

NAME/TITLE

Conscious Capitalism

<http://www.consciouscapitalism.org/>

Date commenced:

Contributors, funders, political or ideological position (if applicable)

Conscious Capitalism is a public charity (under US law)

ABOUT/KEY MESSAGES (in its own terms)

Conscious capitalism exists to elevate humanity.

Conscious Capitalism builds on the foundations of Capitalism - voluntary exchange, entrepreneurship, competition, freedom to trade and the rule of law. These are essential to a healthy functioning economy, as are other elements of Conscious Capitalism including trust, compassion, collaboration and value creation. Conscious capitalism has four pillars ... higher purpose, stakeholder orientation, conscious leadership, conscious culture.

Does this initiative offer any compelling narrative for business leaders in particular, i.e. about the purpose and role of business and financial institutions, about values and ethics, about the relationship between business and society?

We believe that by becoming more conscious, businesses will help evolve our world in such a way that billions of people can flourish, leading lives infused with passion, purpose, love and creativity; a world of freedom, harmony, prosperity and compassion.

WHAT QUESTIONS IS THIS INITIATIVE TRYING TO ANSWER?

WHAT PROBLEMS IS THIS INITIATIVE ADDRESSING/ATTEMPTING TO SOLVE?

“Conscious Capitalism” is a way of thinking about capitalism and business that better reflects where we are in the human journey, the state of our world today, and the innate potential of business to make a positive impact on the world.

HOW DOES THIS INITIATIVE IMAGINE CAPITALISM WILL BE DIFFERENT IN THE FUTURE?

Ultimately, we aim to facilitate a global conversation around Conscious Capitalism and to create a dynamic living library of insights, understanding and best practices.

WHAT RECOMMENDATIONS DOES THIS INITIATIVE MAKE FOR THE VARIOUS ACTORS

National governments/regulators

Trading corporations/business leaders/collective business institutions

Conscious Capitalism comes to life as it is applied to business. Conscious Capitalism has four pillars guiding and underlying a business that practices Conscious Capitalism.

Higher Purpose: Recognizing that every business has a purpose that includes, but is more than, making money. By focusing on its Higher Purpose, a business inspires, engages and energizes its stakeholders.

Stakeholder Orientation: Recognizing that the interdependent nature of life and the human foundations of business, a business needs to create value with and for its various stakeholders (customers, employees, vendors, investors, communities, etc.). Like the life forms in an ecosystem, healthy stakeholders lead to a healthy business system.

Conscious Leadership: Human social organizations are created and guided by leaders – people who see a path and inspire others to travel along the path. Conscious Leaders understand and embrace the Higher Purpose of business and focus on creating value for and harmonizing the interests of the business stakeholders. They recognize the integral role of culture and purposefully cultivate Conscious Culture.

Conscious Culture: This is the ethos – the values, principles, practices – underlying the social fabric of a business, which permeates the atmosphere of a business and connects the stakeholders to each other and to the purpose, people and processes that comprise the company.

Investors: individuals and institutional

Financial institutions

International institutions

Does this initiative have anything to say about major medium to long term economic and social issues

- Supplies of the essentials of life: Food, Water, Housing, Energy and Transport
- Climate change, resource depletion, loss of biodiversity
- Population growth and demographic change
- Economic growth, innovation, employment, the distribution of income and wealth
- The governance of business and the financial system; public trust
- The respective roles of government and business
- The respective values of economic, social and environmental capital