

Title "CHAMPIONING ONE SUSTAINABLE HEALTH FOR GLOBAL RESILIENCE"
Subtitle "Impetus from Civil Society to encourage & support Government & Industry actions on One Sustainable Health"
Venue frontiers Science House - Promenade 63 Davos
Date Tuesday 20 January 2026
Time 19:00 – 22:00 with Evening Cocktail
Type Plenary Session

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Moderator: Vanina LAURENT-LEDRU - vanina.laurent-ledru@institut-merieux.com - +33.676.937.881

How can "One Sustainable Health" governance help societies confront escalating climate, biodiversity, and public-health risks?

Civil society, academia, and scientific leaders are calling for cross-sector action that treats human, animal, and environmental health as an interconnected system rather than separate domains. With the cost of coordinated action far lower than the cost of inaction, this evening program spotlights data, expertise, and regional partnerships for accelerating progress. High-level contributors will explore how integrated governance, open data, and collaborative frameworks can strengthen planetary resilience and safeguard the future of life on Earth.

Context

The [Science House](#) has the mission to bring science back to the forefront of global dialogue at this premier event in Davos. It will be located on the Davos Promenade during the WEF week, 19–23 January 2026. This dynamic hub will convene Heads of State, Nobel laureates, science ministers, global business leaders, and top policymakers for high-impact conversations at the intersection of science, innovation, and policy.

Science House Daily Themes

Monday - Open Science Frontier: Making knowledge accessible and creating opportunity

Tuesday - Human Health Frontier: Somatic science and prioritizing human needs

Wednesday- Planetary Health Frontier: Stewarding the Earth's ecosystems

Thursday - Technology Frontier: Assessing the impact on the economy and society

Friday - Governance Frontier: Debating the way forward

Session description

This session will take place during the Human Health Frontier and will have 4 moments:

1. Opening comments
2. Panel discussion: "Impetus from Civil Society to encourage & support Government & Industry actions on One Sustainable Health"
3. Concluding Remarks
4. Evening Cocktail

Speakers of the panel discussion

Panel discussion: “Impetus from Civil Society to encourage & support Government & Industry actions on One Sustainable Health

Moderator: Vanina **LAURENT-LEDRU** - Chief Public Health and Gov. Affairs Officer, Institut Mérieux/
bioMérieux

Panellists:

- Dr. Lise **KORSTEN** – President, African Academy of Sciences
- Prof. Dr. Ramanan **LAXMINARAYAN**- President of the One Health Trust, Princeton University
- Prof. Dr. Tshilidzi **MARWALA** – Rector of the United Nations University, Under Secretary-General of the UN
- Peter **SANDS** – Executive Director, The Global Fund

Concluding remarks:

- Benoît **MIRIBEL**, President, [One Sustainable Health for All Foundation](#)

Panel Discussion Objectives

- Highlight how civil society and researchers can catalyze and support government and industry action toward One Sustainable Health.
- Explore practical mechanisms for collaboration across civil society, government, and industry.
- Identify concrete, scalable actions and commitments to advance One Sustainable Health in the near term.

Session Guidelines

This session will take place in the spirit of Davos and under Chatham House rules. Any attributed quotes will require consent of the speaker. Speakers are requested to be open to discussion with other panelists and audience members when engaged. Differences should be expressed with courtesy and in a constructive spirit. Speakers will work out seating arrangements with the Speaker Manager prior to the session in the Speakers Room. Session moderators will be responsible for engaging both with speakers and audience members.

MODERATOR



Vanina LAURENT-LEDRU

Chief Public Affairs Engagement Officer, Institut Mérieux

[Vanina Laurent-Ledru](#) serves as Chief Public Health Engagement Officer at Institut Mérieux. With over two decades in global health, she transforms innovations into benefits for patients and underserved populations, leveraging expertise in policy, advocacy, and public-private partnerships. Previously, she was Director General of Foundation S at Sanofi, Vice-President of Global Public Affairs at Sanofi Genzyme, and held roles at Gavi, MSD/Merck, and Sanofi Pasteur in vaccines and oncology. A lawyer by training, she has taught at Sciences Po Paris, co-chairs the OECD Development Health Group, and champions science-driven societal impact.

PANELISTS



Lise KORSTEN

President, African Academy of Sciences

[Professor Lise Korsten](#) is a plant pathologist at the University of Pretoria and the first woman to lead the African Academy of Sciences since her election in August 2023. As President, she is driving a transformative agenda to make the Academy more inclusive, gender-balanced, and globally recognized as a leader in African science. She serves as Co-Director of the DSI-NRF Centre of Excellence in Food Security and brings extensive expertise in addressing continental challenges including health, climate change, water security, and food systems. Her vision focuses on strengthening African scientific capacity, building trust within the institution, and fostering partnerships that position Africa as a key player in global scientific innovation.



Ramanan LAXMINARAYAN

Founder & President of the One Health Trust

[Laxminarayan](#) is founder and director of the Center for Disease Dynamics, Economics & Policy (CDDEP) in Washington, D.C., a senior research scholar at Princeton University, and an affiliate professor at the University of Washington. Since 1995, he has worked to advance understanding of antibiotic resistance as a shared global resource through peer-reviewed research, public outreach (including a widely viewed TED talk), and engagement across Asia and Africa. His work helped elevate drug resistance to global leaders, policymakers, and the United Nations General Assembly in 2016. He served on President Obama's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology antimicrobial resistance working group and is a voting member of the U.S. Presidential Advisory Council on Combating Antimicrobial Resistance. He received the Birla Institute of Technology and Science Distinguished Alumnus Award in 2019.



Tshilidzi MARWALA

Rector of the United Nations University, Under Secretary-General of the UN

[Prof. Tshilidzi Marwala](#) became Rector of the United Nations University on 1 March 2023, following a distinguished academic and leadership career. He previously served as Vice-Chancellor and Principal of the University of Johannesburg (2018–2023), and earlier as Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Research and Internationalization and Executive Dean of Engineering. His prior roles include professorships at the University of the Witwatersrand, a postdoctoral position at Imperial College London, and industry experience at South African Breweries. A multidisciplinary scholar with five patents, his research focuses on artificial intelligence across multiple fields. Prof. Marwala has advised global policy bodies, worked with several UN agencies, authored over 25 books, and received numerous prestigious awards, including South Africa's Order of Mapungubwe



Peter SANDS

Executive Director, Global Fund

The Executive Director of the Global Fund provides overall leadership and management of its operational and administrative functions. Reporting to the Global Fund Board, the executive director sets the partnership's strategic vision and is accountable for its implementation and results. The position carries a four-year term. [Peter Sands](#) has served as Executive Director since March 2018. A former CEO of Standard Chartered PLC, he was a research fellow at Harvard University from 2015 to 2017, affiliated with the Mossavar-Rahmani Center for Business and Government at Harvard Kennedy School and the Harvard Global Health Institute, where he conducted research on financial markets and regulation, fintech, and global health.

CONCLUSION



Benoît MIRIBEL

President, One Sustainable Health for All Foundation

[Benoît Miribel](#) is an advocate in global health and humanitarian actions, currently serving as Chair of the French Foundations Center and Secretary General of "One Sustainable Health for All," which he co-founded in 2020. His extensive experience includes roles as Vice-President of Global Health at Institut Mérieux and Director General of Fondation Mérieux, where he focused on combating infectious diseases, as well as significant involvement with Action Against Hunger and various advisory councils on health and human rights.

ORGANISATIONS

A



[The African Academy of Sciences](#) (AAS) is a non-aligned, non-political, not-for-profit, pan-African organization based in Nairobi that recognizes excellence in science and supports scientific development across Africa. It works to advance research, innovation, and evidence-based policymaking, particularly in health, sustainability, and development, by funding scientists and strengthening research capacity on the continent.

F



Conceived by [Frontiers](#), it is a new global space putting transformative science at the center of the conversation, spotlighting innovations and solutions that will shape healthy lives on a healthy planet. Nobel laureates, pioneering researchers, policymakers, business leaders, and philanthropists will convene for high-energy debates, showcases, and strategic roundtables. The purpose? Translating discovery into lasting impact beyond Davos. Championing open science and fostering collaboration across disciplines and sectors, Frontiers Science House is the platform where scientific knowledge can inform decisions that define the future.

G



[The Global Fund](#) is an international financing partnership that mobilizes and invests resources to fight HIV, tuberculosis, and malaria worldwide. It works with governments, civil society, and the private sector to strengthen health systems and save lives, particularly in low- and middle-income countries.

I



[Institut Mérieux](#) is a French private organization dedicated to improving global health through research, innovation, and the development of vaccines and diagnostics. It supports scientific initiatives, public health programs, and partnerships aimed at preventing and combating infectious diseases worldwide.

O



[One Health Trust](#) is a research and policy organization focused on tackling global health challenges at the intersection of human, animal, and environmental health. It works on antimicrobial resistance, infectious disease control, and health systems strengthening, providing evidence-based solutions to inform policy and improve health outcomes.



Launched in 2021 by the [One Sustainable Health for All Foundation](#) in response to the Covid 19 pandemic, the [One Sustainable Health \(OSH\) Forum](#) brings together human, animal and environmental health professionals to work together on a sustainable, operational implementation of the One Health approach. The World Health Summit (WHS) in Berlin and the Geneva Health Forum contributed to the launch of the OSH Forum in partnership with some fifty organizations.

U



The [United Nations \(UN\)](#) is an international organization founded in 1945 to promote peace and security, protect human rights, and foster international cooperation. It brings together 193 member states to address global challenges such as conflict, poverty, climate change, health, and humanitarian crises.



The [United Nations University \(UNU\)](#) is the research and academic arm of the United Nations, established in 1973 and headquartered in Tokyo. It conducts policy-relevant research, education, and capacity-building to address global challenges such as sustainable development, peace and security, climate change, and governance.