

# INVESTING IN LEADERS AND RELATIONSHIPS TO STRENGTHEN THE NEW ECONOMY SECTOR

Enabling senior and emerging  
leaders to better collaborate  
within and beyond their  
organisation and sector

## PROGRAMME SNAPSHOT

- **Client:** Partners for a New Economy (P4NE)
- **Years:** Piloted in 2023, continued with a second cohort until 2025
- **Number of participants:** 30 emerging and experienced leaders in the New Economy field
- **Participating countries:** 11 countries in Africa, Europe and the US

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As a result of participating in the New Economy Leaders Academy I have gained knowledge about mentoring and leadership, friends with a great passion for what they do and inspirational colleagues. I [also] feel better able to work on more conceptual topics, seek ways my work has an impact and connect stakeholders. Mentoring during the Academy has been great! and very relevant for my period of life. The most significant change for me has been the ability to better define actions leading to change

**Monika Martišková, Researcher at Central European Labour Studies Institute (CELSI)**

## THE OBJECTIVES

The New Economy Leaders Academy aims to strengthen the capacity of experienced and emerging leaders in the new economy field – whether working on campaigns and movement-building, research and academia, policy and advocacy, storytelling and communications or bringing new economic ideas to life in communities, to work across generations, sectors and divides.

Additionally, the Academy focussed on equipping participants with the skills and tools to:

- Improve their self-awareness and personal resilience
- Enhance their leadership skills
- Develop greater collaboration
- Develop their mentoring and coaching skills to support effective leadership
- Grow new networks

## THE CHALLENGE

New Economy leaders face numerous challenges:

- Handling complex systems and ambiguous situations requires innovative approaches and skills that are often not invested in.
- Limited access to mentoring undermines personal, organisational, and sector resilience, vital for navigating sector complexities.
- Establishing and maintaining robust professional networks across diverse sectors and geographies remains crucial but challenging.
- Passion for work can lead to work-life imbalance among New Economy leaders, highlighting the need for maintaining self-care.

## OUR APPROACH

We developed a 10-month **leadership programme** designed to promote collaboration and exchange of knowledge between professionals in the sector, across 11 countries. The programme also expanded participants' networks and connected them in meaningful peer relationships. It combined:



## KEY OUTCOMES

### Greater personal impact



**82%**

of senior participants felt more confident in engaging in a mentoring practice and facilitating mentoring conversation after being trained as mentors



**80%**

of participants agree that as a result of participating in the Academy they have strengthened their skills, knowledge and/or confidence

### Stronger relationships and more effective teams



**93%**

of participants agree that the Academy has helped them to expand their network and collaborate with others in the new economy field



**84%**

of participants feel better prepared to build strong working relationships

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The Academy has helped me to see myself as a self-effective leader in the New Economy field and it brings with it the wonderful gift of a supportive community.

**Lydia Korinek, Policy Consultant, ZOE Institute for Future-fit Economies**

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Being able to step out of the day-to-day, share thoughts and develop together as peers has been more important than I had imagined. I'd encourage anyone feeling lonely in their sustainability journey to take such an opportunity if they can.

**Ben Allen, Research Director, Institute for European Environmental Policy**

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The most significant change for me has been that I feel part of a network of people who are finding levers for change to create a sustainable world. It often feels lonely in this space and it is amazing to learn and connect with the others. Thank you so much for all your kind and insightful inputs to make the program so brilliant!

**Katherine Hermans, Co-Founder and Director at Global Changemakers**

## Looking to invest in those driving the impact you desire or to support leadership development in your network and sector?

Contact us now to discuss how leadership development can benefit your work and help you deliver greater impact.