

CSOs as Leaders of Systems Change

Chief Sustainability Officers (CSOs) are not only enterprise-critical; they are action-critical — expected to translate science into strategy, drive value-chain transformation, and meet rising regulatory and investor demands. With 79% of companies appointing sustainability chiefs, the role is now a cornerstone of corporate leadership. But even leading CSOs lack a forum equal to the complexity of the mandate. The moment demands a trusted, strategic community where leaders engage peers, pressure-test ideas, align on emerging standards, and build the confidence and capacity required to lead system-wide change.



A Unique Experience in a Unique Setting

Unlike traditional Forums, the **Villars CSO Leadership Roundtable** (17-18 March) takes place in the beautiful Swiss Alpine village of Villars-sur-Ollon in the [Villars Palace Hotel](#) and convenes an action focused group of 75 global Chief Sustainability Officers with world-leading scientists and systems change experts shaping the evolving architecture of global sustainability.

Across 1.5 days of strategic reflection, dialogue and peer exchange, the program is designed to co-create pathways to integrate nature into corporate strategies, accelerate cross-sector collaboration, and strengthen the role of CSOs as leaders of systems change.

Moving from Ambition to Transformation

The Roundtable is intentionally held in conjunction with two high-impact convenings: the **Villars Ocean Forum** (16-17 March) and the **Villars Summit** (18-20 March). This strategic timing enables participants to engage with the broader Villars Community of leading scientists, conservation leaders, entrepreneurs, investors and philanthropists. This connection provides a unique opportunity to sense-check and strengthen strategies and accelerate the shift from ambition to transformation across energy transitions, nature restoration, ocean and food systems, and finance - driving integrated solutions that deliver for climate, nature, and people.

A Trusted Community: A safe space for open dialogue on shared challenges and to brainstorm ideas.

Strategic Perspective: Unique Villars experience provides fresh perspectives and renewed motivation with an expanded group of experts and practitioners.

Systems Leadership Recognition: Positioning CSOs as recognized thought leaders and pioneers of systems change driving integrated climate-nature solutions.

Accelerated Impact: Access to potential partners and proven strategies among peers, reducing time-to-implementation for critical initiatives.

Competitive Advantage: Early insights on emerging sustainability paradigms and regulatory developments.

Actionable Tools: Provide input to frameworks, metrics, and strategies shared and developed collectively by the community.

