

Instructions for the ‘Global to Local’ Group Project

Global Challenges and Sustainable Futures 2014

As a part of this course you will do a project called “Global to Local” working in groups of six. This is a compulsory part of the examination. In this project you choose a region/city and a sustainability challenge that your group will work with during the whole semester. The goal of this project is to study a sustainability challenge in a specific region from multiple perspectives and to come up with potential solutions to create a more sustainable region or city. This is your chance to develop a vision for the future. You will find all the instructions and background for the project in this document.

Please feel free to contact us when you have any questions regarding the project or group work. Send an email to gcsf@csduppsala.uu.se or come talk to us after class.

Good luck with the project!

Heleen and Ben

1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1.1 Introduction to the Global to Local Project

Key global challenges and possible sustainable solutions are introduced and discussed in the lectures, but generally they will focus more on the global scale. In order to connect the lectures with the real-life situations for people all over the world the group project will focus more on the local scale of cities and regions. Furthermore will this project give you the chance to explore a specific challenge more in depth and you will be able to use your creativity in coming up with potential solutions.

1.2 Region and Challenge Choice

You will be working in groups of six people on a specific region/city and one sustainability challenge. In *Workshop 1: Group Project Kick-Off* you will choose a challenge and region/city and form your project groups. During the workshop you will be able to choose from a variety of sustainability challenges and through the collaboration of the entire class we will narrow down these challenges to a specific problem and connect them to relevant cities/regions. We hope to create an interesting variety of projects to reflect the diversity of today’s global challenges.

Workshop 1 Preparation Task

Think about the challenges and regions/cities you are interested in to explore further. Bring **one keyword** and **one image** of challenges and/regions to Workshop 1. For example, “Plastic waste” and an image of Amsterdam. Email this preparation task to gcsf@csduppsala.uu.se before **Sunday, the 14th of September at 17.00.**

2. PROJECT SET-UP

The project is divided in three phases and it runs throughout the entire semester, starting with a Kick-Off Workshop in the 3rd week. You will find a timeline, including all deadlines, of the project set-up at the end of this document. Although some of the project work will be facilitated by the coordinators, the bulk of the project work will be done out of the classroom, both in the project groups as well as individually. You are expected to organize this work within your groups. To give an indication regarding work load, students are expected to work approximately four-five hours per week on this group project throughout the semester.

Each group will write a report that will be presented during a poster session at the end of the semester. This report will contain both texts that are written individually and as a group. Each group will peer review another report and provide feedback.

If you have any questions or if you get stuck, you can book a time with the coordinators either as an individual or as a group. Please let us know by mail if you want to book a meeting.

2.1 Phase I: Background & Stakeholder Analysis

During the first four weeks of the project, all groups will investigate their chosen region and sustainability problem more in depth. The purpose of this phase is to gain a general understanding of the situation before you develop solutions. As a group you can decide which factors are most interesting for you to investigate, but try to start with a broad overview. Below follow some examples which could be included, but of course you can add your own:

- Which stakeholders are involved in the challenge?
- What are specific cultural factors in the region?
- What is the historical background? How long has this been a challenge and why?
- What initiatives are already in place to address this challenge?
- What are important geographical influences?
- What does everyday life look like for people in this region?
- What are the demographics?

Background & Stakeholder Analysis report

Present your most important findings in a report of 1800-2200 words. In your report you must provide a clear and concise description of both the city, as well as the sustainability challenge in that city. For example include maps, images, graphs, etc. You only have to submit one report per group. We will discuss the reports during Seminar I. Please bring your report to **Seminar 1 on Tuesday, the 14th of October.**

2.2 Phase II: Community Capitals & Solutions

Once the group has a general understanding of the situation, each group member will individually investigate a certain aspect in more detail. You will do this based upon the concept of the “6 Community Capitals” which are introduced in the first chapter of book *Towards Sustainable Communities* by Mark Roseland (2007). Although this concept of the 6 Community Capitals could be seen as a simplistic model of the world and its problems, it can be very helpful when working with the complexity around us. You can read more about the 6 Community Capitals in the course reader where you will find Chapter 1 of Roseland’s book (there are copies of the book in the CEMUS student library). Make sure to read the chapter before you start this stage of the group project.

Each group member will focus on one of the six types of Community Capitals as introduced in Roseland's book:

- Natural Capital – any stock of natural assets that yields a flow of valuable goods and services into the future. For example: a forest, a fish stock or aquifer.
- Physical Capital – the stock of material sources such as equipment, buildings, machinery and other infrastructure that can be used to produce a flow of future income.
- Economic Capital – ways we allocate resources and make decisions about our material lives.
- Human Capital – the knowledge, skills, competencies and other attributes embodied in individuals that facilitate the creation of personal, social and economic well-being.
- Social Capital – the relationships, networks and norms that facilitate collective action or shared knowledge, understandings and patterns of interactions that a group of people bring to any productive activity.
- Cultural Capital – is the product of shared experience through traditions, customs, values, heritage, identity and history.

Based upon the information gathered in the first phase, focus on the most interesting issue for each community capital for your specific situation. Each group member will investigate this specific aspect of the problem further.

When each group member has a thorough understanding of the community capital in the region and challenge, you will, as a group start to explore solutions to address the chosen challenge in a way that is suitable for the region. In order to find a suitable solution it is important to explore many different options, since the first solution is rarely the best solution. Make sure to include perspectives from all community capitals in order to create a holistic solution.

Last, formulate an action plan that includes concrete and creative innovations and solutions to address the sustainability challenge. These innovations and solutions can be in various fields: technological, financial, social, natural, etc. You can also include a solution that covers a variety of fields. Make sure that you present an interesting vision for the future in a concrete and inspiring way!

Draft report

Each group will submit a draft report including a clear introduction to the region and the challenge (the Background & Stakeholder Analysis report), the analysis of the six community capitals and a clear vision for the future with concrete solutions and innovations. Furthermore, ensure that your draft report has a complete reference list. Submit your draft report in PDF-format on [Studentportalen](#) before **Monday, the 17th of November at 17.00.**

2.3 Phase III: Feedback and revisions

On Tuesday, the 18th of November, the course coordinators will send the draft reports and contact information to the opponent groups. Each group has one week to review the draft report and to write and send the feedback. In your feedback focus on the quality of the background information and analysis, as well as on the solution provided (Is the description clear? Is it complete? Does the solution actually address the sustainability challenge? Etc.). Also provide feedback regarding the structure and format of the report.

Send your feedback to the group before **Tuesday, the 25th of November at 17.00** (please include gcsf@csduppsala.uu.se in Cc). The course coordinators will also review the draft reports and provide feedback.

The last three weeks of the project each group has time to work on the feedback received and to finalize the report.

2.4 Final report

Each group will send in one project report which must include the following:

- Front page, including title, date and names of group members
- Abstract
- Table of content
- Introduction: Background & Stakeholder Analysis (group)
- Analysis of the community capital in the specific region and sustainability challenge (individual, 750 - 1000 words each)
- Vision of the solution (group)
- Discussion (group)
- Conclusions (group)
- List of references
- Appendices (if applicable)

The complete report must contain a minimum of 8000 words and not exceed 10.000 words in total. The use of visuals is highly recommended. You have a limited amount of words, so focus on the quality!

2.5 Criteria for final report

While writing your project please follow these guidelines:

- Include all elements mentioned above under 'Final Report' – incomplete reports will not be reviewed.
- Clearly indicate which student has focused on which community capital.
- Use language and a format that is accessible and directed to the potential readers, this may also include readers with no prior knowledge of the subject and region.
- Clearly show when you are using your own words and when you use words from another source, in which case you must use references.
- Support your arguments and basic facts with references.
- Refer properly to sources - use either the Oxford- or Harvard System of referencing.

- Include the sources of all images.
- Try to keep your report short, concise and coherent.
- Stay within the indicated word limits.
- Submit a pdf-file, the file name should be your “CITY” and either “Draft Report” or “Final Report” e.g. CAPE TOWN Draft Report.pdf.
- Submit your report to on [Studentportalen](#) before **Friday, the 12th of December at 17:00**

3. Final Presentation: Poster Session

You will present your group project in a poster session. Each group will create an A1 poster which includes the most important findings as well as a clear representation of the solution in a visual way. For example include maps, inspirational images, key words or graphs. Avoid the use of long texts. Bring your poster to the final session on **Tuesday, the 16th of December**. Please also bring a hard copy of your final report to the poster session.

4. Important to keep in mind/tips

- Make sure that you start on time and that you reserve enough time to work on this project.
- Organizing the group work will be your own responsibility; it will help to make a project plan.
- If you need help from the course coordinators, make sure you ask for help/extra information on time (e.g. not the day before the deadline). It is your own responsibility to contact the course coordinators if you want an extra meeting (which we can always schedule).
- You have various resources to help you with your work, e.g.:
 - Guest lectures
 - “Toward Sustainable Communities” by Mark Roseland in the CEMUS Library
 - “Eaarth” by Bill McKibben
 - GCSF Course Reader
 - Scientific articles and/or books of your own choice
 - Documentaries
 - Contacts in your project region, if you have any. Check with the course coordinators if they might have some contacts for you.
 - Internet and other sources (you must refer properly to sources and not use editable sources such as Wikipedia)

Important dates

- Sunday, 14th of September (17.00) – Submit Workshop 1 Preparation Task
- Monday, the 17th of November (17.00) – Submit Draft Report
- Tuesday, the 25th of November (17.00) – Send feedback to opponent group
- Friday, the 12th of December (17.00) – Submit Final Report

