



## AWAKENINGS

### Re-learning our past to build a brighter future

*"We can only make a future from the depth of the truth we face now."  
Ben Okri*

As leaders, how do we navigate a crisis of such magnitude it threatens our existence? What will your legacy be for our human family? How did we get here and how do we equip our people and organisations to build pathways to a world that can thrive?

Facing a global phenomenon, we need leaders with greater courage than any previous time. Insightful people who in recognising this reality are able to respond by unlocking their team's or ecosystem's potential to thrive in a changing world, as opposed to carrying on with business as usual.

Join acclaimed author and contemporary thought leader Cindy Forde and Dr Christine McDougal founder of Syntropic World for this transformative two-part workshop.

Making clear the interconnections between our environmental, social, racial and economic challenges, it is offered to leaders open to being part of building a brighter future for our children and ourselves. Through enhanced understanding of systems thinking (offering a different lens on sustainability, EDI and ESG), participants are invited to explore and define the kind of 21st century worldview needed for a thriving organisation, market place and world.

The first session locates colonisation as a deep root of climate change. Almost every sector of business, academia, philanthropy or public service is now looking for changemakers to steer our transition to new models, to a new understanding of success. Those most valuable are people able to compute the wider issues of this legacy that continues to accelerate climate and biodiversity breakdown, from how we exploit resources, countries and people to how we structure our corporate laws, social codes, global financial institutions, our economic and education systems, our philanthropic organisations. In demand are people able to recognise the belief systems and social constructs, such as racism, marginalisation of women and other exploitation of people, resources and nature that we need to overcome to turn our road towards a world with a future.

The second session explores a blue print for a brighter world. While climate breakdown is of accelerating concern, transformation presents a powerful and engaging opportunity for organisation and their employees or members. How can the areas that currently place the biggest pressures on our systems, such as energy, economics, food, consumption, become part of the solutions? Looking at practical examples profiling leading innovators, and systems thinkers, this workshop offers an important credential for professional development and is designed to facilitate more engaged and motivated employers and stakeholders, students, underpinning greater organisational effectiveness.



A four-part podcast series accompanies the workshop and is available to listen to courtesy of Foundation Nova Diem on: <https://novadiem.org/series/awakenings-podcast/>

## Podcast

### Awakenings - Troubled Roots, Hopeful Road

Join acclaimed author and contemporary thought leader Cindy Forde in conversation with leading systems thinkers for this transformative this eye-opening four-part podcast series. From the context of colonisation as a deep root of climate breakdown, Awakenings focusses on how to navigate crises and unlock our collective potential to build a thriving future.

#### Episode One: Troubled Roots, Hopeful Road

Guest: Christine McDougall, Founder of Syntropic World

Get to the roots of our environmental, social, racial, and economic challenges with Cindy as she unpacks the impact of colonisation on our world. With Christine McDougall, explore alternative models designed to reshape our future for thriving ecosystems and communities!

#### Episode Two: Money Jungle

Guest: Paula Kensington, Founder of PK Advisory

Can we think beyond of a finance system serving only apex predators? Cindy and Paula dissect the colonial DNA embedded in our financial structures and ignite discussions on reshaping wealth for a more equitable world.

#### Episode Three: From Ego-centric to Eco-centric

Guest: Mamta Borgoyary, Executive Director of SHE Changes Climate

Let's restore balance with a feminine worldview! Join Cindy and Mamta as they champion inclusivity in climate leadership and policy-making, spotlighting the vital role of women in shaping a sustainable future in politics, business and community.

#### Episode Four: Neo-colonization

Guest: Caroline Mair Toby, International Environmental Lawyer, Director, and Founder of the Institute for Small Islands

Uncover the truth about modern colonization and its devastating effects with Cindy and Caroline. From resource control to corporate greed, explore pathways toward inclusion and stewardship of our planet.

Get ready to be inspired, empowered, and awakened to the possibilities of a brighter tomorrow. Tune in and join the conversation for a future where we all can thrive.

For more information please contact Cindy Forde on [cindy@planetari.world](mailto:cindy@planetari.world)



Cindy is a thought leader and acclaimed author with over 25 years dedicated to systems change. In 2023, she won the Change Champion Award alongside leaders such as David Attenborough and Malala Yusufzai. Her ground-breaking children's book, 'Bright New World, Building a Better Planet,' garnered critical acclaim, selected among the best new children's books by The Guardian and hailed as "outstanding" by New Scientist. It has been adopted by the Australian National Curriculum. She is the founder of Planetari, pioneering Earth-led education, earning a Climate Positive Award at UN COP28. Previously MD of Blue Marine Foundation and CEO of Cambridge Science Centre, she has an MSc in Sustainability and Business Practice, is guest faculty at University of

Cambridge's Homerton Change Makers programme, she serves on the Steering Committee of She Changes Climate among other boards. She was named a Shero for Black History Month 2023 by Environment Magazine and is currently writing a book on colonisation and climate change. She is a scuba diver and trained yoga teacher.



Christine McDougall founded Syntropic World, a global education, community, and applied practice platform that demonstrates the power of diverse people collaborating on world-changing projects. Every action is informed by a commitment to syntropy—meaning that all life is sacred, and we can leave the world better if we do things differently. Syntropic World now has students and communities in 31 countries. Christine has worked for over twenty-five years with major companies on executive development, cultural change, advanced communication skills, conflict resolution and synergistic teams. Companies include ANZ, Fonterra, Nokia, Westpac and NAB. She has also been the mentor coach to high performers, CEO's and executives across industry sectors, including banking, finance, and real estate, some for more than two decades. Christine provides a holistic, systemic view

and has an uncanny knack for getting to the root cause of any challenge individuals and organisations encounter. Her expertise is human relational design - how to create ecologies of Synergy. She is comfortable naming hard truths while maintaining dignity. Christine is a mother, surfer, partner, and writer. She has published over 3,000 articles and is in the process of publishing her first book.

#### **What participants say:**

*A deeply moving and inspirational call to action from global treasure and thought leader Cindy Forde – it is time for Awakenings - for us all as individuals and organisations to step up and co-create the future our children and their children deserve. **Jane Sydenham-Clarke, Chief Executive Officer Foundation Nova Diem***

*"The right conversation in the wrong context is the wrong conversation". This workshop provides the context we need to be having the conversations that our planet needs. **Colleen Reichrath- Smith, Career Consultant***

*The echoes of history are often repeated and shape our present and future, the Awakenings workshop with Cindy Forde and Christine McDougall stands as a beacon of truth and transformation. This workshop delves deep into the stories of colonisation, revealing the profound and often brutal impacts on people and land. It provides a vital perspective and understanding that bridges past injustices with the urgent need for systemic change today. Through powerful storytelling and insightful analysis, the workshop illuminates the path towards a more just and sustainable world. For those committed to creating a future rooted in justice and sustainability, the Awakenings workshop is an indispensable guide. **Kimberly Wilson, Engineer***



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