



Final Assignment Spring 2014 (2 parts)

From <http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?menu=1300>

Sustainable development goals

One of the main outcomes of the Rio+20 Conference was the agreement by member States to launch a process to develop a set of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which will build upon the Millennium Development Goals and converge with the post 2015 development agenda ([click here for information on different work streams](#)). It was decided establish an "inclusive and transparent intergovernmental process open to all stakeholders, with a view to developing global sustainable development goals to be agreed by the General Assembly".

In the Rio+20 outcome document, member States agreed that sustainable development goals (SDGs) must:

- 1. Be based on Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation.*
- 2. Fully respect all the Rio Principles.*
- 3. Be consistent with international law.*
- 4. Build upon commitments already made.*
- 5. Contribute to the full implementation of the outcomes of all major summits in the economic, social and environmental fields.*
- 6. Focus on priority areas for the achievement of sustainable development, being guided by the outcome document.*
- 7. Address and incorporate in a balanced way all three dimensions of sustainable development and their interlinkages.*
- 8. Be coherent with and integrated into the United Nations development agenda beyond 2015.*
- 9. Not divert focus or effort from the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.*
- 10. Include active involvement of all relevant stakeholders, as appropriate, in the process.*

It was further agreed that SDGs must be:

- Action-oriented*
- Concise*
- Easy to communicate*
- Limited in number*
- Aspirational*
- Global in nature*
- Universally applicable to all countries while taking into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development and respecting national policies and priorities.*

The outcome document further specifies that the development of SDGs should:

- Be useful for pursuing focused and coherent action on sustainable development*
- Contribute to the achievement of sustainable development*
- Serve as a driver for implementation and mainstreaming of sustainable development in the UN system as a whole*
- Address and be focused on priority areas for the achievement of sustainable development*



The Rio+20 outcome document The Future We Want resolved to establish an inclusive and transparent intergovernmental process on SDGs that is open to all stakeholders with a view to developing global sustainable development goals to be agreed by the UNGA. The outcome document mandated the creation of an inter-governmental Open Working Group, that will submit a report to the 68th session of the General Assembly containing a proposal for sustainable development goals for consideration and appropriate action. The outcome document specifies that the process leading to the SDGs needs to be coordinated and coherent with the processes considering the post 2015 development agenda and that initial input to the work of the Open Working Group will be provided by the UNSG in consultation with national governments.

This spring, part of your examination will focus on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG´s)

You will be assigned groups (at the beginning of the semester), and in these groups you will prepare for a role-play. You will also hand in an individual written assignment that relates both to the SDG´s, your personal experiences and the course book "A perfect moral storm" by Gardiner.

See instructions for these 2 parts of the final assignment below. Please do not hesitate to ask me if you have any questions or concerns.

Role play:

Begin by researching and finding out how the process of the SDG´s is structured. Research online for example at:

<http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?menu=1300>

<http://pyramid2030.net/background/>

http://atkisson.com/wwd_research.php

Research and find out your assigned country's standpoint when it comes to the SDG´s. This might prove difficult, but you are allowed educated guesses – as long as they are built on valid assumptions. For example, what are the issues that your country could be expected to press? What would they agree to/not agree to? You are free to contact relevant resource persons to find out more.

At the role play you are going to play representatives from your assigned country. We will have a mock-meeting discussing the goals with different task-forces. It is thus important that you in your group work together before the role-play so that all of you have the same ideas. You can however specialize individually in your group; one person can be more knowledgeable about one issue etc. It is important that you really get in to your roles and seriously research what your countries might be interested in in relation to the meeting.

The idea is that we will formulate the SDG´s at the role-play. It is then very interesting how these will look in relation to the real SDG´s later on.



More information on the details of the role play will be handed out/posted later on this semester but **please start with this assignment as soon as you have been assigned your groups!**

Written Assignment:

In addition to attending and acting in the role play you shall also turn in a written assignment INDIVIDUALLY. This must be handed in by May 29th to malin.ostman.uu@analys.orkund.se The paper should be minimum 2500 words and maximum 3500 words, all the questions should be answered.

Read through all the questions before beginning your writing...

- **How do different worldviews and discourses' concerning what sustainability means/should be affect the process of the SDG's? Reference to relevant literature and or lectures when necessary.**
- **Using Gardiners points, analyze 3 possible frequently discussed solutions to Sustainability problems (you can choose the solutions you discuss yourselves, but keep in mind that you shall use the book as a spring board for your argumentation). Be sure to use references and be clear about when something is your words or those of the author. Use additional literature and sources when relevant.**
- **Who are the actors you see having the most potential to influence the SDG's from your own region/context (for example the EU or Asia). Use arguments and references.**
- **Write a short reflection (around 300-500 words) on the role-play answering the following questions;**
 - **What was the most interesting thing you learned from the process?**
 - **How can you connect what you learned to your future career/studies?**
 - **How was the group-work structured?**
 - **How would you evaluate your own efforts?**