

Accelerating Systems Transformation

Climate change, biodiversity loss, land degradation and growing pressures on the ocean, water, food systems and human health are accelerating at a time of profound geopolitical, economic and technological change. These are not separate challenges, but symptoms of interconnected systems under increasing strain — threatening economies, societies and the natural systems on which they depend. Restoring their health and resilience is critical to accelerating the transition toward a net-zero, nature-positive economy.

Science is revealing these interdependencies with greater clarity — from the feedback loops within and between natural systems to the connections between nature, economic resilience and human wellbeing. Yet our ability to respond remains fragmented. Scientific evidence and metrics are not always aligned, nature remains undervalued in economic decision-making, and capital is not flowing toward its protection and regeneration at the scale required.

At the same time, there is growing recognition that healthy ecosystems are not simply an environmental asset, but essential infrastructure underpinning economic prosperity and resilience. Turning that recognition into action requires greater scientific consensus, new approaches to valuing nature, and the policies, incentives, markets and investment opportunities capable of mobilizing capital at scale.

2027 presents an opportunity to learn from where progress is already happening and accelerate what works. Across science, conservation, policy, business and finance, promising approaches are demonstrating what is possible. The challenge is to connect these efforts, understand what enables success and help proven approaches achieve greater reach and impact.

The [Villars Institute Summit 2027](#) will bring these agendas together — identifying where greater consensus and collaboration can unlock systems change. The ambition is to strengthen the protection and restoration of nature while reshaping the decisions, markets and investments that determine its future — building greater resilience for people, economies and the planet.

A Unique Platform for Systems Collaboration

The Villars Institute Summit brings together a carefully curated community of scientists, policymakers, conservation leaders, chief sustainability officers, entrepreneurs, investors and philanthropists to connect efforts across disciplines and sectors and accelerate collective progress.

Set in the beautiful Swiss Alpine village of Villars-sur-Ollon, the program provides a unique opportunity to exercise systems leadership — connecting the dots between science, conservation, policy, business and finance, surfacing where efforts can reinforce one another and accelerating collaboration. Participation in the Villars Summit is by invitation only and limited to 300 guests. Sessions will take place from 17-19 March 2027 at the historic [Villars Palace Hotel](#).

The Summit is designed to support relevant partner initiatives through high-level working groups, expert briefings, community consultations and plenary discussions. Biodiversity, forests and landscapes, ocean and food systems provide critical lenses through which to explore these interconnected challenges and opportunities. It also promotes intergenerational collaboration by inviting [Villars Fellows](#) to serve as Summit Rapporteurs across three interconnected areas:

- **Building Scientific Consensus.** Bringing leading scientists and institutions together to strengthen consensus around planetary health, Earth-system change, ecological tipping points and the metrics that matter — providing a stronger scientific foundation for policy, investment and action.
- **Investing in Nature as Infrastructure.** How do we value nature and better recognize the value it provides? Advancing approaches that recognize healthy ecosystems, the ocean, water, land and biodiversity as essential infrastructure for economic prosperity and resilience — and exploring how their value can be better reflected in policy, business and investment decisions.
- **Making Nature Investable.** Exploring what it will take to create the conditions for capital to flow into nature at scale — including the policies, incentives, markets, business models and investment opportunities needed to mobilize public, private and philanthropic capital.

The Summit program is co-curated with community experts and in close collaboration with the Villars Institute's [strategic partners](#).

Program Overview

VILLARS INSTITUTE SUMMIT



Wednesday 17 March	Thursday 18 March	Friday 19 March
	08.30-09.30 Plenary Session	08.30-09.30 Plenary Session
	09.30-10.15 <i>Community Break</i>	09.30-10.15 <i>Community Break</i>
	10.15-11.30 Sessions in Parallel: Systems Outlook	10.15-11.30 Sessions in Parallel: Innovation Pathways
	11.30-12.30 Plenary Session	11.30-12.30 Plenary Session
	12.30-14.00 <i>Community Lunch</i>	12.30-14.00 <i>Community Lunch</i>
	14.00-15.15 Sessions in Parallel: Turning Points for Nature	14.00-15.15 Sessions in Parallel: Commitments to Collaborate
15.00 onwards <i>Arrival & Check-In for Summit Participants</i>	15.15-16.00 <i>Community Break</i>	15.15-16.00 <i>Community Break</i>
17.00-18.30 Opening Plenary Session Objectives of the Villars Summit	16.00-17.15 Sessions in Parallel: Turning Points for Nature	16.00-17.15 Closing Plenary Session: Accelerating Systems Change from Villars
18.45-19.30 9th Villars Distinguished Lecture	17.45-18.45 Plenary Session	17.30-19.00 Exploring and Learning in Villars-sur-Ollon
19.30-21.30 <i>Welcome Dinner</i>	19.00-21.00 <i>Community Dinner</i>	19.00-21.00 <i>Closing Dinner</i>