WALES TO THE WORLD & THE WORLD TO WALES

The Future Generations Commissioner for Wales strongly believes that learning from other nations and sharing our work is critical if we are to succeed in delivering the Well-being of Future Generations Act.

For information on the Commissioner's international work please visit our website: www.futuregenerations.wales
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ABOUT THE SUMMIT

The World Government Summit organization aims to shape the future generation of governments. This core mission stems from the need for governments to evolve, as mandated by the technological advances of the last few decades. The Summit brings the public and private sectors together to collaborate with world-renowned experts in order to help create a positive impact for citizens worldwide.

The World Government Summit hosts its Annual Gathering in February of every year in Dubai, UAE. The Seventh Annual Gathering of the Summit was held between February 10th-12th, 2019. The Annual Gathering hosts over 4000 participants and invites world leaders, international organizations’ representatives, thinkers, and experts from over 150 countries.

YOU CAN FIND THE WEBSITE HERE
FOREWORD

It was a privilege to be invited to speak at the World Government Summit in Dubai on theme of Happiness and Well-being. We are fortunate in Wales to have legislated on that agenda and I hope many other countries follow our example. I have been clear that our learnings in Wales should be shared with nations and international organisations, because collectively, we can have a bigger impact on the people of the world and our planet. This post summit report demonstrates what we did and how we move forward. If you have any questions in relation to this visit please get in touch.

SOPHIE HOWE
FUTURE GENERATIONS COMMISSIONER FOR WALES
DAY 1

The SDGs, Artificial Intelligence and Health in the Future, dominated the first day of sessions at the WGS.

The Future Generations Commissioner for Wales’ speech is at the DP World Hall, Main Conference Arena and is part of the Happiness and Wellbeing Session.

Other Speakers whom we listened to:

- Arianna Huffington
- Abdulrahman Al Owais, Minister of Health and Prevention UAE
- H.E. Maria Fernanda Espinosa, President of the UN General Assembly
- H.E. Amina J. Mohammad, Deputy Secretary General of the UN
- H.E. Imran Khan, Prime Minister, Islamic Republic of Pakistan

SUMMIT OPENING

The Summit Opening was delivered by Prof. Klaus Schwab, Founder and Executive Chairman, WEF and Mohammad Abdulla AlGergawi, Minister of Cabinet Affairs and the Future, UAE.

"Today the private sector knows much more than any government, than any country around the world - they know what we eat, when we wake up, which airline, which class we sat in, which hotels we stayed at and even the number of our heart beats. Those who know this data own the future. Technology companies today may write our future. A Government has enough information about us to write a book, 4,000 pages long per person. Facebook has enough to write 1,300 books per person. Governments can’t shape the future. We need Governments who are ready to re-shape their structures.

We need Governments who are creating platforms to share information. Creating these platforms is the future of legislations. We need new and open data.

What is the most important commodity of the future? Imagination and ideas - not oil or data. Who owns these ideas will own the future - economic wars of ideas. The difference of any other creature is that humans have the ability to imagine. Our very existence was based on it. It is the imagination that designs the future. 45% of jobs will change based on logic and ideas.

There are currently 30 billion smart devices at the moment - linking the world. Governments have a huge responsibility to play a role in this world of communication.

YOU CAN FIND THE FULL AGENDA HERE
To a full room of 270 delegates, Sophie Howe delivered her speech on the approach Wales is taking to ensuring well-being is at the heart of policy making. The Commissioner challenged the audience to appreciate the right things in life and how we measure them. The Commissioner argued that other countries should consider following in Wales’ footsteps. In her speech, the Commissioner raised her planning work, her approach to preventative spend and skills for the future.

"We must be educating our children to meet the challenges of the future... We need to make sure that they understand that they are not just global consumers but they are, of course global citizens..."

YOU CAN FIND THE FULL SPEECH HERE
THE REACTION

How did Social Media react?

Future Gen Cymru Retweeted
Wales in MENA @walesinmena - 21h
Putting Wales’ Well-being of Future Generations Act on the world stage - Earlier this week @sophiehowe @futurecymru speaking at the @WorldGovSummit on Ageing in GOPS #DubaiWorldGovernmentSummit2019 #

The Wellbeing of Future Generations: A Welsh Approach
Sophie Howe, Future Generations Commissioner for Wales, UK gave a speech during the Happiness and Wellbeing sessions, of which he shared insights from the Youtube.com.

Future Gen Cymru Retweeted
Dr Maria Neil @DrMariaNeil - Feb 10
“Wellbeing-based budget” today at the @WorldGovernmentSummit in Dubai: incredible and positive words. A Minister of Happiness? Experiences shared by New Zealand and Wales.

Future Gen Cymru Retweeted
Future Gen Cymru @futurecymru - Feb 10
We will shortly be addressing the @WorldGovSummit to discuss the world-leading legislation ‘The Well-being of Future Generations Act’ in Wales // Bydd @sophiehowe yn annheir cynulleidfyr #WorldGovernmentSummit i drad y \n
Future Gen Cymru Retweeted
Nancy Hey @Work_Life_You - Feb 10
Wellbeing of Future Generations Act in Wales 🇬🇧 U.K. is of huge interest. Great to hear from @sophiehowe @futurecymru

A POST SUMMIT REPORT AND ACTIONS
FEBRUARY 2019
The Reaction

How did Social Media react?

AIHAM AL-AKRAS @AIHAMALAKHRAS · Feb 11

Highlights of #WorldGovSummit Day 1:

“Governments in their old shapes and forms cannot impact the future of humanity” H.E. Al Gergawi

“...must teach our future generations to not be global consumers, but global citizens, states.” @SophieHowe

FUTURE GEN CYMRU RETWEETED

WORLD GOV SUMMIT @WorldGovSummit · Feb 10

During her speech at the #WorldGovSummit 2019, Sophie Howe, Future Generations Commissioner for Wales in the UK, urges the youth to be global citizens and not global consumers.
@sophiehowe

Sophie Howe

I’ve been talking about the concept of #futuregencymru for ages now, it’s such a brilliant shift, taking a considered approach to legislation which works for the wellbeing of all citizens. This is the Commissioner’s speech at the World Government Summit

THE WELLBEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS: A WALES APPR...

Sophie Howe, Future Generations Commissioner for Wales, UK gave a speech during the Happiness and Wellbeing sessions, of which he shared insights from t...
youtube.com
SDG’s Global Councils Discussion Sessions (Jacob)

What are the Global Councils?

The Global Councils are a unique interdisciplinary network of decision makers from governments, international organizations, academia, and the private sector coming together to share innovative practices and discuss the creative implementation of the 17 SDGs at national and global level. The Global Councils are chaired by H.E. Reem bint Ebrhaim Al Hashimy, UAE Minister of State for International Cooperation, and are a practical implementation of the strategic role played by the UAE globally to achieve the SDGs. The Clusters/Councils meet annually to discuss progress. Jacob attended the first Cluster on how to integrate Well-being into all SDGs.

The purpose of the session was to come up with one innovative idea that would be presented to the OECD for recommendation. After a 4 hour session, we agreed to propose the Welsh approach that all countries in the World should evidence how they have integrated Well-being into the SDGs/Sustainable Development and produce a White Paper outlining the process. The ‘Wales We Want’ conversation was hailed as a success and will be shared with countries. This idea was later approved by the OECD. Other suggestions including integrating well-being better into academic curriculum and to create a Well-being Endowment Fund.
MEETINGS
During her visit, the Commissioner met with...

- Jacques Attali - Positive Planet
- Senator Ian Gorst - Government of Jersey
- Dr Carrie Exton - OECD
- Andrew Jackson - HM Consul General to the Dubai
- John Rossant - New City Foundation
- Hamoon Ekhtiari - Audacious Futures
- Rodrigo Marquez - UNDP
- H.E. Ohood al Roumi - UAE Minister of Wellbeing and Happiness
- Aideen McGinley - Carnegie UK
- Tony Burton - New Zealand Treasury
- Nancy Hey - What Works Centre for Well-being

The Commissioner held 11 scheduled meetings and spoke to many others during her visit to Dubai.
Tony Burton addressed the same audience as the Commissioner. He described how the New Zealand Government were putting well-being as a principle in their approach to setting the budget.

The Office of the Future Generations Commissioner were aware of this as we had several conversations with NZ representatives.

The Commissioner met with Tony on a few occasions at the Summit to discuss the WG Budget and how the Commissioner had influenced the Prevention agenda in Wales. The NZ Government are also considering some legislative framework around wellbeing and would be keen to work with the Commissioner.

**Next Steps:**

- Tony Burton is to visit the office in July and the Commissioner will arrange meetings for him to meet with Welsh Government Ministers and Officials.
- Look at developing joint work on sharing good practice internationally with other countries
H.E. Ohood bint Khalfan Al Roumi is the Minister of State for Happiness and Wellbeing and the Director General of the Prime Minister’s Office at the Ministry of Cabinet Affairs and the Future in the UAE government. On March 2017, H.E. Al Roumi has been ranked #36 amongst the 50 greatest world leaders in the 2017 Fortune magazine ranking and became the only Arabic and Muslim character on the list.

The Minister asked the Commissioner about her role and the challenges she faces in implementing the Well-being of Future Generations Act. The Commissioner discussed the importance of Public Services Boards and how countries could adopt similar formats.

The Minister praised Wales for its leadership in developing a legislation on putting well-being at the heart of policy making.

Next Steps:

- Write a letter thanking the Minister
- Send information including frameworks and tool-kits.
- Share information on the Leadership Academy
- Request further information on Futures work and case studies relevant to priority areas
- Put Cathy and Louisa in touch with UAE Government officials working in Futures work.
Carrie Exton leads the Monitoring Well-Being and Progress Section at the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Based in the Statistics and Data Directorate, her work is focused on measuring, reporting and analysing data about people’s well-being, the resources that sustain it over time, and well-being inequalities.

Carrie is the lead author and coordinator for the OECD’s flagship well-being report How’s Life? and oversees the team’s work on the Sustainable Development Goals, the Better Life Index, the policy uses of well-being metrics, and measuring business impacts on well-being. Carrie also co-authored the OECD Guidelines on Measuring Subjective Well-Being.

The OECD are partially responsible for the Global Happiness Report - of which the Well-being of Future Generations Act was featured. The Report was launched at the Summit this year.

Next Steps:

- Jacob to follow up a meeting with OECD officials.
- The Commissioner intends to pursue some joint working opportunities with OECD particularly in terms of developing work on monitoring well-being.
Hamoon is the Co-Founder of Audacious Futures. The Commissioner is keen to develop further conversations with Hamoon - as someone who has had many responsibilities. His interests are Future of Work, Skills for the Future, Leadership and Future of Societies.

John Rossant - New Cities Foundation

In 2010, John Rossant founded the NewCities Foundation. He believes it is imperative that different stakeholders work together to improve the quality of life and work in 21st century global cities. From the outset, NewCities mission has been to shape a better urban future for all by generating and scaling ideas and solutions through events, research and urban innovation projects. We are keen to support cities with entering this award in future.
DAY 2

Media Interviews. Meetings and Innovation. The Commissioner took part in two Regional TV interviews - Dubai TV and Abu Dhabi TV.

During the day, we listened to Tricia Wang, Technology Ethnographer discuss the importance of Big Data and Thick Data - the power of stories. We also listened to ‘The Power of Technology: Eyeing the World and Foreseeing the Future’ with Will Marshall, Co-Founder, Planet Labs.

WHO TO LOOK OUT FOR...

- Tim Kobe: Founder and CEO, Eight Inc.
- Casper Klynge: Tech Ambassador of Denmark
- Gleam Davis: Mayor of Santa Monica, USA
- Susie Ellis: Chairman and CEO, Global Wellness Institute
- Dr Shafi Ahmed, Chairman and Co-Founder of the Global Innovation and New Technologies Conference
Day 3 was dedicated to the future of cities and how governments should reform its approach to well-being.

The Commissioner took part in a workshop alongside experts from around the world. More on this below.

In particular, we were struck by the honesty and passion of Robert Muggah, Research director of the Igarape Institute who delivered a powerful speech on ‘How Cities can Shape the Future of our World’

We also listened to Gerard Collomb, Mayor of Lyon, France outline what they had done to create a sustainable city.

It now has buildings with solar panels built into the walls and a bigger emphasis on eco-refurbishment. They appreciate the partnership of heritage and digital. Even their prisons are being re-furbished sustainably. They are investing in Green Corridors and putting nature at the heart of the cities.
MEETING THE MINISTER

Discussion

The Commissioner met with the Minister of State for Happiness and Wellbeing to discuss the Welsh approach. The Minister was highly complimentary of the Well-being of Future Generations Act and how the Commissioner’s work had made an impression on her. The Minister confirmed that we would be invited back next year.

"Your work is so important and I am very pleased you have come to Dubai to speak with us. There is much we can learn from your country."

Ohood Al Roumi, UAE
Minister of State for Happiness and Wellbeing

1. Send the Future Generations Leadership Academy Proposal to the Minister

2. The Commissioner shared advice on PSBs and information on setting objectives

3. Share Journey Checkers and Frameworks with the Minister
WORKSHOP 2: Redesigning Government for Well-being (Sophie)

The second workshop we attended was hosted by the UAE Minister for Happiness and Wellbeing. The Commissioner sat at the table of representatives from Bhutan, Canada, USA, New Zealand, Estonia and the UAE.

The session was constructed to allow the members to picture a new form of government that had put well-being at its heart. This was an interactive and fun session, designed to push boundaries and think innovately. A few members at other tables were referencing the Well-being of Future Generations Act - with no prompt. The tables then presented their vision for future governments. The Commissioner spoke on the need to think about people, partnerships and prevention.
A few inspirational and thought provoking speakers

1. Harrison Ford
   "All of us, whether Rich or Poor, powerful or powerless will suffer the effects of climate change - an ecosystem distraction."

2. Robert Muggah
   "In the next 20/30 years we’re talking about 70% of the world’s population living in cities.

3. Ernesto Ottone-Ramirez
   "The thing that will save our world in the future is the way we built our way through culture, and how we shared it. We are learning every day when we are talking about communities."

4. Tricia Wang
   "Thick data is precious data that comes from humans. It comes in the form of stories and it comes in the form of interactions. These are all difficult to understand in a form of a spreadsheet."

You can find most speakers’ videos on the World Government Summit YouTube page.
INNOVATION

Edge of Government and Museum of the Future

Speakers and Speeches are not the only thing that takes place at the World Government Summit. You can also learn about new technologies, innovative ideas and how artificial intelligence is working in real life situations.

The Edge of Government section showcases real examples!

DID YOU KNOW?

In Surabaya, Indonesia it’s possible to pay for public transport by inserting plastic bottles into a collection point. This is a drive by the city to clear the plastic bottles waste and encourage use of public transport!

In Canada, healthcare costs were increasing at a rapid rate. Therefore the Public Health Agency in Canada decided to use a nudge approach by joining the Carrot Rewards. This initiative rewards the steps citizens take with loyalty points, which they can redeem at places like petrol stations or movie theatres.
RESOURCES

Reports Published:

Articles:
THANK YOU

The Commissioner would like to thank the United Arab Emirates Government, in particular H.E. Ohood al Roumi, Minister of State for Happiness and Wellbeing.

Additionally, thank you to Farah Albreiki for assisting us during our stay.