



## News Release

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### **DELOITTE SPONSORS DR. JOHN KAO'S PIONEERING NON-PROFIT INNOVATION CENTER CREATED TO MORE EFFICIENTLY ADDRESS GLOBAL CHALLENGES**

*Innovation Leader Dr. John Kao Launches Institute for Large Scale Innovation to Support Development and Coordination of Worldwide Innovation Capability*

**SAN FRANCISCO, March 2, 2009** — Deloitte and Dr. John Kao today announced the Institute for Large Scale Innovation (ILSI), a non-governmental organization created to mobilize and coordinate innovation capability around the world and to address macro-level challenges by bringing fresh perspectives to the field of innovation. The ILSI defines large-scale innovation in terms of regional, national and global systems.

“Most work on innovation,” said well-known innovation authority and Institute founder John Kao, “only goes as far as the boundary of a specific enterprise. We are used to looking at innovation in terms of individuals, teams and companies.”

According to Kao, the scale of current economic, scientific and social challenges requires a new perspective on innovation. Today, innovation has a new geography as “hot spots” from Singapore to Shanghai and from Silicon Valley to Helsinki forge new pathways to the future. Yet there is still little agreement, whether in the public or private sector, on what innovation means, how it should be measured and how it should be managed. This is particularly true when it comes to dealing with global problems such as those related to energy efficiency, health and wellness, security and climate change about which there is little obvious consensus. Similarly, best practices and robust stewardship approaches are scarce when one adopts a global perspective on innovation.

Accordingly, the Institute will focus on three agendas:

1. What should innovation stewardship look like at a global level, and how can it best be supported and enabled?
2. How can innovation be fostered most effectively at the level of a society (country, region, city)?
3. How can methods and perspectives developed around large-scale innovation address global problems, and how can they be applied in explosively growing new areas of high-tech innovation such as synthetic biology and clean tech that require international collaboration and alignment?

“Wealth should be defined as the capability to continuously realize the future you want, and therefore should not only be measured on a balance sheet,” said Kao. “In my view, wealth is the sum of innovation muscle, foresight, leadership, agility, risk appetite and our ability to experiment. The mission of the ILSI is to contribute to building the wealth of the 21st century.”

With Deloitte as the founding sponsor, the ILSI will support the development of a global network of innovation leaders and define metrics that will allow meaningful comparisons among countries and regions. It will train a new generation of innovators and provide useful management practices for those responsible for innovation in their home countries. It will also underwrite research that increases our understanding of an emerging global innovation economy.

“Deloitte’s support of this project is a reflection of our firm’s commitment to driving progress through innovation on a global scale,” said John Levis, chief strategy officer, Deloitte LLP. “We appreciate the opportunity to be a part of this effort and look forward to drawing on the breadth and depth of our knowledge, capabilities and relationships to support Dr. Kao and the global stewardship of innovation.”

For further information about the Institute for Large Scale Innovation please visit: [www.largescaleinnovation.org](http://www.largescaleinnovation.org). And for further information about innovation at Deloitte, please visit: [www.deloitte.com/us/innovation](http://www.deloitte.com/us/innovation).

#### **About Dr. John Kao**

John Kao, founder and chairman of ILSI, has been described by *The Economist* as “Mr. Creativity” and a “serial innovator.” He was a professor at Harvard Business School for 14 years, where he specialized in innovation and entrepreneurship. He has advised governments and companies worldwide on the topics of innovation strategy and stewardship. He is author of the best selling *Jamming: The Art and Discipline of Business Creativity* as well as *Innovation Nation*.

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