

Leading in Times of Global Crisis

> The COVID-19 Era and How it Impacts the Way We Define Leadership

by Gerald Renger on 15 August 2020, in collaboration with Green Initiatives

Workshop Abstract

Several new dimensions have been added to the term 'Leadership' in recent times.

While unprecedented wildfires in Australia showed how a global society depends on a healthy environment, COVID-19 is showing how global health depends on a healthy lifestyle and salute-genesis of all including a healthy health system.

The global industry and our material well-being is getting a new meaning as the travel, tourism and more industries are redefining their business model. This is all happening while executives and leaders add a new core competency to their list: virtual leadership.

Are these 'external' changes? How are they all linked to the way we, the people on this globe, are leading ourselves, each individually and as communities or societies, in fact, as global society? How do we define leadership today, knowing what we know now?

"Times like these bring out the best and the worst in people," a friend said to me the other day. On the positive 'above the line' side we can be aware, courageous, accepting vulnerability and not lose spirit but do our very best, step-by-step, helping others, building communities and resilient systems that support a healthy sustainable global life. Below the line, we can feel scared, desperate, without hope or power to work harder, feeling more defensive and victimized, blaming everything else and separating from others.

But what if our so called 'external' crises are somehow connected to our inner life and self-leadership? And how can we be and become more of the person, the leader who helps the my-Self and our communities and teams to stay 'above the line' and develop solutions that bring us into balance with our environment?

The personal learning journey of 'kindness to myself' makes us stronger in facing crises and disruption and turns us into a leader for others too.

This workshop gives participants an opportunity to learn from an experienced international leadership coach, and discuss and exchange experiences of how to reinforce and strengthen healthy learning and ethical leadership.