenges would benefit from enhanced systems thinking which focuses on their interlinked and interdependent consequences and solutions, and thus enables a balanced approach to the objectives of resilience, sustainability and equity. With this in mind, IIASA and the International Science Council (ISC) came together to provide a transdisciplinary systems perspective to sustain promising transformative changes unexpectedly arising from the COVID crisis. About 300 international experts, from academia, business, NGOs and government, pooled their knowledge to identify systemic changes triggered by the crisis, and to make recommendations to guide recovery towards long-term sustainable development. The initiative focused on four interlinked areas: governance, science, energy and food.

A fragmented approach to governance and science has hampered responses to these crises. In his talk, Sir Peter Gluckman will focus particularly on issues of governance, the misaligned incentives within the science system and the need to enhance the science-policy and science-diplomacy interfaces. He will draw on lessons learnt from the pandemic and from the IIASA-ISC expert consultations to suggest how to move forward towards the transformative changes we need for a safe and healthy planet.
ORGANIZERS:
International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) and Austrian Academy of Sciences (OeAW)

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ACCESS AND OPTIONAL REGISTRATION:
Please register by 22 March at: https://www.iiasa.ac.at/events/IIASA-OeAW-PG21

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