

Reinventing Society and Reforming Sustainability: The thought provoking work of Stephan Liozu, PhD., and Fabien Cros

Stephan Liozu, PhD. joins forces with Fabien Cros to steer global businesses towards sustainability by revolutionising their pricing and business models.

“A goal without a plan is just a wish” – Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

When it comes to the climate crisis, everyone seems to have goal settled. But what happens when it comes to actually working towards these goals?

We live a generation deluded by governments and companies' promises. Everyone seems to wish for a greener and more sustainable planet, but when it comes to acting on the matter, it almost seems as politicians are crossing their fingers, waiting for a miracle to happen.

And entrepreneurs understand this matter more than anyone else: if you want to achieve anything, work hard to do so.

This way of thinking lives in the idea of capitalism. No one wants to recreate a Soviet or Chinese Revolution, especially knowing how poorly communism has worked in the last century.

But it is now clear that capitalism needs to be rethought. It is now time for the innocence – and maybe ignorance – that prevailed during the Industrial Revolution to stop, as our survival depends on our adaptation.

Only by working together, people, companies, countries, and continents, will we find a way to solve the biggest challenge of our century.

It is this challenge that brave and realistic entrepreneurs like Stephan Liozu, PhD., and Fabien Cros have decided to tackle.

Two continents, one cause

Stephan Liozu, PhD., an American former Chief Value Officer of Thales and a noted author on pricing strategies, joins forces with Fabien Cros, a French Sustainability graduate from Imperial College and former management consultant at Accenture currently working on Data and AI at Google France.

Their mission? To steer global businesses towards sustainability by revolutionising their pricing and business models.

The duo's quest began with a startling realisation: while the urgency of meeting the Paris Agreement's goal to limit global warming to 1.5°C is widely acknowledged, most efforts have been constrained to recycling and waste management. They believe that paradigm shift is essential to make a real impact.

Their solution? A unique blend of circular business models and innovative monetisation and pricing strategies that promise not only environmental benefits but also enhanced profitability.

For instance, they champion the concept of 'true price,' which refers to the actual cost of a product or service when including external factors like environmental and social impacts that are typically not reflected in its market price. But their approach goes beyond just pricing, extending to innovative business model concepts such as 'material as a service.' This advocates for renting materials like iron instead of making a one-time sale, thereby ensuring a recycling-focused product lifecycle.

This strategy not only fosters a circular economy but also creates a mutually

beneficial scenario for both customers and the brand.

A dire need for new ideas

Liozu and Cros realised that the crux of the problem lies in outdated educational paradigms. Business leaders continue to employ Industrial Revolution-era concepts, neglecting the potential of 21st century monetisation and value-based pricing strategies, especially in sustainability. Their findings are supported by studies like “Unlocking the Global Pathways to Resilience, Growth, and Sustainability for 2030” by the United Nations, highlighting a gap between CEOs’ recognition of sustainability’s importance and their investment in sustainable innovations. To bridge this knowledge gap, Liozu and Cros have co-edited a book, “*Monetising and Pricing Sustainability*” and launched the “*PricingForThePlanet*” podcast. These platforms discuss innovative concepts like ROSITM (Return on Sustainability Investment) from New York University Stern and business cases such as the Circular Certified label of Schneider Electric.

The next step in their mission is the “PricingForThePlanet Summit,” to be held at Schneider Electric HQ in Paris on April 9th. Sponsored by BCG and Schneider Electric, this event will feature prominent speakers like Gregory Sion, CEO Pierre & Vacances, Sergio Collegla, President Europe of SITA, Pierre Schaeffer, CMO of Thales and John Pineda, Managing Director and Partner at BCG, focusing on positioning sustainability as a competitive advantage.

Modern problems require modern skillsets

Concurrently, Liozu and Cros are launching a community-driven learning platform, addressing the critical lack of skills at the intersection of business and sustainability. Based on various research studies and discussions with headhunters, they believe that the skill set for monetising sustainability will be one of the most sought-after in the coming years. They designed their platform to be more than just theoretical; it’s a space for real-world application and learning, turbocharged with AI (including personal AI tutors), and aimed at equipping business leaders to position sustainability as both planet-friendly and profitable. Clearly, this is an expertise that most businesses will need to incorporate.

For those interested in being a part of this pioneering movement, application to their first learning cohort is now open on their [website](#).

