

New Business Models for Social Change

For more than a century, the commercial and social sectors have primarily operated in independent spheres, governed by an assumption that activities that generate commercial revenue could not substantially produce social value, and vice versa. Today, governments, companies, universities, and social entrepreneurs are attempting to unravel this myth, integrating revenue generation models with social mission to achieve a hybrid ideal. While they possess immense potential for social change, such new business models require a delicate balance between two or even three bottom lines that can pose significant challenges. Speakers from this panel will share the innovative models that have been developed, ranging from green bonds to venture capital approaches, to move organisations from a dependence on donations, grants, and subsidies to not only achieve financial sustainability but to also scale solutions to social problems.