

## **Seminar on Forging Partnerships for Social Impact: Opportunities and Challenges for Philanthropy**

In the last decade, philanthropy worldwide has experienced major changes and developments that have substantially transformed the landscape of the philanthropic sector. The new frontiers of philanthropy are comprised of new actors who come from diverse backgrounds and are playing variegated roles and functions beyond grant-making, as well as new tools and institutions that have emerged in attempts to sustainably leverage private resources for social good.

A major feature that has emerged amidst the changes in the philanthropic space is a growing recognition of the importance of partnerships and networks that straddle sectors in public problem-solving and impact creation. Philanthropists nowadays often find themselves in complex networks of organizations and actors that manage issues they care about. Whether they are able to navigate and harness the networks and to forge partnerships with different collaborators effectively often determines how best they could leverage their resources for maximum social impact. Many philanthropists have come to realize that partnerships and networks are not only a means to generate resources and support from stakeholders, but also a vehicle through which they attain collective impact.

This seminar brings together policymakers and practitioners of philanthropy to examine and discuss issues involved in using partnerships and networks to resolve social problems with a view to identifying opportunities and constraints for philanthropy. The discussion and exchange is expected to stimulate a critical reflection by philanthropists and policymakers on how they could get better prepared to meet the challenges brought about by the changing frontiers of philanthropy and to harness the transformation of the sector.