

# Midwest Carbon Leadership Project Agenda

Thursday, December 8, 2022

8:30 a.m.	Registration & Light Breakfast	The Commons
9:00 - 9:05	Welcome, Kathy Schmidtkofer, President and CEO, UMN Foundation	Johnson Great Room
9:05 - 9:25	Opening Keynote, Jessica Hellmann, Executive Director & Ecolab Chair for Environmental Leadership, Institute on the Environment	
9:25 - 10:20	Knowledge Gap Presentations: <b>Nina Axelson</b> , Grid Catalyst; <b>Deepak Ray</b> , IonE; <b>Laura Hannah</b> , MISO; <b>Forest Isbell</b> , MnDRIVE Environment; <b>Joe Fargione</b> , The Nature Conservancy; <b>Bob Blake</b> , Solar Bear	
10:20 - 10:30	Transition to breakout rooms	
10:30 - 12:00	Morning Breakouts (Six Topics, Session A)	Various Rooms
12:00 - 12:45	Lunch & Networking	Johnson Great Room
12:50 - 1:40	Knowledge Gap Presentations: <b>Joe Árvai</b> , University of Southern California; <b>Jennifer Schmitt</b> , IonE; <b>Ian Adams</b> , Evergreen Climate Innovations; <b>Susanna Gibbons</b> , Carlson School of Management; <b>Huda Ahmed</b> , Transformational Solutions	
1:40 - 1:50	Transition to breakout rooms	
1:50 - 3:20	Afternoon Breakouts (Five Topics, Session B)	Various Rooms
3:20 - 3:30	Transition back to Johnson Great Room	
3:30 - 3:50	Closing Keynote, Dipender Saluja, Managing Director, Capricorn Investment Group	Johnson Great Room
3:50 - 3:55	Final Closing, Emilio Tenuta, Chief Sustainability Officer, Ecolab	
4:00 - 5:00	Reception & Networking	

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## Common Language: Project Values

- *Collaboration*: This convening will generate a shared understanding of knowledge gaps and forge connections through meaningful participation that enables collaboration
- *Communication*: All participants will share one to two commitments - actions they are willing to take in response to information gained or relationships formed at the event. *For example, participating in a follow-up group discussion on one or more knowledge gaps, thoughtfully invite additional perspectives to the project, etc.*
- *Environmental Justice*: This convening commits to addressing the role systemic racial disparities and other inequalities at play so that, in the language of IonE's mission/vision, we can create a future where *all people and the planet prosper together*.

## Definition: Knowledge Gap

The looming unknowns - requiring *new ideas, experimentation and demonstration, or direct collaboration among researchers, innovators, and implementers* - that we need to define and confront to achieve long-range carbon neutrality. On a continuum from a lack of sustainability to complete carbon neutrality, knowledge gaps lie far beyond the "achievement zone," where solutions exist and are being implemented at scale. Between the achievement zone and knowledge gaps, we also must work to fill "implementation gaps," where solutions exist but are not yet deployed.

## Working Definition: Environmental Justice

Environmental justice - the fair and equitable development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies - requires us to overcome climate risk, pollution, access to nature, and other sustainability challenges that disproportionately impact communities of color and historically marginalized communities. We must pursue tactics for greenhouse gas reduction that provide benefits to these communities. Environmental justice requires the inclusion of marginalized voices, especially Black, Indigenous, and people of color, as well as their allies. We invite all people to pursue mutual learning, knowledge creation, leadership development, and storytelling in an inclusive way, with the goal of creating a sustainable and healthy lives and livelihoods for all people.

## Carbon Neutrality Dial

