

TRUST CONFERENCE 2021 CHANGEMAKERS PROGRAMME

OVERVIEW

As the relentless spread of the coronavirus pandemic exacerbates existing inequalities in various areas of human development, advocates across the globe are facing steeper challenges in tackling some of the world's most pressing socio-economic and human rights issues.

Their work is further frustrated as many lack the necessary business and networking skills to strengthen and grow their activities – or, perhaps as crucially, the communication knowhow and access to trusted, independent media, which plays a pivotal role in highlighting these issues and the innovative interventions to solve them.

Concurrently, many journalists are struggling to find fresh story angles and reliable sources to produce accurate, engaging and in-depth stories on global challenges and their effect on local communities.

To this end, the Thomson Reuters Foundation (TRF) and the sponsors of the Trust Conference Changemakers Programme, are inviting both frontline advocates working in the spaces of climate change, socio-economic inclusion, media freedom or data & digital rights, as well as journalists who cover any of these issues, to join the Trust Conference 2021 Changemakers Programme and receive world-class training, networking opportunities with donors, sources and industry experts, in addition to access to a leading global event on November 17th and 18th, 2021.

PROGRAMME

The programme will comprise a five-week virtual Hub before the conference, that features an intensive week of solutions journalism training for journalists and strategic communication techniques for advocates. This will be followed by joint sessions with expert speakers on topics such as digital access to healthcare, just transition and climate change, the latest online safety measures, how to use pro bono research to produce social impact, and how to write strong proposals for funding opportunities. Participants will learn more about their own focus area, as well as other specialisations to pick up any synergies that could bolster their work – making this a truly multi-disciplinary learning experience.

A weekly, collaborative brainstorming session will also be held and moderated by trainers to encourage robust dialogue and trade cross-sector insights. Throughout the Hub, each participant will work on a project – a solutions journalism story plan for the journalists and a campaign plan for the advocates – and have access to mentoring from trainers, before presenting their project to a panel of judges for expert feedback.

All participants will be invited to attend the Trust Conference (November 17th and 18th, 2021) and a select few will be chosen to present and discuss their work with a diverse audience of experts, industry leaders, policymakers and media veterans.

Participants who graduate from this programme will be enrolled in TRF's Changemakers Alumni Group, where they will access exclusive forums and further career development and consulting job opportunities.

Participants will have their name and photo in Trust Conference marketing materials and on the official conference website.

TRF will initially launch two Hubs – one for the sub-Saharan Africa (**SSA**) region and one for the Asia Pacific (**APAC**) region – and invites journalists and advocates who are either based and working in these regions, or based elsewhere but focused on these regions in their work, to apply.

TRF also encourages interested candidates who are based and working in other regions to submit an application and will notify them if additional Hubs in their relevant geographic regions are launched.

FORMAT & AGENDA

The remote five-week Hub (September 27th – October 28th) will start with an intensive first week of five consecutive training days (September 27th – October 1st), followed by bi-weekly training days in weeks two to five. Each training day will run from 09:00-13:00 (Singapore time – APAC Hub and Kampala time – SSA Hub) with a break in between.

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Trust Conference 2021
Mon., Sep. 27	Wed., Oct. 6	Wed., Oct. 13	Wed., Oct. 20	Wed., Oct. 27	
Tue., Sep. 28					Wed., Nov. 17
Wed., Sep. 29					Thu., Nov. 18
Thu., Sep. 30	Fri., Oct. 8	Fri., Oct. 15	Fri., Oct. 22		
Fri., Oct. 1					

ELIGIBILITY

All applicants must be proficient in spoken and written English. No translation will be provided.

Applicants cannot have previously participated in the Trust Conference Changemakers Programme.

All applicants must have access to a minimum internet speed of 8 Mb/second. (You can check the speed of your device by logging from it on www.speedtest.net).

All applicants need access to a computer to participate in the training; participation from a mobile or smart phone will not be possible.

The Thomson Reuters Foundation will provide each participant with a sum of £50 (GBP) to help finance data costs.

Advocates

- Preferably based and working in either the APAC or SSA region, or based elsewhere but focused on either region in their work
Reminder: interested candidates who are based and working in other regions can submit an application and TRF will notify them if additional Hubs in their relevant geographic regions are launched
- Must be at least 18 years of age
- Advocacy work needs to be in at least one of the following areas:

Climate Change(e.g. just transition, circular economy, green energy); **Socio-economic inclusion** (e.g. poverty reduction; LGBT+ rights; gender rights; land rights; refugee rights); **Media Freedom** (e.g. countering mis an dis information flows; press censorship; harassment of journalists; sustainable media business models); **Data & Digital Rights** (e.g. digital access; privacy; AI discrimination; surveillance).

Please note that the above list of examples within each focus area is not exhaustive and is intended to be illustrative.

Journalists

- Must be based and working in either the APAC or SSA region, or based elsewhere but focused on either region in their work
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Reminder: interested candidates who are based and working in other regions can submit an application and TRF will notify them if additional Hubs in their relevant geographic regions are launched
- Must be full-time journalists (including freelancers) covering issues in at least one of the following areas:

Climate Change(e.g. just transition, circular economy, green energy); **Socio-economic inclusion** (e.g. poverty reduction; LGBT+ rights; gender rights; land rights; refugee rights); **Media Freedom** (e.g. countering mis an dis information flows; press censorship; harassment of journalists; sustainable media business models); **Data & Digital Rights** (e.g. digital access; privacy; AI discrimination; surveillance).

Please note that the above list of examples within each focus area is not exhaustive and is intended to be illustrative.

- Must have at least three years of professional experience as a journalist
- Must obtain permission from their editors to attend the training
Once selected, applicants need to provide a letter from their editor supporting their participation

Applications will launch on **May 26th** and close on **June 30th, 2021**.