GOETHEANNUM COMMUNICATIONS

 Goetheanum, Dornach, Switzerland, 31 July 2020

**“What now?” – “Facing social needs today!”**

**Web-seminar series of the World Social Initiative Forum**

**The pandemic has uncovered so many systemic problems on a global scale that almost everyone sees the need for a drastic paradigm shift. The World Social Initiative Forum will host monthly web-seminars suggesting individual ways of dealing with social issues, starting with ‘What now? Social needs of today’ on 31 July.**

“We human beings do not have to endure these challenges – we have created them ourselves and are capable through the capacity of changing ourselves and our actions and can thus remedy the circumstances”, Joan Sleigh suggests. She is project leader of the World Social Initiative Forum at the Goetheanum. The precondition for this is a study of the interrelationships of the crises and the development of concrete ways of dealing with them, which differ according to the local context and individual resources.

One person with experience in finding innovative ways of shaping social processes is Helmy Abouleish, the managing director of Sekem, Egypt. Together, he and Joan Sleigh will share their experiences in fields of social and community work in the first web-seminar of the series ‘Living in between spaces – to enhance co-working in the world’. It is the prelude to six further events to stimulate a humane shaping of societal life among each other and in harmony with nature and spirit. Other experts of the series are Marianne Knuth (Founder of Kufunda Village, Zimbabwe), James Sleigh (Managing Director of Camphill Village West Coast, South Africa), Bart Vanmechelen (Co-Leader of the Anthroposophic Council for Inclusive Social Development), Joan Melé (Director of the Dinero y Conciencia Foundation), Ute Craemer (Founder of Monte Azul) and Gerald Häfner (Director of the Section for Social Sciences at the Goetheanum).

As a worldwide network, the World Social Initiative Forum creates spaces of encounter, to develop individual potential for shaping social relationships. The Forum was founded in 2000 by Ute Craemer and Truus Geraets and is today a project in the Section for Social Sciences at the Goetheanum.

(2042 characters/SJ; translation by Joan Sleigh)

**Web-seminars** Living in between spaces, 31 July, 28. August, 25 September,
23 October, 27 November 2020, 15 January 2021, 4 p.m. CET, Facebook Live
**Forum** World Social Initiative Forum, July 2021, Goetheanum **Web** socialinitiativeforum.org

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