

# ***Sustainability Day*** **CHALLENGES**



At the School of Business, Economics, and Law, we explore future challenges and discuss solutions to global sustainability goals through research, education, and collaboration with our partner companies, public organizations, and international partners. Today, perhaps more than ever, there is a need for knowledge and understanding of social, ecological, and economic sustainability issues in both the private and public sectors. These questions about the future are increasingly important in our research and educational programs. Therefore, we consider it essential that by the time you graduate, you will have acquired a sufficient level of knowledge and the relevant tools to address issues of ethics, social responsibility, and environmental sustainability in your professional life. In light of this, the school is organizing mandatory **Sustainability Days** for all program students to complement the sustainability education provided within the various courses of the programs. Sustainability Day: **Challenges** is held during your first year of study, while your second and third years include two days focused on **Responsibility** and **Solutions**, respectively.

## **Welcome to Sustainability Day: Challenges**

Your first Sustainability Day is scheduled for **September 11<sup>th</sup>** and will begin with a conversation between researchers from various disciplines, including Economics, Business, Law, and Political Science. The central questions being addressed are: *What will it take to move from words to action and create the necessary transition to meet the Sustainable Development Goals? What roles do business and policy play in this transition, and how is this relevant to your future professional role?*

## **Practical information**

Sustainability Day: **Challenges** is structured as a conference. You'll participate in a joint session before lunch, after which you can choose from a number of different sessions in the afternoon. These sessions will address topics such as *Antibiotic Resistance and sustainability challenges related to the production of pharmaceuticals, Anti-Corruption, Energy resources and Threats and opportunities associated with the development of AI*. Registration for the various tracks in the afternoon of September 11<sup>th</sup> will open a few days in advance, and you will receive additional information through the school's Canvas platform at the beginning of September. An invitation to a Canvas activity will also be sent to your student email, which you will need to accept.

**Welcome to an inspiring and educative day!**

*The Council of Sustainable Development*



GÖTEBORGS UNIVERSITET  
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# Sustainability Day

## CHALLENGES



TID/TIME	TRACK A1: ALL STUDENTS			
10.00 - 11.30	<p>The world has agreed on 17 Global Sustainability Goals – What will it take to move from words to action and create the sustainable transition required?</p> <p><b>Keynote speaker: Björn Sandén</b>  <b>Participants: Lena Gippert, Håkan Eggert, Ellen Lagrell, Rebecka Arman &amp; Niklas Egels Zandén</b></p> <p><i>Malmstenssalen</i></p>			
11.30 - 13.00	<p><b>FREE LUNCH (offered by the School)</b></p>			
TID/TIME	TRACK B1	SPÅR B2	SPÅR B3	TRACK B4
13.00 - 15.30	<p>Antibiotic Restistance – A Global Challenge</p> <p><b>Johan Bengtsson-Palme &amp; Elina Lampi</b></p> <p><i>Malmstenssalen</i></p>	<p>Korruption som hinder för en hållbar värld</p> <p><b>Marcia Grimes, Thomas Palmberg &amp; Filip Bladini</b></p> <p><i>SEB</i></p>	<p>Framtidens energi som global utmaning</p> <p><b>Maria Grahn, Eric Zinn &amp; Staffan Granér</b></p> <p><i>Volvo</i></p>	<p>Artificial Intelligence as opportunity and threat</p> <p><b>Olle Häggström &amp; Mattias Sundemo</b></p> <p><i>C22</i></p>

Please note that the electable seminars B2 and B3 in the afternoon are being held in Swedish. The remaining seminars are held in English.



## Track A1

# The world has agreed on 17 Global Sustainability Goals

– What will it take to move from words to action and create the sustainable transition required?



The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015, provides a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future. At its heart there are the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which are an urgent call for action by all in a global partnership.

They recognize that ending poverty and other deprivations must go hand-in-hand with strategies that improve health and education, reduce inequality, and spur economic growth – all while tackling climate change and working to preserve our oceans and forests.

In this interactive session, a panel of researchers will discuss these challenges as well as why the challenges will be relevant in your future professional life.

### Prepare for the session by:

Reading up on the SDGs and think of questions you would like to ask the panel. Also think about what you would like to learn more about during your studies in terms of sustainability issues.

<https://sdgs.un.org/goals>

### SPEAKERS

#### Keynote



**Björn Sandén**, Professor, Environmental Systems Analysis, Technology Management and Economics, Chalmers University of Technology, and Vice President för Swedish Climate Policy Council

#### Panel participants



**Lena Gipperth**, Professor in law



**Ellen Lagrell**, PhD in Human Geography



**Håkan Eggert**, Senior Lecturer in Economics



**Rebecka Arman**, Lecturer in Business

#### Moderator



**Niklas Egels Zandén**, Professor, Department of Business Administration, School of Business, Economics and Law



## Track B1

# Antibiotic Resistance – A Global Challenge

Most of the world's medicines are as of now produced in low-income countries, and the manufacturing process is often associated with massive emissions into the environment, not least of antibiotics. The pressure to keep medicine prices low in Sweden and other countries risks destroying natural environments on the other side of the world. But there is perhaps an even more serious aspect of the emissions, which directly affects our own health: the risk that bacteria develop resistance to antibiotics and then spread worldwide. *Why is the situation like this? What are the consequences? Who takes responsibility and what can we do about it?*

The problem of antibiotic resistance is not just a medical dilemma where we lack new powerful antibiotics. It also largely depends on our individual behavior i.e., how much we all consume antibiotics. Studying and hopefully changing norms and behavior regarding how and when to use antibiotics is crucial to maintaining their effectiveness. Interdisciplinary work is needed to solve many of the greatest challenges of the future, one such challenge is the problem of antibiotic resistance.

In this session, you will gain increased awareness of the risks of pharmaceuticals in the environment and learn about the environment's role in the development of antibiotic resistance, one of the greatest threats to global public health. You will also gain an understanding of how Sweden's actions can influence processes in other countries that may then have repercussions, and understand that in the fight against antibiotic resistance, social scientists are also needed.

### Prepare for the session by considering:

- » How aware are you of the antibiotic resistance problem?
- » How would you react if a doctor decided not to prescribe antibiotics?

### SPEAKERS



**Johan Bengtson-Palme** is a researcher at Chalmers University of Technology and the Sahlgrenska Academy at the University of Gothenburg. Among other things, his research focuses on various aspects of antibiotic resistance and the impact that the pharmaceutical industry has on our environment.



**Elina Lampi** is an associate professor of economics at the School of Business, Economics and Law, and a researcher at CARE. Her research approaches antibiotic resistance from a social science perspective, examining attitudes towards the use and prescription of antibiotics, which is crucial for ensuring that antibiotics remain effective for future generations.

## Spår B2

# Korruption som hinder för en hållbar värld

Mål nummer 16 i FN:s globala hållbarhetsmål har rubriken *Fredliga och inkluderande samhällen*. Det handlar om att det ska finnas väl fungerande myndigheter med ansvarsfulla institutioner, transparens och att rättsstatens principer har ett fundamentalt egenvärde. De är grunden för en god samhällsstyrning inklusive korruptionsbekämpning och är viktiga drivkrafter för all utveckling.

Marcia Grimes, professor vid Statsvetenskapliga institutionen, Göteborgs universitet inleder spåret med en överblick. Korruption är ett betydande problem för hållbarhetsmålen liksom för samhället i stort, hur kan vi förstå korruptionens drivkrafter bortom individers vilja att göra karriär? Hur rimligt är det att tänka sig att företag kan vistas på en global marknad utan att bli inblandade i korruption, vad är korruption egentligen och är svenska företag rustade att känna igen korruption när det förekommer? Sedan hör vi från Thomas Palmberg, polis från Nationella Anti-Korruptionsgruppen på Nationella operativa avdelningen (NOA), om hur polisen jobbar med frågorna.

Därefter blir det ett panelsamtal som diskuterar olika perspektiv på frågorna och vilka orsaker som kan ligga bakom att det är så svårt att komma tillrätta med problemen.

### TALARE



**Marcia Grimes**, professor vid Statsvetenskapliga institutionen, Göteborgs universitet



**Thomas Palmberg**, polis från Nationella Anti-Korruptionsgruppen på Nationella operativa avdelningen (NOA)

Moderator



**Filip Bladini**, docent i civilrätt, Juridiska institutionen, Handelshögskolan



## Spår B3

# Framtidens energi som global utmaning

Det framtida energisystemet står inför åtminstone tre långsiktiga utmaningar: (1) energiresurser, (2) energisäkerhet, (3) klimatpåverkan. Energisystemet innebär allt från utvinning av energiresurser till slutanvändning i el, värme och transportsektorn. Hur begränsade är världens energiresurser? Vad betyder energisäkerhet och varför är det en utmaning? Vad är det för koppling mellan energisystemet och klimatet? Vad kan vi göra för att minska utsläppen av växthusgaser i energisystemet i stort och vad kan göras i elsektorn för att uppnå politiska mål?

På detta spår hoppas vi att du får med dig en ökad förståelse för: möjligheter, begränsningar, kostnader och miljöpåverkan för olika strategier och teknikval i energisystemet i stort och för elsektorn i synnerhet. En förståelse för att en omställning av energisystemet är komplext och ibland politiskt svårt. Att avvägningar ofta behöver göras mellan miljö, ekonomi och politik.

### Förbered dig för passet genom att:

Fundera på hur det kan gå att förena en ökad efterfrågan på energi, samtidigt som utsläppen av koldioxid måste minska. Vilka olika sätt kan du komma på som leder till minskade utsläpp i energisystemet? Vi kommer att göra en övning på föreläsningen då alla förväntas bidra med sina tankar via en mentimeterfunktion.

### TALARE



**Maria Grahn**, forskare på Chalmers Tekniska Högskola, på institutionen för Energi och Miljö. Marias forskning är fokuserad på omställningen av energisystemet för att radikalt minska koldioxidutsläppen och kunna nå ambitiösa klimatmål.



**Eric Zinn**, Hållbarhetschef, Göteborg Energi

Moderator



**Staffan Graner**, universitetslektor vid institutionen för ekonomi och samhälle, Handelshögskolan





## Track B4

# Artificial Intelligence as opportunity and threat

Artificial intelligence is no longer science fiction. When OpenAI released Chat GPT to the public in November 2022, it took no more than 2 months to reach 100 million users. In a short period of time, the technology has opened up a range of new opportunities but also challenges in various industries – from programming to the review of legal contracts.

Even though LLMs (large language models like GPT-3 and GPT-4) get much of the attention, there are other important AI applications in more technical areas. DeepMind's AlphaFold, for example, has quickly managed to map all human protein structures. This breakthrough is expected to revolutionize medical research and lead to new drugs and better treatment methods.

It is undoubtedly easy to see the opportunities with the technology. At the same time, many experts are urging caution. Are we handing over increasingly more important decisions to AI, thereby losing control over our lives and the development of society at large? How can and should we reason about risks and opportunities in relation to a development that is happening so incredibly fast, and is considered to have the potential to create incredible prosperity while also potentially solving the climate crisis, but at the same time risking humanity's downfall?

In this session, Olle Häggström, a professor of mathematical statistics at Chalmers, who do research in AI development, will be our main speaker. Olle is genuinely concerned about the existential risks that uncontrolled AI development could bring. Moderating the seminar is Mattias Sundemo, who is a Sustainability coordinator and a PhD student in the Department of Economics.

### SPEAKERS



**Olle Häggström**, Professor, Applied Mathematics and Statistics, Mathematical Sciences  
Chalmers University of Technology

Moderator



**Mattias Sundemo**, Sustainability coordinator and PhD student, Department of Economics,  
School of Business, Economics and Law



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