

TÄLLBERG FOUNDATION

Invitation to the first London Tällberg Conversation

“Do we need a new economic model?”

Friday, April 4th, 14.30 – 18.30

at the Work Foundation, 21 Palmer Street, London, SW1H

Resistance to change is always profound, particularly where the established, dominant model is seen to deliver much benefit. This is undoubtedly the case with respect to economics. The globalised market economy has delivered impressive results bringing prosperity, innovation and empowerment to hundreds of millions of people. However, as the evidence of detrimental side effects on the natural systems mounts, calls for a re-think of the practices and frameworks of our economy are getting louder.

We warmly invite you to join the first Tällberg Conversation in London where we will address this issue, with a focus on where obstacles to re-thinking may lie and where implementation of alternatives can already begin.

This Tällberg Conversation is part of a series of events run by the Tällberg Foundation addressing the need to re-think elements of our activities at the global level in view of the emerging risks. It is increasingly clear that business as usual is gradually undermining a peaceful long-term human evolution. A new model for value creation that can satisfy legitimate human interests without threatening the integrity of natural systems seems far away today. During an interactive and stimulating afternoon discussion, we will ask not only whether we need a new economic model, but also, how could one begin to be put into practice. This is a systems problem, simultaneously opening up a wide range of questions relating to how we think about progress and development, how we measure positive change (GDP, shareholder value, etc), incentivise organisations and individuals (decentralised share ownership, monetary reward, etc) and more generally organise power and accountability within society.

We will approach this systems challenge through the lens of natural systems. The stability of these, after all, is not a matter for negotiation - but rather a prerequisite for human prosperity. Understanding these "boundary conditions" of human activity must therefore be the starting point of any discussion.

This Tällberg Conversation is part of the preparations for the Tällberg Forum 2008, entitled “How on Earth can we live together? In search of the Common Sense”. Leaders and thinkers from seventy nations will gather in Sweden at the end of June for four days of conversations and workshops related to the opportunities and challenges of global interdependence.



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Programme

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WHY DO WE ASK THE QUESTION?

14.30	Marcello Palazzi Tällberg Foundation Board	“A Moment from Tällberg” a film to place us in Tällberg
14.35	Anders Wijkman, MEP Tällberg Foundation Board	Why question today’s economic models?
14.45	Camilla Toulmin International Institute of Environment and Development	The global challenges that set the context for our discussions

THREE LAYERS OF THE SYSTEM

SESSION 1: 15.00	Stewart Wallis The New Economics Foundation	Critical levers to alter the macroeconomic framework
SESSION 2: 15.15	Mark Mills Generation Investment Management	Models for financial intermediation based on long term signals
SESSION 3: 15.30	Peter Blom Triodos Bank	Sustainable business models

16.00 – 17.00: WORKING GROUPS – including a pause for coffee

GROUP 1:	Critical levers to alter the macroeconomic framework
GROUP 2:	Models for financial intermediation
GROUP 3:	Sustainable business models

17.00 – 17.45: DEFINING THE TÄLLBERG FORUM WORK PLAN

Panel discussion between Group Leaders (to be nominated on the day).

Moderator: Carl Mossfeldt

17.45 – 18.30 Reflections from the floor

CLOSE

This event is, in part, made possible with the generous support of:

Triodos  Bank