

Panel 4: Big Shifts and Discontinuities

Speaker: Richard Samans

Executive Director, Global Green Growth Institute

Rick Samans is Executive Director of the Global Green Growth Institute, a new international organization headquartered in Seoul, South Korea that is dedicated to transforming the prevailing, resource-intensive model of economic growth pioneered by advanced industrialized countries in an earlier era. Until March 2011, he was Managing Director of the World Economic Forum, overseeing the Forum's policy and public-private partnership initiatives as well as its relations with international organizations, governments, NGOs, unions and other non-business constituencies during his ten years in the organization. He helped to shape the content of the Forum's summits and to manage its portfolio of multistakeholder projects, which engage over 300 member companies in action- or policy-oriented work with experts from official, civil society, academic and other institutions.

Before joining the Forum in 2001, Rick served as Special Assistant to the President for International Economic Policy in the U.S. White House. As Senior Director of the National Security Council's International Economic Affairs directorate and a senior staff member of the National Economic Council, he assisted President Clinton on a broad range of international trade, development and financial policy matters. From 1996 - 1998, as Economic Policy Advisor to U.S. Senate Democratic Leader Tom Daschle (D-SD), he assisted Senator Daschle and the Senate Democratic Caucus on international trade and monetary, tax, and other economic policy issues.

He previously served in a variety of roles in government, the private sector, and research institutions and remains Senior Policy Adviser to the World Economic Forum, Non-resident Senior Fellow for International Economic Policy at the Center for American Progress and Chairman of the Climate Disclosure Standards Board. He is the author of a range of publications on international economic policy.