

**Visions save the earth**

Welcome to this book,  
300 pages of stories, analysis  
about the world in 2030,  
even further ahead  
and also about the present



**Agenda 2030  
is the base**

First, an introduction of the project in Powerpoint format. [click here](#)

The world is working to change  
to an ecologically sustainable society by the year 2030.  
There are many obstacles in the way and one of the biggest is  
that the political will and commitment is far too weak.



## Political will and commitment or the political system?



### *The issue in the background*

(normally in political decision-making assemblies)

There were once three people in power in Sweden named Ulf, Jimmy and Magdalena who tried to work together to implement Agenda 2030's sustainability goals. Ulf represented the Moderates (M), Jimmy represented the Sweden Democrats (SD) and Magdalena represented the Social Democrats (S). Despite their common goal of promoting sustainability and creating a better future for the country, their political domiciles were so different that it paralyzed their work.

Ulf, who was an advocate of market liberalism and privatization, had difficulty accepting ideas that involved government interference or regulation. He was convinced that the market itself could solve the sustainability problems through innovation and entrepreneurship. Ulf often opposed proposals from Jimmy and Magdalena to introduce stricter regulations for the industry or to increase the state's

funding of sustainability projects. He believed that it would involve unnecessary interference by the state and hinder economic growth.

Jimmy, on the other hand, had a nationalist and anti-immigration agenda. He was skeptical of international commitments and collaborations. Jimmy questioned the sustainability goals, claiming that they would burden Swedish taxpayers and benefit other countries at Sweden's expense. He particularly opposed proposals to provide financial aid to developing countries to help them achieve their sustainability goals. Jimmy believed that Sweden should primarily focus on its own citizens and their welfare.

Magdalena had strong social democratic values and saw the sustainability goals as an opportunity to promote equality and justice. She recognized the importance of addressing climate change, reducing inequality and promoting social responsibility. Magdalena advocated for increased government regulation and investment in sustainable projects. She was frustrated by Ulf and Jimmy's resistance to taking strong action and their lack of commitment to achieving the sustainability goals.

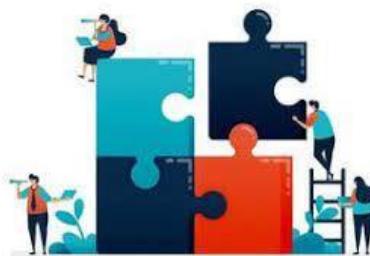
The three leaders held regular meetings and discussions to try to agree on the way forward. But their differences in political domicile and ideology made it difficult to find common solutions. Ulf and Jimmy often saw Magdalena's proposal as a threat to economic growth and national sovereignty. Magdalena, in turn, felt that Ulf and Jimmy's ideological opposition to state interference and international cooperation was hindering progress and holding the country back.

Despite a common understanding that goals to achieve the 2030 Agenda's sustainability goals were urgent and crucial for the future, tactical considerations of power and influence became so important that political cooperation failed. The three incumbents spent more time debating and defending their own positions than actually working together to promote sustainability. The political stalemate prevented the implementation of concrete measures and weakened Sweden's opportunities to take leading steps towards a sustainable future.

The story of Ulf, Jimmy and Magdalena is a reminder of the importance of overcoming political differences and finding common ways forward to achieve the sustainability goals. Real change requires collaboration and compromise across party lines, where politicians can agree on shared values and visions for the future. Only by working together can we create a better and more sustainable world for future generations.

In this story, it is clear that decision makers cannot agree on common goals. Nowhere in the story does the word vision appear, despite the fact that many people in the world believe that politicians lack vision and not giving citizens stories about what future we have to look forward to.

**but it should look like this**



#### ***The issue in focus***

(In higher-level political decision-making processes, this only occurs when world leaders meet to draft texts for conventions and agreements. One has visions)

At a time when Sweden was facing challenges that required a united effort to achieve Agenda 2030's sustainability goals, Ulf, Jimmy and Magdalena were aware that they had to find a way to work together despite their deep-rooted political differences.

Magdalena realized that in order to bridge the gaps between them, she needed to find common values that they could build on. In one of their meetings, she took the initiative to listen to Ulf and Jimmy's concerns. She listened attentively as Ulf described his concerns about overregulation and the weakening of the economy. She also understood Jimmy's concern for the Swedish citizen's welfare.

After listening carefully, Magdalena presented a vision where sustainability and economic growth did not have to be conflicting goals. She suggested that they could work together to design incentives and support measures that would benefit both business and the environment. By emphasizing the innovative power of business and showing how sustainable investments could create jobs and economic prosperity, Magdalena slowly began to win over Ulf and Jimmy's interest.

Jimmy, who had previously been skeptical of international cooperation, began to understand that the sustainability goals were not only about helping other countries, but also about securing Sweden's future. Magdalena highlighted examples of how climate change has already affected Swedish societies and argued that an active role in international collaborations would increase Sweden's security and well-being.

Ulf, for his part, realized that some forms of government intervention might actually be necessary to create a sustainable future. Magdalena presented evidence of how certain regulations had led to positive changes in other countries and increased public confidence in business. Ulf began to open up to the idea that certain regulations could be well balanced and positive for both society and the economy.

After several discussions and debates, the three powers began to see that their differences were not necessarily insurmountable obstacles. They realized that they could find a balance between economic growth, national sovereignty and international cooperation to achieve the sustainability goals.

Together, they devised a strategy that included financial incentives for companies to invest in sustainable projects, while introducing certain regulations to ensure environmental consideration and social responsibility. They also agreed to increase Sweden's participation in international collaborations to deal with global challenges such as climate change and inequality.

It required time and patience, but with Magdalena's stubborn work in building bridges between their different positions and Ulf and Jimmy's openness to new perspectives, Sweden gradually began to move towards achieving Agenda 2030's sustainability goals. Their joint efforts to overcome political obstacles and focus on the larger goal proved to be an important lesson that cooperation and compromise are the keys to creating a better and sustainable future.

In this story we learn that cooperation is required to possibly be able to reach the big goals, visions, which is about the living environment on the planet, and that someone needs to take the first step..

A question of survival cannot be solved without new thinking about how political decision-making should take place.

This requires so much more than deciding on tax cuts or electric shocks and how this money should be distributed among the citizens.

**Conclusions show that politicians' lack of will and commitment is a major reason why 9 of Agenda 2030's 17 global sustainability goals cannot be met.**

**but also in political conferences with world leaders under the auspices  
of the UN  
cooperation, will and determination can produce fantastic results**

Visions the world leaders could agree on in agreements, conventions and Agenda 2030,



It was a historic day in 2015 when world leaders from around the world gathered in a grand conference hall, with flags representing all nations fluttering in the wind. This meeting place in New York was filled with anticipation and hope to agree on a common vision for the future – a vision that would shape the world in the coming years through the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The tall ones, the vaults in the conference hall roofs, echoed with discussions in different languages as leaders from different countries gathered in groups, eager to negotiate an agreement that would benefit all humanity. While they had differences in culture, background and political beliefs, they had a common goal: to create a better and more sustainable future for everyone.

Discussions were intense and sometimes fraught with disagreements, but world leaders were determined to find common ground. They shared their experiences and insights on the challenges their countries faced, and they listened attentively to each other's perspectives. Through constructive dialogue and mutual respect, they worked together to find compromises and solutions.

One of the most prominent moments was when a young leader took to the podium and spoke passionately about the need to include youth voices and perspectives in the 2030 Agenda. This powerful intervention reminded everyone that the future belongs to the young, and that their involvement and ideas are crucial to achieving the goals.

After several days of negotiations and discussions, the world leaders were finally able to agree on a historic agreement. They signed the Agenda 2030 document with solemn signatures, their faces reflecting a mixture of relief, pride and hope for what was to come.

The world leaders realized that the work would not be easy. Implementing the 2030 Agenda and achieving the ambitious goals would require cooperation, commitment and decisive action from all countries and sectors. But in this moment of unity and faith in the future, they knew they had taken a decisive step towards a more sustainable and inclusive world.

As the conference ended and world leaders left the venue, they carried with them a sense of responsibility and hope. They knew they had a challenging journey ahead of them, but they agreed that they would work together to realize the visions of the 2030 Agenda and leave a positive and lasting impact on the planet and its inhabitants.

**In this story, we learn that if politicians are given a clearly defined mission to reach a clearly described goal and do not have the pressure of the voters' wishes on them, then the goal can be achieved.**

**This has been shown ever since 1948 when the Convention on Human Rights was written.**

**The conclusion is that the politicians must receive a definite goal from a client, which, however, are not the widespread wishes of the own electorate.**

**but also in meetings where cooperation, will and determination are central and the goal is specified, unexpected results can be achieved through personal relationships**



**Two world leaders, one from a rich country and the other from a poor country, extended the collaboration beyond what the assignment at the conference required.**

The year was 2015, and two world leaders with different backgrounds and experiences found themselves side by side at the great global conference in New York. On the one hand, we had President Alana Morgan of the prosperous and technologically advanced country of Nova Prospera, with its modern cities and prosperous population. On the other hand, we had President MwambaChibawae from the small and resource-poor country Kirzaziwe, struggling with challenges such as poverty, disease and lack of infrastructure.

The conference hall was filled with lively discussions and flowing speeches about sustainable development and Agenda 2030. President Morgan and PresidentChibawae had previously crossed each other's paths in the corridors, but it was only when they sat down at a small table during a break that they began to talk seriously.

President A stone began by describing the difficult conditions in Kirzaziwe- the lack of clean water, lack of access to healthcare and the challenges that the population faced every day. President Morgan listened attentively, and it was evident that she felt sympathy and compassion forKirzaziwes situation.

Then President Morgan spoke about Nova Prospera's successes in technology, education and economic growth. She shared the country's experiences in dealing with environmental challenges and developing sustainable energy solutions. PresidentChibawae listened with interest and realized that there were opportunities to learn and be inspired from Nova Prospera's successes.

Their conversation continued for several hours, and they began to realize that their countries could actually complement each other. President Morgan offered Nova Prospera's expertise and resources in technology, education and innovation to support Kirzaziwe development. On the other hand, the President offeredChibawae Kirzaziwes rich natural resources and traditional knowledge of sustainable lifestyles and nature conservation.

The two leaders decided to work together to achieve the visions of Agenda 2030 in a way that benefits both countries. They drew up a plan for knowledge exchange, technological cooperation and joint projects to improve water supply and health care inKirzaziwe. President Chibwe promised to open up investment and collaboration

from Nova Prospera, while President Morgan promised to develop programs to train young citizens in Kirzaziwe in modern technology and innovation.

When the two world leaders left the conference, they did so with a sense of hope and optimism. They knew that their collaboration was a living example of how rich and poor countries could come together to create a better future for all. By breaking down borders and building bridges between their countries, they had shown that unity and cooperation were the keys to realizing the visions of Agenda 2030 and creating a more sustainable and just world.

*In this story, we realize that decision makers with incredibly different backgrounds also through personal ties can find forms of cooperation outside the mission they have been given by the UN*

*The conclusion is that political meetings can bring big profits if there is will and commitment*

*The peoples must become one, under the collective name humanity, speak in a voice that can be heard without background noise and the only message must be:*

*“We want decisions that save humanity and other life forms.”*

*In elections in Western democracies, there are opinion polls about the voters' priorities and then it can look like this;*

- 1 more resources against violence and crime,*
- 2 major investments in healthcare,*
- 3 stronger defense,*
- 4 better school*
- 5 more green energy*
- 6. higher pensions*

**Is it possible to get something done about the environmental and climate threats based on this wish list?**

**No, no and again no.**

**It is only possible to mend and patch old systems when you get such a sprawling wish list from the voters.**

**A popular movement must be created.**

**The goal is a united public opinion  
in the most important issues; environment and climate  
and put firm pressure on decision-makers worldwide**

**“Solve environmental and climate change in cooperation with the people, researchers and experts during the coming term!”**

In the northern part of Europe, where the forests stretched to the horizon and the clear blue lakes reflected the sky, there is a country called Sweden. The year is 2022 and it was a time of great changes and challenges. But in the midst of all this, something extraordinary emerged - a citizen's movement that would shape the country's future in ways no one could have imagined.

It started as a whisper among friends, as a glimmer of hope in everyday conversation. People in different parts of the country began to share their concern and commitment to the environment and climate. They realized that they could neither wait for the politicians to act nor let the beautiful landscapes and natural phenomena disappear during their generation. So, like little seeds planted in the ground, their ideas began to germinate and grow.

This civic movement, which was supported by an impressive percentage of the country's inhabitants – as much as 23% of the population – came to be known as the

"Gröna Framtiden". It was a movement that felt a deep and strong connection with nature and decided to act as the protector of the earth.

But there was a paradox in this commitment. In an era where political debates were dominated by different priorities, Gröna Framtiden had a challenge ahead of it. They understood that many of their citizens had important desires and concerns close to their hearts. A desire for lower taxes to relieve the economy, a longing for a well-functioning healthcare system, a stronger defense readiness, and a desire to fight violence and crime to create a safer society.

It was a balancing act that would test the movement's ability to unite and inspire. But they were not put off by the challenge. Instead, they decided to work with openness and mutual respect.

Gröna Framtiden went out with a strong and united voice. They realized that in order to solve the environmental and climate problems, they had to balance different needs and desires. They gathered in city parks, in squares and online to discuss and share their ideas.

Through campaigns, information meetings and workshops, they succeeded in building a broad understanding of the importance of prioritizing the environment and climate. They showed how investing in green energy sources and sustainable initiatives would not only benefit the planet, but also create jobs and strengthen the country's economy in the long term.

In the heat of the election campaign, it presented its demand to the politicians. They emphasized that although there were different wishes and priorities, it was crucial to think about the country's long-term sustainability. They emphasized that by investing in green technologies and investing in the environment and climate, they would also create a more stable and safer future for all citizens.

The politicians could not ignore the powerful citizen movement. They understood that they had a unique opportunity to create real change. Through dialogue and collaboration, they began to formulate an ambitious plan. They restructured budgets and resources to include investments in green energy sources and sustainable projects.

The election results came as a surprise to many. Gröna Framtiden had not only made the politicians listen to their demands, they had also succeeded in changing the landscape of political priorities. It was a victory for the citizens, for the environment and for the future.

And so, in the beautiful country of Sweden, Gröna Framtiden showed the way for a sustainable future. Through a strong community and an open dialogue, they had managed to unite different interests and priorities to tackle one of the most pressing challenges of our time. It was a story of citizen power, of bringing people together and inspiring change – a story of hope and a greener future for all.

*In this story we see our only opportunity to influence development.  
At the national level, politicians cannot make the decisions required in matters of survival.*

*The responsibility falls heavily on us citizens.*

*The politicians are our executors and we must show what they must fulfill  
men*

*It is good for economic and political power to have a divided popular will.*

*This division is catastrophic for humanity and the planet.*

***The conclusion is that the only way to make the decisions that are necessary and urgent is a united public opinion.***

***If we want to achieve it, we need to give up groupthink and realize that all life forms belong to the same group.***

***A holistic approach is the only thing that saves the earth.***



***Finally, the agony and worry about the future is over.***

*Are the visions (the goals in Agenda 2030) our last chance?*



***However, the decisive obstacle is the economic system***

***In an evaluation of all Agenda 2030's 17 sustainability areas, it was stated that 13 of them could not be fulfilled due to finances or economic systems. Therefore, we also need to review the current system and give you a story of a different way of thinking about how an alternative system could be designed.***

***We will turn this around in chapter 19 of the book.***

### ***The book's content***

#### ***Introduction***

#### ***The future if we remain passive***

***Chapters 1 - 17 The theme's goals and subgoals from Agenda 2030.***

***Analysis by Uppsala University (2018) about the situation in Sweden and special difficulties before the transition to a sustainable society.***

***-A story about society in 2030 when the goals are met within each theme area.***

***(-A national and a global personal story, only in Chs 1 and 12)***

***-A description of obstacles that must be overcome to achieve the goals.***

***-A summary of the topic area covered in the chapter.***

-A description of how each sustainability goal is connected to several others, as a whole.

-An obstacle that counteracts the changeover in the form of structure, system or tradition.

**Kap 18 The electricity is the reality - 3 stories.**

**Chap19 Ours economic systems, help or hindrance? An alternative model.**

**Chapter 20 UN report on the situation in the 2022 transition.**

**Ch 21: Move the positions forward.**

**Chapter 22 Prioritize the most important.**

**Chapter 23 Ambiguities seek answers.**

**Chapter 24 Contradictions.**

**Chapter 25 A concrete perception of reality.**

**Chapter 26 The future.**

**Chapter 27 Man, obstacles to the transition**

**Chapter 28 The old orvisions?**

**Summation.**

## Reading tips!

**The book begins by describing the future if warming continues.**

**Then follows Agenda's 17 sustainability areas and what future we can get by fulfilling its goals.**

**3 stories about the future when all goals are met.**

**The economic system and the transition.**

**Report goal by goal how far we have come in 2023.**

**What obstacles and contradictions do we have to fight against?**

**The role of humans in the transition:**

**Keep the old or work against the visions.**

**The book can be seen as a source of inspiration or thought provoking.**

*Use it to delve into areas that interest you the most.*

*When you have read and thought about the content of the themes that interest you the most, then it is time to discover other things that catch your interest..*

*Another way is to just read the stories about how society looks like in 2030 in terms of the desired "theme area" or the four stories about how we will be in 2030 when all milestones are met.*

*In addition, all chapters contain a conclusion on the possibilities of achieving the goals.*

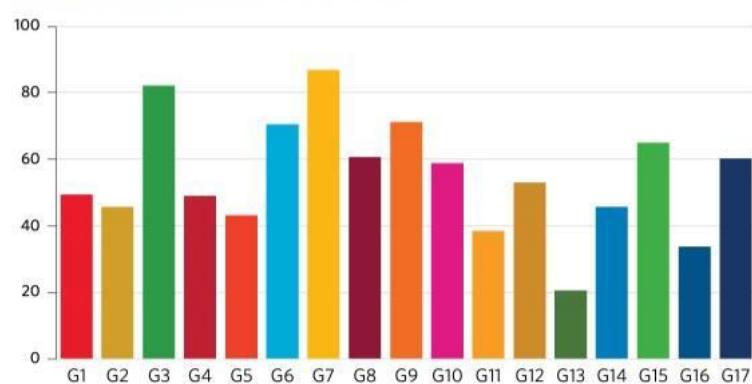
***The goals in the UN's conventions and agreements are goals or visions and today we have the answer to what it costs to just fulfill them "at will".***

***Now has half the time for the change towards Agenda 2030 passed.***

***How far have we come?***

*(The goals in Agenda 2030 are described with G in the diagram)*

Andel länder eller områden med tillgängliga data sedan 2015, efter mål (presentation)



***Here it appears that, Combating the climate G13, is an urgent and neglected area.***

*The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2022 FN.  
(The Report on Sustainable Development Goals 2022)*

***"We must rise to save the Sustainable Development Goals – and stay true to our promise of a world of peace, dignity and prosperity on a healthy planet."***

***António Guterres***

***Secretary-General, United Nations***

***The report can be found in Chapter 20 of the book  
Introduction***

*The UN, the United Nations, has now existed for more than 70 years and has always had very high ambitions about how the world can be made better. They have written conventions, agreements and made a number of decisions under the auspices of the UN together with the over 200 member countries. Some goals have been met reasonably well, but others significantly worse.*

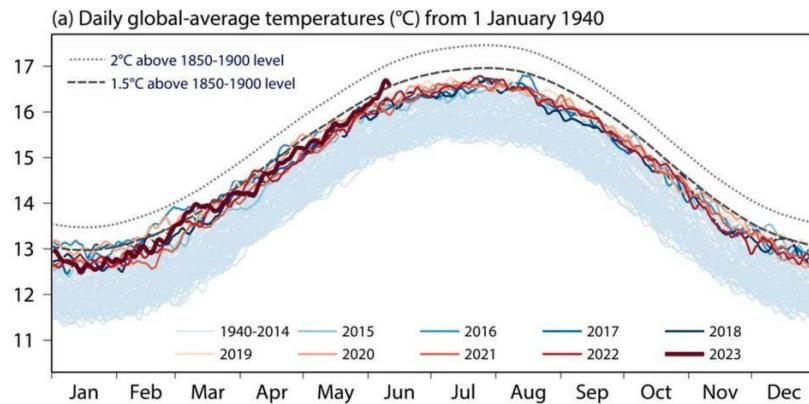
*In 2015, an agreement was reached on the climate in Paris. Not only that, they also published Agenda 2030, which is a goal description of how to succeed in transforming 17 areas of society into an ecologically sustainable world. The UN's member nations were tasked with drawing up action plans in their respective countries for how we are to achieve these 17 different sustainability goals in 2030.*

*However, the work to combat climate change or change to an ecologically sustainable world is not progressing at all at the rate required.*

*We have 35 years of "unfulfilled climate promises" behind us and this "neglect" has created today's emergency situation.*

*An example: In 1995, world leaders pledged to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 20% until the year 2005. The result, an increase of 20%.*

*Earth's average temperature looks like this. Certainly there are occasional deviations for different years and seasons. Hope the measured value right now is a coincidence.*

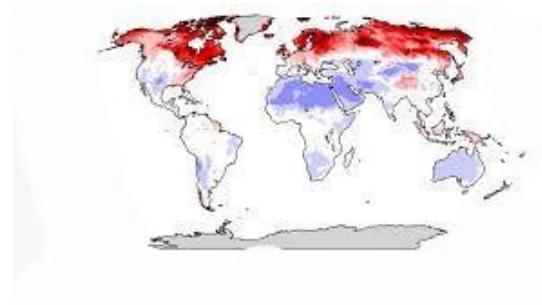


According to the diagram, we could reach an average temperature of 1.6 degrees already in the late autumn of 2023, which is many years earlier than the scientists had calculated.

What do you think when you read what happens at an increased average temperature of 1.5°?

The forecasts indicate that we can temporarily reach +1.5°C warming globally already at the end of the summer. In that case, we already have the described situation today, but we don't notice it very much here in Sweden so far.

Certain areas of the Earth will be hit harder and earlier. The areas north of the Arctic Circle are areas where temperature increases will be 7 times faster than in the world at large.



We are

The fact that all the information shows that we are in the middle of a change, which just ten years ago was seen as a pure doomsday prophecy, is hard to miss.

In the conclusions that I report, about changes in the areas of food, environment, climate, oceans, water, people's situation and economy, it is emphasized that

emissions must be reduced if we are to have a chance for a sustainable future. It doesn't seem too imminent and here in Sweden we have governments that don't care much and that means the situation is under control right?

No matter how we think, feel and wish, the changes will not stop or slow down. Even if we get unlimited green energy, it won't stop the warming. The causes of global warming contain too many interacting parts for such a unilateral measure as speeding up the transition to renewable energy to have any major effect on the course.



The data that the IPCC has presented in its latest reports indicate urgent need to take action to combat climate change and reduce the negative effects to protect people's lives and habitats (and the environments of all life forms, the ecosystems).

If the temperature rises above two degrees Celsius, climate change may reach a point where it is no longer possible to return. We can reach that limit by 2040 if emissions are not drastically reduced.

The beginning of the future is already in the middle of 100s of millions of people and forced out into uncertainty and insecurity, restarting their lives if possible. Here in Sweden we get a period of respite and what should we use that time for?



All over the world, people must now demand that decision-makers do not just consider the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda as visions, to be dealt with as they please.

These are visions that all world citizens must force decision-makers to prioritize as the basis of all political decisions.

Politicians today have no visions and can/can't/don't want to give citizens credible stories about the future.

That is what I will try to do in this book. I will present IPCC reports with summaries and conclusions and all 17 goal areas in Agenda 2030 with goal description, stories, obstacles that exist to achieve the vision/goal, a summary of each goal area and then a summary conclusion on the entire transition work towards the 17 sustainability goals/visions.

***Don't think we can reach +2° temperature increase as early as 2040.***

Environmental and climate changes do not stop and do not slow down because we solve individual goals in Agenda 2030., for example fossil-free energy.

Good health and well-being, No hunger, Clean water and sanitation for all, Good education for all, Sustainable energy for all, Equality, Sustainable consumption and production, Peaceful and inclusive societies, are each important if we are to reach a world where the living conditions are acceptable for all life forms on the planet, including humans.

We can only reach the future that the visions in the Agenda offer us if we meet all the sustainability goals, because they are the basis of the whole in which all forms of life are included.

The compilation below was made by the IPCC about 4 years ago. The consequences when the temperature limits are reached are probably also true today, but have probably been calculated on the low side. The climate models on which the forecasts were based had weaknesses when it came to the times when we would reach the various temperature limits. This was because it was difficult to understand when the so-called tipping points would occur.

The IPCC is an organization that, under the auspices of the UN, compiles the current scientific situation with the help of data from thousands of researchers and experts. Forecasts for the future are also made using various models. It does not have its own research activities.

The future according to the IPCC? What happens when the planet warms?

+1,5° - global average temperature we can, hopefully temporarily, already reach after the summer.

See diagram below.

+1,5° - Heat stress affects livestock production and causes economic losses.

(How it affects people is known in Southern Europe and North Africa)

+2° - we can achieve as early as 2040, depending on how the visions are tackled.

+4° - The loss of income globally is expected to be 23 trillion dollars annually, which corresponds to economic damage 3–4 times greater than the global financial crisis of 2008 caused.

***The greater commitment and will the decision-makers devote to fulfilling the visions, the less our living conditions will deteriorate.***

***The temperature changes are happening faster than the scientists calculated.***

***Citizens around the world must demand that decision-makers learn from research what is required and what it means to fulfill the goals/visions.***

***How far can we go in fulfilling the visions?***

***Every day we wait, the future is negatively affected!***

### **Climate situation IPCC latest report - summary**

The new report released in March 2023 shows that many climate impacts are worse than predicted in the last report from 2014. Earth's climate is changing more and more rapidly, sea levels are rising and the occurrence of various types of extreme weather is increasing. But the report also highlights that the technology and solutions

to stop warming already exist, but the political leadership is missing. The only possibility to limit climate damage is to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases.

What does the IPCC say? (The data comes from a report released over 4 years ago.)

Compare what happens when different temperature limits are reached.  
(1,5°, 2°, 3° and 4° degrees higher temperature)

**Agriculture and food (numbers indicate degree increase in temperature)**

+2° - Wheat and rice production is estimated to decrease by 6 percent and 10 percent, respectively, for each degree increase in temperature.

+3° - Food production is threatened by the increase in temperature, which can lead to shortages of important crops such as wheat, rice and maize in tropical and temperate zones.

+3° - Saltwater intrusion threatens groundwater and agriculture.

+4° - Food shortages and loss of ecosystems globally threaten to wipe out a significant number of species.

**Conclusion**

The conclusion is that temperature increases of 2, 3 and 4° have serious implications for agriculture and food production.

A temperature increase of 2° reduces wheat and rice production by 6 percent and 10 percent for each additional degree.

A 3° temperature increase threatens food production and it can lead to shortages of important crops such as wheat, rice and maize in both tropical and temperate areas. In addition, groundwater and agriculture are threatened by saltwater intrusion.

At a temperature increase of 4° the food supply is threatened and the loss of ecosystems can lead to the extinction of a significant number of species.

It is clear that climate change in these temperature ranges has serious consequences for agriculture and food production, which in turn affects our ability to meet the needs of a growing global population.

It is therefore important to take measures to reduce emissions and adapt to the changing climate conditions to ensure a sustainable and sufficient food supply.

**Environment and ecosystem (numbers indicate degree increase in temperature)**

+1,5° - Climate change is already affecting four fifths of all ecological systems on earth.

+2° - Biodiversity (species richness) is expected to be negatively affected, which may lead to a reduction in the number of species. For example, 99 percent of coral reefs are expected to die at a temperature increase of 2 degrees Celsius. Arctic species will also face challenges to their survival.

+3° - Many mammals, especially the smaller ones, will not survive climate change as they cannot escape to higher ground.

+3° - The Amazon rainforest is expected to lose 40 percent of its surface and the plants will die from the increased heat.

### **Conclusion**

The conclusions about what happens when the average temperature increases, based on the gradual increase in temperature, can be summarized as follows:

+1.5°C: Even with an increase in the average temperature of 1.5 degrees Celsius, the majority of the Earth's ecosystems are affected. Climate change has a significant impact on four fifths of all ecological systems on the planet.

+2°C: At a temperature increase of 2 degrees Celsius, biodiversity, or species richness, is expected to be negatively affected. This can lead to a reduction in the number of species. For example, 99 percent of coral reefs are expected to die at this temperature increase. In addition, Arctic species will face challenges to their survival.

+3°C: At a further temperature increase of 3 degrees Celsius, many mammals, especially the smaller ones, are not expected to survive climate change because they cannot escape to higher ground or adapt to the rapid changes. 3°C:

**-Amazon rainforest**, which is one of the world's most important ecosystems, is expected to lose 40 percent of its surface at a temperature increase of 3 degrees Celsius. In addition, the plants in the rainforest will die from the increased heat, which will have serious consequences for biodiversity and the functioning of ecosystems. These conclusions indicate that increasing average temperatures have serious consequences for the environment and ecosystems on Earth.

These conclusions underline the need to take action to reduce climate change and protect our ecosystems and biodiversity.

### **climate (numbers indicate degree increase in temperature)**

+1,5° - Weather-related disasters have increased by almost 50 percent since the year 2000.

+2° - The number of people affected by floods is expected to increase from today's roughly 500 million to 2 billion in 2050.

+2° - Finally, it is important to note that if the average temperature rises above two degrees Celsius, climate change will reach a point of no return according to climate scientists.

+2° - Heat waves are expected to affect 2.4 billion people annually.

+3° - Floods and water shortages will affect billions of people.

+3° - Heat waves will affect 4.5 billion people annually, which could make cities like Karachi and Calcutta basically uninhabitable.

+4° - Extreme heat waves are expected to become the norm and deadly for many people. Over three quarters of the world's population will be affected by deadly heat waves and air humidity.

+4° - Dry regions are expected to become even drier while areas at higher latitudes and the equator are expected to receive more rain.

## Conclusion

Climate change and the increasing global temperature will lead to serious consequences for people around the world.

Weather-related disasters have already increased significantly since 2000, and if temperatures rise above two degrees Celsius, climate change could reach a point of no return.

Floods, water shortages and heat waves are expected to affect billions of people and make some areas basically uninhabitable. In addition, arid regions are expected to become even drier while areas at higher latitudes and the equator can expect more rain.

These data indicate an urgent need to take action to combat climate change and reduce its negative effects in order to protect human life and habitats.

## people's situation (numbers indicate degree increase in temperature)

+1,5° - The poorest parts of the world are hit the hardest with poorer harvests and fish stocks, which leads to ill health and disease.

+1,5° - Every year, 15 to 20 million people are forced to flee their homes because of weather-related natural disasters.

+2° - Climate change is also expected to increase poverty, with over 100 million people estimated to end up in poverty before 2030.

+3° - Between 200 and 350 million people are expected to be climate refugees in 2050.

### **Conclusion**

The conclusion is that global warming has a significant and negative impact on people's situation.

The increase in temperature leads to increased risks of extreme weather events such as floods, droughts and storms, resulting in loss of life, damage to property and infrastructure, and affecting human health and well-being.

Water scarcity, rising sea levels and loss of natural resources affect access to food and clean water, leading to increased vulnerability and poverty for many people.

In addition, the loss of natural habitats and ecosystems threatens human livelihoods and contributes to the loss of biodiversity.

In order to mitigate these effects and protect the human situation, it is crucial to take action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, adapt communities to climate change and promote sustainable solutions for a more resilient future.

### **the seas (numbers indicate degree rise in temperature)**

+1,5° - The oceans have become more acidic by 26 percent since industrialization began, which affects the coral reefs that are important for ocean ecosystems.

+2° - Sea levels are expected to rise up to 55 cm due to glacier melting, snow melting and increased precipitation. This could lead to flooding and force millions of people to flee, as in the case of Bangladesh where a tenth of the country could end up underwater.

+3° - The sea level could rise by up to 7 meters, which would have serious consequences for coastal areas and countries such as Greenland, Sweden and the Netherlands.

+3° - Ocean acidification continues.

+4° - There is a significant risk of 20–65 percent that the Gulf Stream could stop during this century

## Conclusion

In summary, the oceans are affected by global warming in several ways. Rising sea temperatures and changing climate patterns have led to increased melting of polar ice caps and glaciers, which in turn has contributed to rising sea levels. This causes flooding and coastal erosion that threatens coastal communities and islands around the world.

Changes in the oceans also negatively affect marine ecosystems. Rising ocean temperatures, ocean acidification and oxygen depletion are affecting coral reefs, fish populations and other marine organisms. Coral bleaching and the extinction of some species can have serious consequences for biodiversity and the ecosystem services the oceans provide, including food supply and climate regulation.

Global warming also contributes to intensified weather phenomena such as hurricanes and tropical storms, increasing the risks of damage to coastal communities and infrastructure.

In addition, rising ocean temperatures can give rise to the spread of harmful algal blooms and marine poisoning, affecting the fishing industry and threatening human health.

In order to mitigate the negative effects of global warming on the oceans, a comprehensive international effort is required. It is important to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and switch to renewable energy to limit further warming. In addition, efforts are needed to protect and restore coastal environments, reduce overfishing and combat pollution that contributes to ocean acidification.

By taking action, we can hopefully preserve the oceans and ensure their vital role for the Earth's ecosystems and the well-being of humanity.

## **the poles (numbers indicate degree rise in temperature)**

+1,5° - Greenland and Antarctica are experiencing reductions in ice and snow cover, which could lead to the collapse of their ecosystems and rising sea levels. Island nations such as the Fiji Islands and Kiribati are affected by rising sea levels and are at risk of disappearing entirely.

+4° - The snow cover in the northern hemisphere will decrease by 25 percent and the Arctic may be ice-free in summer as early as 2050.

## Conclusion

The oceans are becoming more acidic, sea levels are rising and ocean acidification continues with rising temperatures. These conclusions show the serious consequences of the increase in temperature for the polar regions and the oceans.

It is necessary to take measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and prevent further warming in order to protect these vulnerable ecosystems and prevent the negative consequences for people and the environment.

#### **water (numbers indicate degree increase in temperature)**

+2° - Almost 2 billion will suffer from water shortages.

+3° - Saltwater intrusion threatens groundwater and agriculture.

+3° - Floods and water shortages will affect billions of people.

+4° - Glaciers are shrinking globally by 90 percent, which threatens the supply of drinking water for a sixth of the population.

#### **Conclusion**

The conclusion is that an increase in the average temperature has serious consequences for the availability of water.

At a temperature increase of 2° nearly 2 billion people will suffer from water shortages.

At a temperature increase of 3° saltwater intrusion threatens groundwater and agriculture. Floods and water shortages will affect billions of people.

A temperature increase of 4° is reducing glaciers globally by 90 percent, threatening the supply of drinking water for a sixth of the population.

These conclusions point to the need to take measures to manage water scarcity, protect water resources and adapt to the changing conditions resulting from the increase in temperature.

#### **the air (numbers indicate degree increase in temperature)**

+3° - Up to two billion people will breathe air with dangerously high pollution levels according to the WHO.

#### **Conclusion**

Air quality is expected to be negatively affected by temperature increases as a result of global warming. Higher temperatures and changing climate patterns can have several consequences for air quality.

First, increased temperatures can lead to increased ground-based ozone formation. High levels of ozone in ground-level air can be harmful to human health and worsen respiratory diseases such as asthma.

In addition, heat waves and high temperatures can increase the need for air conditioning and energy production, which can lead to increased emissions of pollutants from industries and vehicle exhaust.

Second, temperature increases can affect the dispersion and concentration of airborne particles, such as pollutants, dust and pollen. Wind patterns and temperature changes can affect the dispersion of these particles, which can lead to increased exposure to hazardous substances and allergens.

It can result in increased risk of respiratory diseases and reduced air quality, especially in densely populated urban areas.

In order to meet these challenges and protect air quality in the event of temperature increases, it is necessary to take measures to reduce emissions of pollutants and greenhouse gases.

Switching to renewable energy, promoting energy efficiency, improving vehicle emissions and implementing effective air quality regulations are some examples of actions that can be taken. In addition, investments in green and sustainable cities and increased awareness of the health risks of air pollution can play an important role in improving air quality and reducing its impact on human health and well-being.

#### **economy (numbers indicate degree rise in temperature)**

+1,5° - Heat stress affects livestock production and causes economic losses.

+4° - Global income loss is expected to be \$23 trillion annually, which represents economic damage 3-4 times greater than the 2008 global financial crisis.

#### **Conclusion**

The increasing global temperature is expected to have significant consequences for the world economy. Temperature increases may affect different sectors and areas in different ways, but overall there are expected to be negative economic effects.

An increase in global temperature can lead to changing weather patterns, including extreme weather events such as floods, droughts and storms.

These events can result in damage to infrastructure, loss of property and disruption of production chains.

In addition, agriculture may suffer from reduced harvests, water shortages and degraded soil quality, which can affect food production and prices.

Coastal communities and low-lying areas can be severely affected by sea level rise and flooding, which can lead to the need for expensive conservation measures and affect property values.

The tourism sector may also be adversely affected, as some destinations may

experience changing climate conditions and ecosystems that may affect the visitor experience.

Dealing with these economic challenges requires extensive adaptation measures and investments in resilience. It includes developing and implementing sustainable solutions for energy production, promoting climate-smart agriculture and water management, and diversifying economic sectors to reduce vulnerability to climate change.

To limit the economic impact of rising global temperatures, it is also necessary to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and take measures to combat global warming. This could mean switching to renewable energy, promoting energy efficiency and adopting international agreements and regulations to reduce emissions.

Ultimately, it is critical to act quickly and decisively to adapt to and mitigate the economic impacts of rising global temperatures. By doing this, we can work towards a more sustainable and resilient world economy for the future.

## Chapter 1



### Goal 1 No poverty

Poverty includes more dimensions than the economic one. Poverty also means lack of freedom, influence, health, education and security. It is usually called multidimensional poverty. Today, 1.3 billion people live in multidimensional poverty, and half of these are under 18 years of age.

Lack of food, healthcare, safety and clean water kills thousands of people every day, but since 1990 extreme poverty has been cut in half. Goal 1 is about abolishing poverty in all its forms and giving all people in the world a chance for a dignified and safe life.

Sweden has a well-developed welfare system and a high standard of living. Income differences have increased steadily since the 1990s. Fighting poverty is an

overarching goal for development policy and Sweden is a strong aid nation. Where are weaknesses in society?

Increasing income inequality and a higher percentage living in relative poverty. Income differences between women and men. There is no official national definition of poverty, which means, among other things, difficulties in knowing how poverty should be measured. Certain groups (born abroad, people with a lower level of education, children of single parents, people with disabilities, single women with children and female pensioners) run a greater risk of financial vulnerability.



### ***Analysis for the transformation of Sweden (2018)***

#### ***Summary***

Sweden has a well-developed welfare system and a high standard of living. Globally, income differences are small, but have increased steadily since the 1990s. Fighting poverty is an overarching goal for development policy and Sweden is a strong aid nation.

Some identified challenges based on Agenda 2030:

Increasing income inequality and a higher percentage living in relative poverty.

There is no official national definition of poverty, which means, among other things, difficulties in knowing how poverty should be measured (SCB).

Certain groups (born abroad, people with a lower level of education, children of single parents, people with disabilities, single women with children and female pensioners) run a greater risk of financial vulnerability.

Income differences between women and men.

***GOAL in sight***



- If you live on less than SEK 1.96 per day, it is considered extreme poverty. By 2030, no person in the world should live in extreme poverty.
- The number of people who are poor in the world must at least be halved. Each country must decide for itself what counts as poverty.
- Every state must have systems for help, security and protection for those who, for example, are ill, unemployed or in some other way need financial help.
- People who are poor and vulnerable in other ways are more affected by natural disasters, disease and economic crisis. We need to build systems that protect them when that happens



***Society 2030 (3 stories) when the goals are fulfilled***

Oh the year is 2030 and the world has made a breathtaking journey towards eradicating poverty in all its forms. By meeting the overall goal and all sub-goals within sustainability area 1, No Poverty, humanity has created a more just and inclusive world.

In this future, global economic and social systems are designed to combat poverty. Through stronger international solidarity and cooperation, we have succeeded in creating a global economy that is more balanced and fair. An equal distribution of resources and opportunities is now the norm, which has narrowed the gaps between rich and poor.

No one lives in extreme poverty or lives below the absolute poverty line anymore. By investing in education, healthcare, and social safety nets, we have ensured that every individual has access to basic rights and opportunities. Everyone has access to nutritious food, clean water, sanitation and housing.

Poverty alleviation has not only been about providing immediate emergency solutions. Instead, the world has invested in building a sustainable foundation for

future economic growth and development. By promoting education and vocational training, we have created the conditions for people to be able to get out of poverty in the long term. Everyone has the opportunity to participate in working life and contribute to society's progress.

In this future, vulnerable groups and marginalized communities are also included and protected. Women, children, the elderly and people with disabilities have the same rights and opportunities as everyone else. By promoting equality and social justice, we have created a world where no one is discriminated against or left out.

Societies are strong and resilient. By investing in local governance and sustainable development at the grassroots level, we have promoted economic prosperity and social well-being. People are engaged in decision-making and have the right to influence the decisions that affect their lives and communities.

In this world, poverty is no longer a barrier to achieving one's full potential. People have access to education and opportunities to follow their dreams and interests. Innovative solutions and entrepreneurship flourish, leading to economic growth and community development.

This future has not only eradicated poverty but has also paved the way for a more sustainable and just world. Humanity has learned that solidarity and cooperation are the keys to overcoming global challenges. We have created a world where no one has to suffer from poverty, and where everyone has the opportunity to live a dignified and meaningful life.

(Stories 2 and 3 come after the description of the obstacles to success)



***Obstacles to achieving the goals***

Although the described future sounds positive and desirable, there are still obstacles and challenges that could prevent the world from looking like this in 2030. Here are some possible obstacles:

- ★ Inequality and poverty: If inequality and poverty continue to be widespread, it may be difficult to achieve a world without hunger. If people do not have access to

resources, education and opportunities, they can still suffer from malnutrition and food insecurity.

- ★ Climate change: Climate change can have a negative impact on food production. Extreme weather events such as drought, floods and pests can destroy crops and reduce food availability. To fight hunger, we must adapt agriculture to climate change and reduce emissions that contribute to the warming of the planet.
- ★ Environmental degradation and soil depletion: If agricultural practices continue to be unsustainable, it can lead to environmental degradation and soil depletion. If the soil loses its fertility, it will be difficult to produce enough food to support the population. Sustainable agricultural practices and conservation of soil productivity are essential to avoid these problems.
- ★ Conflicts and political instability: Conflicts and political instability in different parts of the world can complicate efforts to fight hunger. War and social unrest can destroy infrastructure, disrupt food production and prevent efficient allocation of resources.
- ★ Deficiencies in infrastructure and access to resources: Inadequate infrastructure for transporting and storing food can lead to major losses along the food chain. If people lack access to basic resources such as clean water and energy, it can be difficult to maintain sustainable food production.
- ★ Lack of political will and global cooperation: Fighting hunger at the global level requires political will and strong global cooperation. If countries do not prioritize the fight against hunger or do not cooperate to share resources and technology, it may be difficult to achieve the overall goals.

Overcoming these obstacles and achieving a world without poverty requires a broad set of measures, including political commitment, financial support, social programs, education, sustainable development and international cooperation. It also requires addressing the underlying causes of poverty, such as inequality, lack of access to resources and social injustice.



Story 2

**Sweden's face of poverty 2018.**

"When I sat down to write about Charlotta von Zweigbergk's book The poverty trap, I

recently visited social services. The reason is a low social security fund that has been lowered to a level where it hardly covers my rent. I also have bills to pay and a need to eat at least once a day. So I can't choose, I have to go there.

Of course I'm ashamed and think it feels boring. For many years I have supported myself through longer and shorter temporary work as a teacher, but the situation has gradually changed. Permanent employment is out of the question because I do not have a teacher's license and now the Swedish Social Insurance Agency's rules around part-time work have made the situation difficult for me to the point that it no longer holds. So I drag myself to the social services big stack of papers to be nailed down by a social worker and after a relatively neutral conversation I surrender myself into her hands. It doesn't feel good, but like the self-employed Beata in *Fattigfållan*, I have no other choice.

The poverty trap is a profoundly shocking story about how a fully functioning citizen carelessly descends to the bottom of society through the gigantic hole that has been torn open in our social safety net. Her misery begins when she falls ill and ends up in hospital. The sick pay is delayed, the bills pile up and it takes time before Beata gets in touch with social services, where her real hell begins.

The social worker appears more or less like an ice-cold sadist who searches with a magnifying glass to find something that can delay Beata's money. Her home insurance is too expensive, her rent is too much, even though it's below average, and she's being told, tired and sick, to move. Some months she receives no money at all, she receives payment notices and becomes dependent on friends and acquaintances. In the meantime, she is asked to rest even though the stress is tearing her apart from the inside and she barely has food for the day.

Beata, a real person according to Charlotta von Zweigbergk, is treated exceptionally badly. The social worker mercilessly swoops down like an ill-tempered hawk on every little request and seems to relish every rejection. And blessed friends are often ignorant of what is really difficult. She often feels guilty and begins to cultivate bitterness against the entire social apparatus and against the lack of understanding of poverty which has grown up like a weed in our increasingly polarized Society.

It takes five years before her suffering finally comes to an end. During that time, she has periodically descended so deeply into the poverty trap that she stole food from a neighbor when she was a flower guard, was forced to give up her business, ended up with the Crown Bailiff, sought help from the City Mission and fell out with friends and relatives who and the bottom believes that it is Beata herself who is careless, not the society that denies her help.

The poverty trap may sometimes feel somewhat exaggerated, mainly in the sections about the conflicts with society, they are not always quite so mean, but in the depiction of the crippling poverty that affects Beata, Charlotta von Zweigbergk strikes a tone that really stings. It is precisely this devastating to be poor in Sweden today. Both I and many others who have worked our way up know that low A-kassa and precarious employment. Society no longer stands up. Something to think about for those who have chosen to look down on "can collectors and stretched cardboard cups".

ELISABETH BRÄNNSTRÖM



Story 3

### ***Southern Africa, drought and rain affect farmers.***

When Filta Natala thinks about how to answer the question, she falls silent for a long time. "Black," she finally says. The question was: Now that the harvest has become lousy, the wells are dry, and the drought and famine are already here, how do you see the next six months without rain?

52-year-old Filta Natala iHufwa in southern Zambia has eight children and three grandchildren. Several of the children have moved out, but she still has a large burden of support. Now she doesn't know how to handle it. It is not the first time that she and her family have been affected by the drought.

- But this year it is worse than usual. In addition, we are not allowed to sell animals.

In Zambia's Southern Province, many farmers have cows and goats. They usually act as a kind of buffer when times are bad. If the harvest has been bad, you can sell a cow or a couple of goats and in that way get money to buy food and pay school fees.

It doesn't work this year. There is foot and mouth disease in the southern province and all sales of animals are prohibited. So when the wells run dry and the ponds where the animals are supposed to drink are already dry, there are no alternatives.

- I don't know what we're going to eat tomorrow, says Filta. And how we're going to get through the rest of this year... I just don't know.

It has been different in previous years.

- Before, we have always managed, even if it has been tough at times. But this year there is hunger in the village.

Member of a cooperative supported by We Effect

In this way, she has had a bit more of a say and, unlike many other women, now has her own piece of land to cultivate. It is a result of work together with the Zambia Land Alliance where leaders within the traditional system have been influenced for a long time. Nowadays there are certificates for ownership of land and women have gained greater rights. Among other things, they have the right to stay on the farm if the husband dies.

- But I couldn't eat so much corn and sunflowers in time this year. My husband used the only draft animals we have in the family and I had to wait until January to be able to use them. By the time it was my turn, the drought had already set in and nothing sprouted.

When she gets to decide whether the income goes most of it to the children, to school fees and food.

- Men reason a little differently. They think it is more important to buy more animals, to expand the farm.

A savings and loan group has been started.

She describes the last few years' work with the Zambia Land Alliance as an awakening.

- Before, we were ignorant. We didn't think much about what rights we should have in terms of access to land. Things are better now, although we still have a long way to go. But when we work together, talk to each other and help each other, we move forward.

Filta talks excitedly about the progress on the land issue. She also says that they started a savings and loan group together, as an alternative to the commercial banks. But then her gaze becomes heavy again when she thinks about the financial reality.

- That's good, of course. But we haven't been able to save anything in the last two months. And I don't know when I'll be able to put anything away again. "The next six months or more... well, I don't know how I'm going to cope".\*

## Summary



In conclusion, there are several obstacles and challenges that may hinder the possibility of achieving a world without poverty by 2030, despite progress being made.

Inequality can continue to be a challenge if the distribution of resources and opportunities does not become more equitable.

Economic growth can be affected by crises, conflicts and lack of investment in developing countries.

Conflict, political instability and violence can impede progress in poverty reduction by destroying economic and social structures.

Climate change and environmental impacts can worsen poverty by affecting people's livelihoods and access to resources.

Lack of education and skills makes it difficult for people to break out of the cycle of poverty.

Lack of political commitment and will as well as demographic challenges can also affect poverty reduction.

Overcoming these obstacles requires a broad set of measures, including political commitment, financial support, social programs, education, sustainable development and international cooperation. It is also important to address the underlying causes of poverty, such as inequality and lack of access to resources and social injustice.

## *Links to other targets*

No poverty is an overarching goal that is linked to and affects several other goals within the agenda. Below are some examples of other goals that depend on or have connections to goal 1:



Goal 2: No hunger - Eradicating poverty also means ensuring that people have access to sufficient, nutritious food and thereby avoiding hunger. Goal 1 and Goal 2 are intimately linked as poverty is often one of the causes of malnutrition and food insecurity.

Goal 3: Good health and well-being -Poverty can have a negative impact on the health and well-being of people. Eradicating poverty can improve access to health services, reduce inequalities and promote overall health.

Goal 4: Good education -Poverty can be a significant barrier to access to education. By eradicating poverty, you can ensure that all children and young people have equal opportunities for education, regardless of economic background.

Goal 5: Equality - Poverty hits women and girls particularly hard and can exacerbate gender inequalities. By fighting poverty, you can help promote gender equality and strengthen women's economic empowerment.

Goal 8: Decent working conditions and economic growth -Poverty is strongly linked to unemployment and lack of economic growth. By eradicating poverty, one can promote the creation of decent and productive jobs, as well as promote sustainable economic growth.

Goal 10: Reduced inequality - Poverty is one of the most important factors contributing to inequality within and between countries. By reducing poverty, you can help reduce inequality and promote a fairer distribution of resources.

These are just a few examples of how goal 1 of Agenda 2030 is dependent on and has connections to other goals. Through working together to achieve all these goals we can create a more just and sustainable world.

### ***Conclusion***

In order to achieve goal 1 in Agenda 2030, which is to eradicate poverty in all its forms and everywhere, extensive changes and efforts are required at various levels in society.

On a global level, we must reorganize our society and economic system to prioritize sustainability and justice. This means combating the excessive use of natural resources and moving to a circular economy that promotes reuse, recycling and waste reduction. We must also reduce inequality and ensure that economic growth benefits all sections of society, including the most vulnerable.

At the national level, it is important that governments adopt policies and strategies to reduce poverty. This can include creating social safety nets and safety nets for the most vulnerable population groups, investing in education and health care, and promoting economically inclusive growth. It also requires political will and leadership to prioritize sustainability and justice in all political decisions.

At the individual level, a change in behavioral patterns and consumption habits is required to combat poverty. Education and awareness-raising are important tools for changing attitudes and promoting a sustainable lifestyle. In addition, social engagement and collaboration in the form of microfinance and entrepreneurship development can help reduce poverty and promote economic empowerment.

However, there are obstacles and challenges that hinder progress in this area. Political opposition, socio-economic factors, cultural challenges and a lack of knowledge and awareness among the general public can hamper efforts to eradicate poverty. Overcoming these barriers requires political will and leadership, education and awareness-raising, and collaboration between different stakeholders.

In summary, the achievement of goal 1 of the 2030 Agenda requires significant changes at the global, national and individual level. It requires a reorganization of society and the economy to prioritize sustainability and justice, political commitment and leadership, education and awareness-raising, and changes in behavioral patterns and consumption habits. By implementing these changes, we can strive to eradicate poverty and create a more just and inclusive world for all.

## **Chapter 2**



### **Goal 2 No hunger**

Hunger is one of the leading causes of death in the world and in 2023 approximately 821 million people in the world live in hunger. Lack of food is a human disaster that has long-term effects on people's health and society's opportunity for development and growth. Our planet has provided us with enormous resources, but unequal access and inefficient management leave millions of people malnourished.

Access to sufficient and nutritious food is a human right that every state has an obligation to ensure for its citizens. By promoting sustainable agriculture with modern technology and fair distribution systems, we can ensure access to sufficient and nutritious food for all.

### ***Analysis for the transformation of Sweden (2018)***



#### ***Summary***

For Sweden, hunger and malnutrition are not the biggest challenges, but rather the sustainable production and consumption of food. There are clear connections between eating habits, health and the environment.

Some identified challenges based on Agenda 2030:

Low level of food self-sufficiency.

Food consumption has a negative environmental and climate impact (eg high meat consumption and large food waste).

Unhealthy eating habits combined with a lack of physical activity lead to increased overweight, obesity and ill health, which also has socio-economic connections.

Swedish agriculture operates in a competitive market and within certain production branches profitability is low.

Swedish discretion in agricultural policy is limited to and dependent on being able to influence the EU's common policy and international trade agreements.

Swedish food consumption is both health- and environmentally unsustainable.

#### ***GOAL in sight***



- No people in the world should be without food and nutrition. Especially those who are poor and vulnerable, such as young children, must have access to enough food throughout the year.
- No people should receive too little nutrition. In particular, children under the age of five, teenage girls, pregnant and lactating women and elderly people must have their nutritional needs met.
- Small farms must produce twice as much. The small producers of food will receive twice the income, especially if they are among others women, families who have agriculture or the indigenous people of a country.
- The systems for producing food must become more sustainable and preserve ecosystems. Agricultural methods that are sustainable and increase production must be introduced. Agriculture also needs to be able to adapt to things like climate change and extreme weather.



**Society 2030 story when the goals are fulfilled**

The year is 2030 and the world has made tremendous progress towards eradicating hunger in all its forms. By meeting the overall goal and all sub-goals within sustainability area 2, No Hunger, humanity has created a world where no one suffers from malnutrition or food shortages.

A new era of sustainable and fair food production has taken shape. By promoting sustainable agricultural systems and efficient use of resources, we have succeeded in increasing global food production. Local farmers have access to the knowledge, technology and resources needed to grow and produce food sustainably. By using innovative solutions and modern farming methods, we have increased productivity while reducing the negative impact on the environment.

No human being suffers anymore from hunger or nutrition. By promoting a fair distribution of resources and closing the gap between rich and poor, we have ensured that everyone has access to nutritious food. The food is not only sufficient in quantity, but also varied and healthy.

Combating food loss and food waste has become a priority. By improving the infrastructure for food transport and storage, we have reduced food waste and losses along the entire food chain. No food is wasted, and resources are used efficiently to provide for all people.

This future is also characterized by global cooperation and solidarity. Rich countries actively assist and share technology, knowledge and resources with developing countries to support their efforts to eradicate hunger. International organizations and non-governmental actors play an important role in coordinating efforts and ensuring a fair distribution of resources.

In this world, sustainable food production and consumption are part of our everyday life. People are aware of the importance of making conscious choices when it comes to food. We prioritize locally produced food and support small-scale farmers. By reducing meat consumption and promoting a more plant-based diet, we have reduced the environmental impact and freed up resources to provide for more people.

Fighting hunger is not only about providing people with food, it is also about creating sustainable and long-term solutions. We invest in education and knowledge about agriculture and nutrition to ensure that communities can continue to support themselves well into the future.

This future is characterized by a world where no one suffers from hunger anymore. People have access to nutritious food, are healthy and can focus on their personal and societal development. We have succeeded in creating a world where food is a basic right and where no one has to go hungry.



***Obstacles to achieving the goals***

Although the described future sounds positive and desirable, there are still obstacles and challenges that could prevent the world from looking like this in 2030. Here are some possible obstacles:

★ Inequality and poverty: If inequality and poverty continue to be widespread, it may be difficult to achieve a world without hunger. If people do not have access to

resources, education and opportunities, they can still suffer from malnutrition and food insecurity.

- ★ Climate change: Climate change can have a negative impact on food production. Extreme weather events such as drought, floods and pests can destroy crops and reduce food availability. To fight hunger, we must adapt agriculture to climate change and reduce emissions that contribute to the warming of the planet.
- ★ Environmental degradation and soil depletion: If agricultural practices continue to be unsustainable, it can lead to environmental degradation and soil depletion. If the soil loses its fertility, it will be difficult to produce enough food to support the population. Sustainable agricultural practices and conservation of soil productivity are essential to avoid these problems.
- ★ Conflicts and political instability: Conflicts and political instability in different parts of the world can complicate efforts to fight hunger. War and social unrest can destroy infrastructure, disrupt food production and prevent efficient allocation of resources.
- ★ Deficiencies in infrastructure and access to resources: Inadequate infrastructure for transporting and storing food can lead to major losses along the food chain. If people lack access to basic resources such as clean water and energy, it can be difficult to maintain sustainable food production.
- ★ Lack of political will and global cooperation: Fighting hunger at the global level requires political will and strong global cooperation. If countries do not prioritize the fight against hunger or do not cooperate to share resources and technology, it may be difficult to achieve the overall goals.

*These are just a few examples of obstacles that could prevent the world from looking as described by 2030. Overcoming these challenges requires the efforts and commitment of governments, international organizations, civil society and individuals worldwide*



**Summary**

The goals for the year 2030 are ambitious when it comes to ending hunger and ensuring that everyone has access to nutritious food. The main points include that no one should be without food and nutrition, especially those most vulnerable like young children. Small farms are expected to produce more and small-scale producers should receive higher incomes. Sustainable food production and climate adaptation are also central goals.

In the positive vision for 2030, the world has achieved these goals. A new era of sustainable and fair food production has led to no one suffering from hunger or malnutrition. Food production has increased through sustainable farming systems and resource efficiency. Combating food loss and food waste is a priority, and global cooperation and solidarity play an important role.

However, there are obstacles to achieving these goals, including inequality and poverty, climate change, environmental degradation, conflict, lack of infrastructure and political will. Overcoming these challenges requires cooperation at a global level and commitments from various actors in society.

[Links to other targets](#)



***This goal has a strong connection to and affects several other goals within the agenda. Here are some examples of other goals that depend on or have connections to goal 2:***



Goal 1: No Poverty - Hunger and poverty are intimately linked. Without access to sufficient food, people become vulnerable to poverty and malnutrition. Achieving zero hunger is therefore a central part of eradicating poverty in all its forms.

Goal 3: Good health and well-being - Access to nutritious food is essential to maintaining good health and well-being. Hunger and malnutrition can lead to a range of health problems, such as immune deficiency, stunted growth and disease. Ending hunger can improve public health and promote well-being.

Goal 4: Good education - Hunger and malnutrition can affect children and young people's ability to concentrate, learn and develop. By ensuring that children and young people get enough nutrition, you can help create a foundation for a good education and promote equal opportunities for all.

Goal 5: Gender equality – Women and girls make up a large part of the global agricultural sector and are important actors in food production. Promoting gender equality and economic opportunities for women in agriculture can help increase productivity and improve food security.

Goal 13: Combat climate change - Food production and food supply are affected by climate change. Reduced harvests, increased drought and changing weather patterns can lead to food insecurity and increased hunger. By promoting sustainable agricultural methods and adapting to climate change, you can contribute to securing the food supply.

Goal 17: Partnerships for Implementation - Achieving zero hunger requires collaboration between governments, civil society, the private sector and international organizations. By creating strong partnerships and mobilizing resources, you can effectively work to ensure a sustainable and fair food supply.

***These are some examples of how goal 2 in Agenda 2030 is dependent on and has connections to other goals. By integrating efforts to achieve these goals, we can promote sustainable development and a world without hunger and malnutrition.***

### ***Conclusion***

In order to achieve goal 2 of Agenda 2030, which is to eliminate hunger and achieve food security, we must implement significant changes in society at several different levels.

On a global level, it is required that we shift our focus from a production-oriented growth model to a sustainable and fair model. This means that we must prioritize sustainable agriculture and food production that respects the boundaries of ecosystems and promotes biodiversity. We also need to increase our efforts to reduce food waste and losses along the entire food chain, from production to consumption.

At the national level, governments must adopt policies and strategies that promote investment in agriculture, improve land tenure for smallholders and small-scale farmers, and strengthen social safety nets for the most vulnerable population groups. It is also important to invest in education and research in agriculture and nutrition to improve the productivity and sustainability of food production.

At the local level, communities need to promote a transition to more sustainable and self-sufficient food systems. This can mean supporting local food production, promoting urban farming, and promoting nutritious and varied diets at the individual level. It is also important to ensure access to clean water and sanitation, as this is critical to achieving good nutrition and food security.

To implement these changes, we must also foster collaboration and partnership between various stakeholders, including governments, civil society, the private sector and research institutions. Only by working together can we share knowledge, resources and best practices to accelerate progress towards Goal 2.

In summary, the achievement of goal 2 of Agenda 2030 requires significant changes in society at global, national and local level. It requires a transition to sustainable food systems, policy measures, investments in agriculture and nutrition, and a strong commitment from different actors. By implementing these changes, we can work together to eliminate hunger and promote food security for all.

In order to achieve goal 2 of Agenda 2030, which is to eliminate hunger and achieve food security, we must implement significant changes in society at several different levels.

### ***System or structure that can strengthen or hinder the transition.***

#### ***The importance of the free market- story***

There was once a world that had set ambitious goals to achieve sustainable development. These goals were called the Agenda 2030 sustainability goals and included everything from fighting poverty and hunger to promoting gender equality and protecting the environment. But to achieve these goals was required an integrated and comprehensive effort by all of society, including the free market.

In this world, the free market was a driving force for economic growth and innovation. Businesses and entrepreneurs had the opportunity to create value and generate profits by offering products and services that meet consumer needs. But at the same time, it was important to ensure that the free market functioned in harmony with the sustainability goals established in Agenda 2030.

One of the most tangible effects of the free market on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda was its ability to prioritize economic growth and reduce poverty. When businesses invested in local communities and created employment, living standards rose and inequality fell. By offering education and vocational training to people in vulnerable situations, the free market could increase their ability to integrate into the economy and thereby reduce poverty and social exclusion.

Another important role that the free market played was driving innovation and technological development. Through incentives such as competition and potential profits, companies were encouraged to find new solutions to meet the sustainability challenges. For example, companies in the energy sector could invest in renewable energy sources and energy efficiency technologies to reduce carbon emissions and help fight climate change. Similarly, companies in the food industry could work to reduce food waste and promote sustainable agricultural practices to fight hunger and protect ecosystems.

At the same time, it was necessary to establish rules and frameworks for the free market to ensure that it doesn't cause damage to the environment or undermine the social progress made. Regulations could be established to promote responsible business and sustainable business practices. This could include rules to reduce pollution, promote human rights and protect worker welfare. By establishing these rules, it was possible to ensure that the free market worked as a tool to achieve the sustainability goals and not as an obstacle to them.

## ***Chapter 3***



### **Goal 3 Good health and well-being**

Good health is a fundamental prerequisite for people's ability to reach their full potential and to contribute to society's development. Human health is affected by economic, ecological and social factors.

In recent decades, great progress has been made to improve human health globally, for example, child mortality has decreased by 50% since 1990. Investments in health through preventive measures and modern and effective care for all benefit the development of society at large and create the conditions for people's basic rights to well-being.



### ***Analysis for the transformation of Sweden (2018)***

#### ***Summary***

The population in Sweden has a high average life expectancy, good self-rated health and good access to healthcare. However, health is unevenly distributed between different groups in society. There are also several global health challenges where Swedish commitment and action are needed.

Some identified challenges based on Agenda 2030:

Increasing mental illness in all ages.

Lifestyle risk factors for non-communicable diseases, such as unhealthy eating habits, being sedentary, smoking and alcohol.

Health problems linked to noise, air pollution and chemicals.

Increased antibiotic resistance is a global challenge.

Lack of access to and political resistance to sexual and reproductive health and rights is a global challenge.



***GOAL in sight***

- The number of mothers who die in childbirth must be reduced to less than 70 out of 100,000 births where the child is alive at birth.
- Make sure that no children under the age of five die from, for example, diseases and accidents that could have been prevented.
- Epidemics of diseases such as AIDS, tuberculosis, hepatitis and other diseases that infect many must be stopped.

- Arrange efforts so that people who die prematurely from such non-communicable diseases will be reduced by a third. Promote, support, people's mental health and well-being.
- Organize more interventions that prevent drug abuse, so that fewer people start using drugs. Create better treatment for people who abuse alcohol and drugs.
- Everyone must have access to health care and information about sexual health. It is, for example, about sexuality and pregnancy, and how to protect yourself against pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases.
- There must be general healthcare of good quality, for all people. There must be financial protection if you get sick, and good medicine and vaccines that everyone can afford.
- The number of people who get sick and die due to harmful chemicals and pollution should be greatly reduced. Pollution in the air, water and land must also be reduced.
- The World Health Organization's Framework Convention on Tobacco must be implemented. It determines that there must be tobacco control in all countries, in order to reduce the use of tobacco.



**Society 2030 story**

***when the goals are met***

It was the year 2030, and the world had undergone an astonishing transformation in terms of health and wellness. The UN's Sustainable Health Goals had become a reality, and people all over the world were enjoying an improved quality of life and longer life expectancy.

In a remote village in the countryside, a new little soul was born into the world. The mother was safe and surrounded by knowledgeable staff, who had access to modern medical equipment and training. Thanks to advances in maternity care, the number of mothers who died in childbirth had been drastically reduced to less than 70 out of 100,000 births where the baby survived.

In the same village, the children's well-being had become a priority. No one under the age of five was allowed to suffer from preventable diseases or accidents. Through

effective vaccination programs, preventive care and a strong investment in education and awareness, they managed to protect the young, who are the future of every society.

On a global level, disease epidemics such as AIDS, tuberculosis, hepatitis and other infectious diseases had been effectively stopped. Scientific breakthroughs and collaboration across national borders led to the development of innovative treatments, preventive measures and extensive vaccination campaigns. The world's population could breathe a sigh of relief knowing that no one would suffer these torments again.

Health is not only about physical well-being, but also about mental well-being. Stigma and silence around mental health problems had been replaced by an open dialogue and resources to support people's mental health. Governments and societies had recognized that mental well-being was critical to achieving a sustainable future, and invested therefore in mental health care and preventive measures.

Progress had also been made on drug abuse. By prioritizing preventive efforts and offering better treatment options, the number of people who started using drugs had decreased significantly. Those who already struggled with addiction gained access to individual

Access to sexual health and reproductive care had been extended to all. No matter where you were on the planet, you had access to the necessary information about sexuality, contraceptive methods and protection against sexually transmitted diseases. Equality and autonomy over one's own body had become the norm.

One of the most impressive achievements was the creation of universal, high-quality health care for all people, regardless of background or income. No child, woman or man had to worry about not being able to afford healthcare or medicine. Financial protection in the event of illness and health insurance had become public rights, and health care systems were efficient and well-functioning.

At the same time, efforts to reduce pollution and harmful chemicals in air, water and soil had yielded positive results. By investing in sustainable technologies and changing production methods, the number of illnesses and deaths had causes of environmental pollution reduced significantly. The World Health Organization's Framework Convention on Tobacco had also been implemented, and the tobacco industry was under strict control to reduce tobacco use and its harmful effects.

By 2030, the world had achieved its goals for health and well-being. No human had to suffer unnecessarily, and Earth's inhabitants lived longer and healthier lives. Through

a strong will to collaborate, invest in research and education and by prioritizing people's well-being, we have created a sustainable and healthy future for future generations.



***Obstacles to achieving the goals***

In order for our world to look as described in 2030, there are several potential obstacles and challenges to overcome. Here are some

Inequality and access to care: If inequality in access to health care continues to be widespread, it may be difficult to achieve a world where everyone has access to high-quality care. If economic and social disparities persist, certain groups and regions may be underprivileged in terms of health services.

Deficiencies in health infrastructure: Inadequate health infrastructure, especially in remote or poor areas, can limit access to care. There may be a lack of healthcare facilities, medically trained personnel and necessary medical equipment.

Costs and financing: High-quality care and innovative technologies can be costly. If health care services are not affordable for all, it can limit access to care and impede progress toward overall health goals.

Challenges with technology and digitization: Although the use of technology and innovations can improve access to care, there may be technical and infrastructural barriers that prevent such solutions from being effectively implemented. Lack of technical knowledge, internet connection and digital resources can limit the possibilities for remote care and technology-based health applications.

Increasing disease burden: Some diseases and health problems may continue to increase, which can make it difficult to achieve the goal of good health and well-being for all. It may include challenges with emerging infectious diseases, aging populations and increasing prevalence of non-communicable diseases such as diabetes and cardiovascular disease.

Political instability and conflicts: Conflicts and political instability in different parts of the world can affect access to care and the functioning of the health system. War and social unrest can destroy infrastructure, drive out health workers, and disrupt disease prevention and treatment.

*Overcoming these obstacles requires strong political will and commitment at the global level. It also requires investment in health infrastructure, training of health professionals, economic justice and inclusive policy decisions. International collaboration, research and technological innovation will be essential to meet these challenges and create a world where good health and well-being is a reality for all.*

## Summary



To achieve a future where everyone has access to high-quality care and good health by 2030, there are several obstacles and challenges to overcome.

Inequality in access to care and deficiencies in health infrastructure can limit the ability of certain groups and regions to access care.

Costs and funding can also be a barrier to providing high-quality care to all.

Technical obstacles and lack of technical knowledge can hinder the implementation of innovative solutions in healthcare.

In addition, increasing disease burden and political instability in the world may also affect the ability to achieve health goals.

Overcoming these obstacles requires strong political will and global commitment.

Investments in health infrastructure and training of health care professionals are required to improve access to care. Economic justice and inclusive policy decisions are also important to ensure that health care services are accessible to all regardless of economic status. International cooperation, research and technological innovation will play a critical role in meeting these challenges and creating a world where good health and well-being are a fundamental right for all.

### ***Links to other targets***



This goal is central and has connections to several other goals within the agenda.

Here are some examples of other goals that depend on or have links to goal 3:



Goal 1: No poverty - Good health and poverty are strongly linked. People in poverty often have limited access to health care services and live in unfavorable conditions that can negatively affect their health. By eradicating poverty, you can improve access to healthcare and promote good health.

Goal 2: No hunger - Malnutrition and hunger have a negative impact on health. In order to achieve good health, it is important to ensure that people have enough and nutritious food. By eradicating hunger, one can improve the state of health and prevent disease.

Goal 4: Good education - Exercise and health are interdependent. A basic education gives people knowledge and skills to improve their health and make informed choices. By promoting education, one can increase health awareness and promote healthy behaviors.

Goal 5: Equality - Women's health is of particular importance in achieving the goal of good health for all. Women and girls often face particular health challenges and have limited access to care and reproductive health. By promoting gender equality and ensuring equal access to healthcare, the health of women and girls can be improved.

Goal 6: Clean water and sanitation – Access to clean water and sanitation is fundamental to achieving good health. Deficiencies in water supply and sanitation can lead to the spread of disease and health problems. By ensuring access to clean water and improving sanitation, public health can be improved

Goal 13: Combat climate change - Climate change affects health in a variety of ways, including increased risk of disease, reduced air quality and extreme weather events. By combating climate change and adapting to it, human health can be protected and promoted.

Goal 16: Peaceful and Inclusive Societies - A peaceful and inclusive environment is essential for promoting health and well-being. Reducing violence, discrimination and inequality can contribute to creating safe societies where people can live healthy and dignified lives together.

These are some examples of how goal 3 of Agenda 2030 is dependent on and has connections to other goals. By integrating efforts to achieve these goals, we can promote sustainable development and a world of good health and well-being.

## Conclusion

In order to achieve goal 3 of Agenda 2030, which aims to ensure health and well-being for all people of all ages, significant changes and efforts are required at various levels in society.

On a global level, we must reorganize our society and transition to a sustainable production and consumption model. This means reducing the overexploitation of natural resources, switching to sustainable products, promoting reuse and recycling, and reducing the amount of waste. We must also address hazardous chemicals and other pollutants by ensuring environmentally friendly recycling.

At the national level, political will and leadership are required to prioritize sustainability within the healthcare systems. It is important to support research and technology that promotes health and well-being and to invest in accessible and equitable healthcare for all. Education and awareness-raising are also essential to change behaviors and promote sustainable lifestyles.

On an individual level, we must take responsibility for our own behaviors and consumption habits. It's about changing our behavior patterns and making conscious choices that promote health and well-being. Education and awareness are key to informing the public of the necessary changes and creating commitment to achieving Goal 3.

However, there are challenges that hinder progress in this area. Political opposition, socio-economic factors and cultural challenges can be obstacles to

to implement the necessary changes.

Lack of knowledge and awareness among the general public can also be a challenge.

Overcoming these barriers requires political will and leadership, education and awareness-raising, as well as collaboration and partnership between different stakeholders.

In summary, the achievement of goal 3 of Agenda 2030 requires significant changes at the global, national and individual level.

It requires a reorganization of society towards a sustainable production and consumption model, political commitment and leadership, education and awareness-raising, as well as changes in behavioral patterns and consumption habits. By implementing these changes, we can strive to ensure the health and well-being of all people.

## Chapter 4



### ***Goal 4 Good education for all***

Education is a basic human right. Despite this, it is still estimated that 774 million people in the world cannot read and write, two-thirds of whom are women. Research shows that inclusive education of good quality for all is one of the most important foundations for prosperity, health and equality in any society.

Education systems around the world must meet people's needs throughout life – from pre-school, primary school, secondary school and higher education, and all people's equal opportunity for lifelong learning that favors participation in work and community life. Education is the key to prosperity and opens up a world of opportunities that enables each of us to contribute to a sustainable society.

***Analysis for the transformation of Sweden (2018)***



### ***Summary***

Sweden has a well-developed education system with free education, a high level of education and a strong tradition of public education. However, the Swedish school suffers from a lack of equality between schools, a shortage of teachers and differences in results between boys and girls.

Some identified challenges based on Agenda 2030:

Lack of equivalence between schools.

Knowledge differences between girls and boys.

Young people who neither work nor study.

Teacher shortage and a need to strengthen the teacher's profession and competence.

Need to strengthen education for sustainable development.

Need for validation of competencies acquired through non-formal learning.

Reduced Swedish aid to education at the same time as a funding gap for education prevails globally.



- All girls and boys must receive education at primary and secondary school, without having to pay for it. The education must be of good quality and give everyone the knowledge they need.
- All girls and boys should have the opportunity to attend a good preschool. The pre-school must provide care for the children, i.e. look after and care for them, as well as prepare them to start primary school.
- All women and men must have the same opportunities to get an education after high school. There must be vocational education and university education of good quality, which everyone can afford.
- The number of young people and adults who have the skills they need to gain financial security must increase. Among other things, it is about technical knowledge and professional knowledge that is needed to get a good job and run a business.
- All young people and most adults, both men and women, must learn to read, write and count.
- Make sure that everyone who studies gets the knowledge needed for sustainable development. Among other things through education about global citizenship, sustainable lifestyles, human rights and peace and non-violence.



### **Society 2030 story when the goals are**

### ***fulfilled***

The year is 2030 and the world has achieved the overall goal and all sub-goals within sustainability area 4, Good education for all. Humanity has created a world where education is available to every individual, regardless of background or geographic location.

A revolutionary change has taken place in the education sector. By prioritizing investments and resources in education, we have created strong and inclusive education systems worldwide. All children have the right to free and high-quality compulsory primary education, and barriers to attending school have been eliminated.

Teachers are well trained, motivated and have access to resources and educational materials. By investing in continuing education and professional development for teachers, we have ensured that they have the tools they need to teach in an engaging and effective way. The role of teachers has been recognized and appreciated as a key factor in creating a successful educational environment.

Digital technology has been integrated into the education system in a meaningful way. By providing access to the internet and digital tools, we have opened up a world of knowledge and learning to students around the world. The training has become more interactive and adapted to individual needs and interests.

No human being is denied the opportunity for higher education because of economic or social barriers anymore. By promoting equal access to higher education and vocational training, we have created a world where every individual can follow their interests and reach their full potential. Educational institutions are inclusive and diversified, and they offer a variety of educational programs and study paths.

This future is characterized by a strong emphasis on lifelong learning. Education is no longer limited to childhood and youth, but continues throughout life. People have access to education and knowledge to help them adapt to a rapidly changing world and to meet the challenges of the future.

Education is not just limited to the classroom. Communities and families play an active role in promoting learning and education. Parents are committed to their

children's education and support their learning and development. Education is integrated in society, and there are opportunities for hands-on learning and community involvement.

This world is characterized by knowledge, creativity and innovation. People are well educated, confident and have the ability to shape their own future. By achieving the overall goal and all sub-goals within sustainability area 4, we have created a world where education is a fundamental right and a key factor for individual and societal development



***Obstacles to achieving the goals***

In order for our world to look as described in 2030 in sustainability area 4, Good education for all, there are several potential obstacles and challenges to overcome. Here are some examples:

Inequality and access to education: If inequality in access to education continues to be widespread, it may be difficult to achieve a world where education is accessible to every individual. Economic, geographic and social factors may still be obstacles for some groups to access high-quality education.

Inadequate infrastructure and resources: Inadequate infrastructure and lack of resources in the education sector can limit opportunities for quality education. There may be a lack of schools, qualified teachers, teaching materials, digital technology and other necessary resources.

Quality and relevance in the education: Ensuring that the education is of high quality and relevance is a challenge. It requires well-trained and motivated teachers, updated curricula and teaching methods that promote critical thinking, problem-solving and creativity.

Digital divide and access to technology: Despite advances in digitization and technology integration, there may be a digital divide that prevents some communities and individuals from benefiting from digital educational resources. Lack of internet

connection, lack of access to technology and lack of digital skills can be obstacles to education reaching everyone.

Education in conflict areas and marginalized areas: Conflict, natural disasters and marginalization can have a negative impact on access to and quality of education in certain areas. It can be difficult to establish and maintain schools in conflict zones or areas affected by natural disasters.

Financial sustainability and financing: Financing education in a sustainable way can be a challenge. If resources are scarce or if financial barriers cannot be overcome, it may be difficult to offer free or affordable education to all.

Overcoming these obstacles requires strong political will, international cooperation and investment in educational infrastructure and resources. It also calls for action to reduce inequalities, promote inclusion and provide fair and equal educational opportunities for all. Education systems must be adaptable and respond to the needs of different individuals and communities so that certain groups do not end up at risk of not having access to education.



### **Summary**

To achieve the goal of good education for all by 2030, there are several obstacles and challenges to overcome.

Inequality in access to education can be a barrier, where economic, geographic and social factors can limit the ability of certain groups to access high-quality education.

Lack of infrastructure and resources in the education sector can also hinder access to high-quality education.

It could be a lack of schools, qualified teachers, learning materials, digital technology and other necessary resources.

The quality and relevance of education is also a challenge. It requires well-trained and motivated teachers, updated curricula and teaching methods that promote critical thinking, problem-solving and creativity. A digital divide can also be an obstacle,

where a lack of internet connection, access to technology and digital skills can prevent education from reaching everyone.

Education in conflict areas and marginalized areas face unique challenges. Conflict, natural disasters and marginalization can affect access to education and the quality of education in these areas. Financial sustainability and financing are also important factors. Funding education sustainably can be a challenge, and lack of resources can hinder the ability to offer free or affordable education to all.

Overcoming these obstacles requires strong political will, international cooperation and investment in educational infrastructure and resources.

It is important to reduce inequalities, promote inclusion and ensure equal opportunities for education for all.

Education systems must be adaptable and respond to the different needs of different individuals and societies.

By addressing these barriers, we can move closer to a future where good education becomes available to all and where every individual has the opportunity to realize their full potential.



***Links to other targets***

This goal has a significant impact on and linkages with several other goals within the agenda. Here are some examples of other goals that depend on or have links to goal 4:



- Goal 1: No Poverty - Education is a key factor in breaking the cycle of poverty. Ensuring inclusive and equitable education enables people to acquire knowledge and skills that can help them escape poverty and improve their economic

situation.

- Goal 3: Good health and well-being - Education and health have a reciprocal relationship. An accessible and quality education can contribute to improving people's health by promoting health awareness, preventive measures and knowledge of healthy behaviours.
- Goal 5: Equality - Education plays an important role in promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. By ensuring equal access to education, especially for girls and women, you can reduce inequalities and promote equality in society.

Goal 8: Decent working conditions and economic growth - Quality education is fundamental to creating decent jobs and promoting economic growth. By providing education that is adapted to the needs of the labor market, you can strengthen people's professional skills and increase their employability.

- Goal 10: Reduced inequality - Education is an important driver for reducing inequalities. By offering equal access to quality education for all, regardless of gender, disability, socio-economic background or geographic location, one can reduce inequalities and promote inclusion and equity.
- Goal 16: Peaceful and inclusive societies - An inclusive education plays a crucial role in promoting peaceful and inclusive societies. By promoting education that promotes tolerance, human rights and respect for diversity, conflict can be reduced and social cohesion promoted.
- Goal 17: Partnerships for Implementation - Achieving Goal 4 requires strong partnerships between governments, educational institutions, civil society and private business. By cooperating and exchanging knowledge and resources, one can improve education systems and promote lifelong learning.

By integrating efforts to achieve these goals, we can promote an inclusive, fair and qualitative education for all and thereby contribute to sustainable development.

### ***Conclusion***

In order to achieve goal 4 of Agenda 2030, which aims to ensure inclusive, fair and quality education for all, significant changes and efforts are required at various levels in society.

At the global level, we must strengthen and expand our efforts to ensure access to education for all children and youth worldwide. This means bridging gaps and ensuring that children from vulnerable groups and marginalized communities have equal opportunities for education. We must also focus on improving the quality of education by training and supporting competent teachers, providing the necessary resources and adapting curricula to meet the specific needs of different communities.

At the national level, it is crucial that governments prioritize education and invests enough resources to build a well-functioning education system. This means ensuring that education is available and affordable for everyone, regardless of socioeconomic background or geographic location. It also requires governments to work to reduce gaps and inequalities within the education system by addressing barriers such as gender, ethnicity, disability and socio-economic status.

At the individual level, we must recognize the importance of education and strive to raise awareness of its benefits. It is about encouraging lifelong learning and providing opportunities for education for all ages and life situations. The value of education should not only be limited to formal education, but also include informal learning and vocational training.

However, there are challenges that hinder progress in this area. Lack of funding, inadequate infrastructure, conflicts and crises can affect access to and quality of education. Cultural norms and traditions can also have a negative impact on girls' and women's educational opportunities. Overcoming these barriers requires political commitment and resources for education, support and training of teachers, as well as promoting equality and inclusion within the education system.

In summary, the achievement of goal 4 of Agenda 2030 requires significant changes at global, national and individual level. It requires us to work to ensure access to quality education for all, bridge gaps and inequalities, and promote lifelong learning. By implementing these changes, we can strive to give all people the opportunity to receive an inclusive, fair and quality education.



## Goal 5 Equality

Equality between women and men is a prerequisite for sustainable and peaceful development. Equality is about a fair distribution of power, influence and resources. All forms of violence, discrimination and harmful practices against women and girls affect the individual as well as the entire society. It has been proven time and time again that political, economic and social equality between women and men contributes to all dimensions of sustainable development.

Living a life free from violence and discrimination is a basic human right and absolutely crucial for people and societies to develop their full potential.

We ourselves believe that Sweden is one of the world's most equal countries. The Agenda 2030 delegation disagrees. It doesn't really matter what ranking we have in the world, but the most important thing is that we look at what we can do with our conditions. It is a basic idea in the entire Agenda 2030 that we should not compare ourselves with other countries, but with ourselves, and our abilities and opportunities to make wise choices and improve the world.

*Analysis for the transformation of Sweden (2018)*



### Summary

Sweden is at the forefront of work with gender equality and places itself, together with the other Nordic countries, consistently high in international comparisons. Despite that, several challenges remain before gender equality is achieved in Sweden, as well as major challenges globally to ensure the rights of girls and women.

Some identified challenges based on Agenda 2030:

Men's violence against women.

Lower salaries and pensions for women than men.

Health differences between women and men.

Uneven distribution of time spent on unpaid domestic and care work.

Knowledge differences between girls and boys.

Fewer women than men in managerial positions and on listed company boards.

The tightened family immigration hits women and girls hard.



- End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere.
- Stop all forms of violence against all women and girls at home and outside the home, including human trafficking or sexual exploitation.
- Stop all harmful traditions, such as marriage between children and teenagers, forcing people to marry and female genital mutilation.
- Create records of percentage of girls and women aged 15–49 who have undergone genital mutilation, by age
- Ensure that everyone in society has access to sexual health care and rights related to it, such as deciding on contraception and pregnancy.
- Ensure that women have the same right to financial resources. For example, they must be able to own and decide over land and houses, and have access to financial services and natural resources. They must also have the right to inherit.
- Use more technology, particularly such which is used in information and communication. It can support women's power over their own lives.



### **Society 2030 story when the goals are**

### ***fulfilled***

The year is 2030 and the world has achieved the overall goal and all sub-goals within sustainability area 5, Equality. Humanity has created a world where the sexes are equal and where all individuals have equal opportunities and rights.

A historic change has taken place in terms of gender equality. By prioritizing equality in all areas of society, we have abolished discrimination and inequalities based on gender. Women and girls have the same access to education, health, work and decision-making as men and boys.

Women's rights and opportunities have been strengthened. By promoting women's economic empowerment and entrepreneurship, we have created a world where women have equal access to resources and opportunities to start and run businesses. Women have the same pay and career opportunities as men, and the glass ceiling has been broken.

Women have also played an active role in decision-making at all levels. Women are represented in politics, business and social institutions to the same extent as men. By promoting gender equality in decision-making, we have ensured that women's voices are heard and that their perspectives are taken into account in all social issues.

Violence against women and girls has been eradicated. By fighting gender-based violence and promoting justice and protection for women, we have created a world where no woman has to live in fear or be subjected to physical or psychological violence. Society has zero tolerance for all forms of gender-related violence.

This future is characterized by a strong culture of equality. By promoting gender awareness and education, we have changed stereotypes and traditional gender patterns. Men and women have equal participation in family responsibilities, and caring work is shared equally. Men's custody rights are recognized and promoted.

Young people grow up in a world where they see equality as a matter of course. Education and schools play an important role in promoting equality and gender awareness from a young age. Children and young people receive equal opportunities and support for their personal and financial development regardless of gender.

This world is characterized by equality and respect. People live in harmony and cooperation, and inequalities and discrimination are a thing of the past. By achieving the overall goal and all sub-goals within sustainability area 5, we have created a world where all people can live their lives to the fullest, regardless of gender



***Obstacles to achieving the goals***

In order for our world not to be able to look as described in 2030 within sustainability area 5, Equality, there are several potential obstacles and challenges to overcome. Here are some examples:

- Deeply rooted gender norms and cultural traditions: Gender norms and traditional gender roles are often deeply rooted in society and can be difficult to change. Unequal attitudes and expectations around the sexes can continue to affect the opportunities and rights of women and girls.
- Economic and structural barriers: Inequality in economic resources and opportunities can be an obstacle to achieving equality. Women may face obstacles in access to financial resources, education, entrepreneurship and the labor market. Structures that do not promote equality, such as gender discrimination in salary setting or career opportunities, can also be obstacles.
- Gender-based violence and discrimination: Gender-based violence and discrimination are serious obstacles to achieving equality. Violence against women and girls, including sexual violence, oppression and human trafficking, must be actively combated. It requires society to take a stand against violence and create justice and protection for women and girls.
- Lack of female representation in decision-making: Women's representation and participation in decision-making bodies and leadership positions is often low. The lack of female representation can lead to women's perspectives and needs not being fully taken into account. Active measures are required to promote women's participation and influence in politics, business and society.
- The emergence of new challenges and resistance: Despite progress in the field of gender equality, new challenges and resistance to gender equality work may arise. There may be conservative forces, resistance to change, and ideological

differences that impede progress toward equality.

To overcome these obstacles, continued efforts are required at several levels.

It requires political will, legislation and legal influence to protect women's rights and fight discrimination.

Education and awareness-raising efforts are also crucial for changing attitudes and stereotypes around gender.

Support is also required for women's economic empowerment, including education, access to finance and promotion of women's entrepreneurship.

Finally, partnerships and collaboration between different actors, including governments, community organizations, business and the international community, are needed to jointly work towards gender equality and to overcome obstacles and challenges along the way.



Overcoming these barriers requires political will, legislation and advocacy to protect women's rights and combat discrimination.

Education and awareness-raising efforts are important for changing attitudes and stereotypes around gender.

Supporting women's economic empowerment, through education, access to finance and promotion of entrepreneurship, is also crucial.

Partnerships and cooperation between different actors, including governments, community organizations, business and the international community, are necessary to jointly work towards gender equality and overcome obstacles and challenges.

By addressing these obstacles, we can approach a future where equality becomes a reality and where all individuals have equal opportunities and rights regardless of gender. It requires continued efforts and commitment from all sectors of society to create an equal and inclusive world.



## Links to other targets

This goal has a strong impact on and links to several other goals within the agenda.

Here are some examples of other goals that depend on or have links to goal 5:



- Goal 1: No poverty - Women and girls are particularly vulnerable to poverty. By promoting gender equality and strengthening women's economic empowerment, one can contribute to reducing poverty and creating economic well-being for the entire society.
- Goal 3: Good health and well-being - Women's health is an important part of the goal of good health. By strengthening women's access to reproductive health care and combating gender-based violence, women's health and well-being can be improved.
- Goal 4: Good education - Equality in education is a fundamental prerequisite for achieving the goal of good education for all. By promoting equal access to education and eliminating barriers that prevent girls from attending school, you can promote gender equality and create a more inclusive educational environment.
- Goal 8: Decent working conditions and economic growth - To promote equality in the workplace is critical to achieving decent working conditions and economic growth. By promoting equal wages and opportunities for women and men, you can create a fair working environment and contribute to economic equality.
- Goal 10: Reduced inequality - Equality is a central part of the goal of reduced inequality. By fighting gender-related discrimination and inequality, you can promote equality and inclusion in society.
- Goal 16: Peaceful and Inclusive Societies - Equality and women's participation are essential to creating peaceful and inclusive societies. By strengthening women's political participation, promoting women's rights and eliminating violence against women, you can contribute to creating more just and harmonious societies.

- Goal 17: Partnerships for Implementation - Achieving Goal 5 requires strong partnerships between governments, civil society and private business. By cooperating and exchanging knowledge and resources, you can promote equality and strengthen women's rights at all levels.

By integrating efforts to achieve these goals, we can promote gender equality, strengthen the rights of women and girls, and create a more just and inclusive world.

### ***Conclusion***

In order to achieve goal 5 in Agenda 2030, which aims to achieve gender equality and strengthen the rights and opportunities of women and girls, significant changes and efforts are required at various levels in society.

At the global level, it is necessary to actively combat discrimination, violence and inequality against women and girls. This means promoting the participation and representation of women and girls in decision-making bodies and political processes. We must also work to strengthen legislation and protective standards that promote gender equality and prevent discrimination and violence based on gender. Education and awareness-raising are also essential to challenge stereotypes and promote gender equality.

At the national level, political will and measures are required to promote gender equality and women's empowerment. It is about ensuring that women and girls have access to quality education, healthcare, financial resources and opportunities for employment. It is also important to combat violence against women and girls by strengthening the justice system and providing support and protection for victims.

At the individual level, it is important to encourage awareness of and challenge gender-specific norms and prejudices. It is about promoting equality in relationships, encouraging equal division of labor and distancing ourselves from violence and discrimination. Education and awareness are key to breaking down stereotypes and creating a culture that values equality.

However, there are challenges that hinder progress in this area. Cultural and traditional norms can be obstacles to achieving equality. Lack of resources and investment to promote the empowerment of women and girls can also be obstacles. Overcoming these barriers requires political will and leadership, education and

awareness-raising, as well as collaboration and partnership between different stakeholders.

In summary, the achievement of goal 5 of Agenda 2030 requires significant changes at the global, national and individual level. It requires us to actively combat discrimination and violence against women and girls, promote their participation and representation, and work to strengthen legislation and protection standards. By implementing these changes, we can strive to achieve equality and strengthen the rights and opportunities of women and girls.

### ***System or structure that can strengthen or hinder the transition.***

#### ***The importance of the right of veto***

There was once a country by name Progressia, which had a strong democratic tradition and a deep commitment to sustainable development. The country had adopted Agenda 2030's sustainability goals and had ambitious plans to achieve them.

In Progressia the right of veto was a fundamental principle within their democratic system. Each member of the country's parliament had the right to use their veto power to block or change proposals and decisions put to a vote. This gave each individual the power to influence politics and ensure that their views and interests are considered.

Although Progressia had good intentions and strong political will to implement the SDGs, challenges arose due to the right of veto. In parliament, there were politicians who had different opinions about what was best for the country and its citizens when it came to sustainability issues.

Some politicians were skeptical of certain measures required to achieve the sustainability goals. They believed that certain measures could be costly to the economy or that they would negatively affect certain interests and industries. Therefore, they used their veto power to stop or weaken proposals that promote Sustainable Development.

An example of this was when the government proposed to introduce stricter regulations to reduce deforestation and preserve the country's natural resources. This action would have contributed to achieving the sustainability goals of sustainable

forest management and biodiversity conservation. Although the majority of parliament supported the proposal, a minority used their veto power to block it. Their argument was that stricter regulations would have negative consequences for the forest industry and jobs in the sector.

Because of the veto and political disagreement stagnated development progress towards the sustainability goals. Proposals and actions that were necessary to promote ecological sustainability, social justice and economic transition were prevented or were delayed due to political blocking.

This created frustration among many citizens and NGOs (Agenda 2030) eager to see real progress towards sustainable development. They mobilized and worked to raise awareness of the importance of overcoming obstacles and encourage politicians to make decisions in line with the sustainability goals.

After some time, a wider realization began to emerge that the veto power could be a hindrance to Developments progress towards the sustainability goals. The politicians realized that it was necessary to find a balance between the right of veto and the need to act for a sustainable future.

An extensive debate was launched in the country, and citizens, politicians and interest groups participated actively. They discussed opportunities to reshape the right of veto to ensure that the sustainability goals were prioritized and were carried out effectively.

After a thorough evaluation, the Developments parliament introduced certain restrictions on the right of veto when it came to matters that directly affected the sustainability goals. A process was established where the veto could be overridden by a qualified majority if there was sufficient evidence that the measures were necessary to achieve sustainability and the long-term welfare of citizens.

By changing the right of veto could Progressia take decisive steps forward to implement Agenda 2030's sustainability goals. By balancing democratic principles with the necessity of collective action and sustainable development, the country was able to address challenges and create a more sustainable future for all its citizens.

The story of Progressia emphasizes that the right of veto, although an important democratic principle, can affect the implementation of the 2030 Agenda's sustainability goals if it is used as a tool for political blocking. It is important to continue discussing and working to find the right balance between democracy and the need to act for a sustainable future.

## Chapter 6



### **Goal 6 Clean water and sanitation for all**

70 percent of the earth's surface is covered by water and 30 percent by land. There is 1,400 million cubic kilometers of water on earth, of which 35 million cubic kilometers is fresh water, salt water thus makes up 97.5 percent and fresh water 2.5 percent.

Water is a basic prerequisite for all living things on earth, and thus also a prerequisite for human health and sustainable development. Water is also a prerequisite for the world's food production and energy production, and a lack of water can therefore be a cause of conflict, both within and between countries. But water is not necessarily a source of conflict, water resources can also act as a unifying force that strengthens cooperation and creates solutions for peace.

***Analysis for the transformation of Sweden (2018)***



### ***Summary***

In Sweden, access to water and sanitation is good and the use of water in relation to available resources is overall low. Sweden's biggest challenges are judged to be that

improving the deficient water status in lakes and streams, as well as adapting the water supply to periodically very low groundwater levels in parts of the country.

Some identified challenges based on Agenda 2030:

Only half of Sweden's lakes and waterways meet the requirements for good water status according to the EU's water directive.

Need for increased protection of ecosystems and water sources.

Need to improve free passages and restore rapid stretches in our waterways.

Pollution of water in the form of chemicals and nutrients.

High consumption of imported goods which contributes to untenable water use and use of hazardous chemicals in other countries.

Falling, and periodically very low, groundwater levels in south-eastern Sweden.



- Everyone in the world should have equitable access to safe drinking water that they can afford.
- Everyone must have access to good and fair sanitation and hygiene. No one should have to relieve themselves outdoors.
- Improve the quality of water by reducing pollution and stop throwing waste into the water. Reduce the release of hazardous chemicals and materials into the water as much as possible. Halve the discharge of untreated wastewater and increase the recycling and reuse of water safely, worldwide.
- Ensure that the use of water becomes much more efficient. Ensure the methods of taking water and the systems for distributing it to people are safe. The number of people who have a shortage of water must be greatly reduced.
- Coordinate the management of water resources at all levels of society. - Collaborate across borders if needed.
- Protect and reset water ecosystems. They are found, among other things, in mountains, forests, wetlands, groundwater and lakes.
- Increase international cooperation and support for developing countries. It is needed so that they can build up various activities and programs for better water and sanitation.
- Support and empower communities at the local level, so that they can participate in the work to get better management of water and sanitation.



### **Society 2030 story when the goals are**

**fulfilled**

The year is 2030 and the world has achieved the overall goal and all sub-goals within sustainability area 6, Clean water and sanitation for all. Humanity has created a world where access to clean water and sanitation is a basic right for every individual.

A revolutionary change has taken place in the water and sanitation sector. By prioritizing investments and resources, we have ensured access to clean water for all people, regardless of where they are. Water sources have been protected, water pollution has been reduced and water resources have been managed sustainably.

No human being suffers anymore from a lack of clean water. Water supply systems have been built up and improved Worldwide. Water taps and wells are available within convenient distances of homes and communities. Clean water is available for drinking, cooking, personal hygiene and crop irrigation.

Sanitary conditions have also improved significantly. Access to sanitation has been expanded, and safe and hygienic toilet facilities have been built in both urban and rural areas. The sanitary infrastructure is accessible to everyone and meets high hygiene standards. No human being needs to live without basic sanitary conditions anymore.

This future is characterized by an increased awareness of water management and sanitation hygiene. Education on water resource management, sanitation, hygiene and prevention of waterborne diseases is an integral part of society's norms. People have the knowledge to manage water resources in a sustainable way and to protect themselves from diseases through good hygiene.

Clean water and sanitation are a fundamental basis for health and well-being. Diseases caused by lack of water and poor sanitation have decreased significantly. People live healthier lives and have better opportunities to work and get an education. Healthcare costs have decreased and the quality of life has improved for everyone.

This world is characterized by sustainable water management and respect for ecosystems. Watercourses, lakes and oceans are protected and preserved to ensure a sustainable supply of water for future generations. By protecting and restoring

water environments, we have created a balance between human needs and nature conservation.

The community is self-sufficient in terms of clean water and sanitation. Local water projects and cooperation have been strengthened to meet specific needs and challenges in different regions. Residents are engaged in water management and take responsibility for conserving and protecting water resources.

This world is characterized by justice and inclusion. Clean water and sanitation are available to everyone, regardless of gender, age or socio-economic background. Inequalities have decreased and all individuals have equal opportunities to live a healthy and dignified life.

By achieving the overall goal and all sub-goals within sustainability area 6, we have created a world where clean water and sanitation is a fundamental right that ensures health, well-being and sustainable development for all



***Obstacles to achieving the goals***

The year is 2030 and the world has achieved the overall goal and all sub-goals within sustainability area 6, Clean water and sanitation for all. Humanity has created a world where access to clean water and sanitation is a basic right for every individual.

- A revolutionary change has taken place in the water and sanitation sector. By prioritizing investments and resources, we have secured access to clean water for all people, regardless of where they are. Water sources have been protected, water pollution has been reduced and water resources have been managed sustainably.
- No person suffer longer from a lack of clean water. Water supply systems have been built up and improved Worldwide. Water taps and wells are available within convenient distances of homes and communities. Clean water is available for drinking, cooking, personal hygiene and crop irrigation.
- Sanitary conditions have also improved significantly. Access to sanitation has been expanded, and safe and hygienic toilet facilities have been built in both urban and rural areas. The sanitary infrastructure is accessible to everyone and meets the high hygiene standard. No human being needs to live without basic sanitary conditions anymore.

- This future is characterized by an increased awareness of water management, sanitation and hygiene. Education about water resource management, sanitation, hygiene and prevention of waterborne diseases is an integral part of society's norms. People have the knowledge to manage water resources in a sustainable way and to protect themselves from diseases through good hygiene.
- Clean water and sanitation are a fundamental basis for health and well-being. Diseases caused by lack of water and poor sanitation have decreased significantly. People live healthier lives and have better opportunities to work and get an education. Healthcare costs have decreased and the quality of life has improved for everyone.
- This world is characterized by sustainable water management and respect for ecosystems. Watercourses, lakes and oceans are protected and preserved to ensure a sustainable supply of water for future generations. By protecting and restoring water environments, we have created a balance between human needs and nature conservation.
- The community is self-sufficient in terms of clean water and sanitation. Local water projects and cooperation have been strengthened to meet specific needs and challenges in different regions. Residents are engaged in water management and take responsibility for conserving and protecting water resources.
- This world is characterized by justice and inclusion. Clean water and sanitation are available to everyone, regardless of gender, age or socio-economic background. Inequalities have decreased and all individuals have equal opportunities to live a healthy and dignified life.

By achieving the overall goal and all sub-goals within sustainability area 6, we have created a world where clean water and sanitation is a fundamental right that ensures health, well-being and sustainable development for all.



**Summary**

By 2030, the world has achieved the goals in sustainability area 6, Clean water and sanitation for all. Through a revolutionary change in the water and sanitation sector, access to clean water has become a fundamental right for every individual. By prioritizing investments and resources, access to clean water has been ensured regardless of where people are.

Clean water is now available to all, and water supply systems have been built and improved all over the world.

Sanitation conditions have also improved significantly, with safe and hygienic toilet facilities in both urban and rural areas.

Education about water management and sanitation, hygiene is an integral part of society's norms, which has led to increased awareness and knowledge among people about water resource management and prevention of waterborne diseases.

This future is characterized by increased human health and well-being, as diseases caused by lack of water and poor sanitation have been significantly reduced.

The community is self-sufficient in terms of clean water and sanitation, and local water projects and cooperation have been strengthened to meet specific needs and challenges in different regions.

There is also a strong respect for ecosystems and aquatic environments, and waterways, lakes and oceans are protected to ensure sustainable access to water for future generations.

This world is characterized by justice and inclusion, where clean water and sanitation are available to everyone regardless of gender, age or socio-economic background.

Inequalities have decreased and all individuals have equal opportunities to live a healthy and dignified life.

By achieving the goals in sustainability area 6, a world has been created where clean water and sanitation is a fundamental right that ensures health, well-being and sustainable



#### ***Links to other targets***

There are several other goals within Agenda 2030 that depend on or have links to goal 6. Here are some examples:



- Goal 2: No hunger: Access to clean water is a fundamental prerequisite for sustainable agricultural production and achieving food security. Irrigation systems and water management are necessary to improve agricultural production and ensure that sufficient water is available for crops and livestock.
- Goal 3: Good health and well-being: Access to clean water and sanitation are fundamental to maintaining good health. The lack of clean water and sanitation facilities can lead to the spread of disease and health problems. Therefore, progress on Goal 6 is crucial to achieving Goal 3
- Goal 11: Sustainable cities and communities: Clean water and sanitation are essential to creating sustainable and healthy cities. Access to clean water is important for residents' health and the sanitation system. In addition, sustainable water management can help reduce the risk of flooding and improve wastewater management in cities.
- Goal 12: Sustainable consumption and production: Sustainable water management and efficient water use are central to achieving sustainable consumption and production. By promoting recycling and reducing pollution, Goal 6 can contribute to a more sustainable and circular use of water resources.
- Goal 14: Oceans and marine resources: Water is an integral part of the marine environment and ecosystems. By improving water quality and protecting water resources, Goal 6 can help conserve ocean and marine resources and protect coastal communities.
- Goal 15: Ecosystems and biodiversity: Sustainable water management is essential to protect and conserve ecosystems and biodiversity. By protecting wetlands, rivers and lakes, Goal 6 can help preserve and restore water-related ecosystems.

These are some examples of how goal 6 within Agenda 2030 is connected with other goals. It is important to note that all the goals of Agenda 2030 are interdependent and progress in one goal can have positive effects on several other goals. A holistic and integrated strategy is essential to achieving sustainable development.

### ***Conclusion***

In order to achieve goal 6 of Agenda 2030, which aims to ensure access to clean water and sanitation for all and manage sustainable water management, significant changes and efforts are required at various levels in society.

At the global level, it is necessary to take measures to protect and conserve water resources. It is about reducing pollution and improving water quality and ensuring access to clean water for all people. We must also promote sustainable water management practices and address water scarcity and flooding by investing in infrastructure and improving water resources planning.

At the national level, political commitment and leadership are required to prioritize water-related issues. This means developing and implementing effective water policy and legislation to promote sustainable water management. It is also important to invest in water infrastructure and improve access to clean water and sanitation for all, especially in vulnerable communities and remote areas.

At the individual level, it is important to promote awareness and responsible behavior regarding water use and sanitation. It is about reducing the waste of water, promoting water-saving techniques and methods, and taking measures to prevent water pollution. Education and awareness are key to informing the public about water-related issues and promoting behavioral changes that promote sustainable water management.

However, there are challenges that hinder progress in this area. Lack of access to clean water and sanitation is a challenge in many parts of the world, especially in vulnerable communities and remote areas. Climate change can also affect access to water and exacerbate water-related problems. Overcoming these barriers requires political will and leadership, investment in infrastructure and technology, and collaboration and partnership between different stakeholders.

In summary, the achievement of goal 6 of Agenda 2030 requires significant changes at global, national and individual level. It requires protection and preservation of water resources, sustainable water management, access to clean water and sanitation for all, and conscious behavior and responsibility in water use. By implementing these changes, we can strive to ensure access to clean water and sanitation for all and manage water resources in a sustainable manner.

## Chapter 7



## Goal 7 Sustainable energy for all

Access to sustainable, reliable and renewable energy and clean fuels is a prerequisite for being able to meet several of the challenges the world is facing today such as poverty, climate change and inclusive growth. A large part of the world's population does not have access to electricity, while global demand for energy is expected to increase by 37 percent by 2040.

A large percentage of our greenhouse gas emissions come from the way we extract, convert and use fossil energy, but renewable energy solutions are becoming cheaper, more reliable and more efficient every day. By changing the way we produce and consume energy, we can ensure access to electricity and energy services for all without harming our planet.

In 2020, the world's total electricity production amounted to approximately 27,000 TWh. More than 60 percent of electricity production today takes place with fossil fuels, mainly coal and natural gas.

Overall, the supply of energy in the world increased by 5.5 percent in 2021 compared to 2020. Oil made up 31 percent of the total supply in the world in 2021. Simplified, oil can be divided into two parts, fuel and heating oils.

Access to sustainable, reliable and renewable energy and clean fuels is a prerequisite for being able to meet several of the challenges the world is facing today such as poverty, climate change and inclusive growth. A large part of the world's population does not have access to electricity, while global demand for energy is expected to increase by 37 percent by 2040.



***Analysis for the transformation of Sweden (2018)***

### ***Summary***

In Sweden, there is good general access to energy and the proportion of final use of renewable energy is relatively high, but the challenges for conversion to long-term sustainable energy production and energy use are extensive. Sweden's ambition is a fossil-free and renewable energy supply.

Some identified challenges based on Agenda 2030:

Continued conversion of the energy sector to renewable energy for a long-term sustainable energy system.

Continued work on converting to a fossil-free transport sector and a bio-based economy.

Continued energy efficiency.

Change to a robust energy system with high security of supply and competitive prices.

On a global level, the energy supply is still dominated by oil, coal and gas, which together amount to just over 80 percent.



***GOAL in sight***

- Ensure that everyone in the world has access to energy services that are modern and work, at once price they can afford.
- Renewable energy is to increase greatly throughout the world.
- The energy must become twice as much better and efficient, all over the world.
- Cooperation between countries must become stronger, so that everyone has access to research and technology in clean energy. Support investments in clean energy infrastructure and technology.
- Expand the infrastructure for energy in developing countries. Make sure they have the latest the technology for modern and sustainable energy.



**Society 2030 story when the goals are**

***fulfilled***

The year is 2030 and the world has achieved the overall goal and all sub-goals within sustainability area 7, Sustainable energy for all. Humanity has created a world where access to sustainable energy is universal and where energy consumption is climate-neutral and resource-efficient.

A revolutionary change has taken place in the energy sector. By prioritizing investments in renewable energy and energy efficiency, we have minimized our dependence on fossil fuels and reduced carbon dioxide emissions. Solar, wind, hydro and bioenergy now make up the bulk of the global energy mix.

All communities have access to reliable and sustainable energy. Clean and renewable energy supply is available to everyone, regardless of whether they are in cities or rural areas. Electricity is available to power households, schools, hospitals and businesses, and energy poverty has been eradicated.

The energy sector is decentralized and diversified. Small-scale renewable energy sources are distributed worldwide, reducing vulnerability to disruptions and increasing local self-sufficiency. People have access to energy systems that are adapted to their specific needs and geographical conditions.

Energy development is sustainable and environmentally friendly. Energy production and consumption is resource-efficient and minimizes negative environmental effects. Energy efficiency measures have been implemented in industry, buildings, transport and other sectors to optimize energy use and reduce waste.

This future is characterized by a strong awareness of energy use and climate change. People have been educated about sustainable energy and energy efficiency, creating a culture of responsible energy behavior. Energy savings and recycling are a natural part of everyday life, and carbon dioxide emissions have decreased significantly.

The energy sector is also a catalyst for economic growth and employment. The expansion of renewable energy has created millions of new jobs in production, installation, maintenance and research and development. Local and regional energy systems have promoted economic development and created new opportunities for businesses and entrepreneurs.

This world is characterized by global cooperation for sustainable energy. Countries and regions work together to share knowledge, technology and resources to promote renewable energy and sustainable development. Energy collaborations and partnerships have been strengthened to meet the global challenges of energy supply and climate change.

By achieving the overall goal and all sub-goals within sustainability area 7, we have created a world where sustainable energy is available to everyone, climate change is minimized and economic growth goes hand in hand with environmental protection.



***Obstacles to achieving the goals***

In order for our world to look as described in 2030 within sustainability area 7, Sustainable energy for all, there are several likely obstacles and challenges to overcome. Here are some examples:

- Dependence on fossil fuels: Despite progress in renewable energy, dependence on fossil fuels can be an obstacle to achieving climate-neutral energy consumption. Opposition from the fossil fuel industry and political interests can hinder the transition to sustainable energy.
- Lack of political will and commitment: Achieving universal access to sustainable energy requires political will and commitment from governments and international organizations. Lack of political leadership and priorities can hinder progress and investment in renewable energy.
- Challenges in infrastructure and technology: To ensure access to sustainable energy for all, the expansion of infrastructure for renewable energy production and distribution is required. Challenges such as lack of electricity grids, technical capacity and high initial investment costs can be obstacles to developing and implementing renewable energy systems.
- Financial challenges and financing: The transition to sustainable energy may require significant investment, and financial challenges may be barriers to implementing the necessary measures. Shortfalls in financing, including lack of access to capital and investment, can hinder the transition to sustainable energy.
- Technological development and innovation: The development of new technology and innovation in renewable energy is crucial to increasing the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of sustainable energy solutions. Lack of technological

development and innovation can be an obstacle to quickly and efficiently introducing renewable energy sources.

- Socio-economic and geographical challenges: Some communities, especially in remote or poor areas, may face socio-economic and geographical barriers to accessing sustainable energy. Special efforts and adapted solutions are needed to ensure that all communities and individuals are included in the sustainable energy transition.

Overcoming these obstacles requires cooperation between governments, community organizations, business and society at large. Education, awareness-raising and policy actions are needed to promote the transition to sustainable energy and reduce barriers to a sustainable energy future.



**Summary**

In order to achieve the goals in sustainability area 7, Sustainable energy for all, there are several obstacles and challenges to overcome. One of the main obstacles is the dependence on fossil fuels, which can complicate the transition to sustainable energy due to opposition from the fossil fuel industry and political interests. In addition, lack of political will and commitment from governments and international organizations can hinder progress and investment in renewable energy.

Infrastructure and technology also pose a challenge, as the expansion of infrastructure for renewable energy production and distribution requires significant resources. Lack of electricity networks, technical capacity and high investment costs can be obstacles to developing and implementing renewable energy systems. Economic challenges and financing pose further obstacles, as the transition to sustainable energy requires significant investment and lack of access to capital and investment can hinder the implementation of necessary measures.

Technological development and innovation also play a crucial role, as advances in renewable energy are necessary to increase the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of sustainable energy solutions. Lack of technological development and innovation can be an obstacle to quickly and efficiently introducing renewable energy sources.

Socio-economic and geographic challenges are additional barriers, especially for remote or poor communities that may face difficulties accessing sustainable energy.

Overcoming these barriers requires collaboration and partnership between different actors, including governments, community organizations, business and society at large. Education and awareness-raising measures are needed to promote the transition to sustainable energy and reduce barriers to a sustainable energy future. In addition, political measures are needed to support and promote investments in renewable energy and create incentives to reduce dependence on fossil fuels.



***Links to other targets***

There are several other goals within Agenda 2030 that depend on or have links to goal 7. Here are some examples:



Goal 1: No Poverty: Access to reliable, sustainable and modern energy is essential to fight poverty. A reliable energy supply can improve people's living conditions, enable education and improve health care.

Goal 3: Good health and well-being: Access to sustainable energy is necessary to ensure reliable health care, especially in remote areas. Energy sources such as solar energy can provide electricity to health facilities, thereby improving access to medical equipment and lighting.

- Goal 4: High quality education: Access to energy is critical to improving educational opportunities. Electricity enables lighting in schools, the use of technological aids and access to information and communication technology, which contributes to improving the quality of education.
- Goal 5: Equality: Access to sustainable energy can have a positive impact on the lives of women and girls. By providing clean energy, the burden of collecting fuel can be reduced, freeing up time for education, income generation and community

participation.

- Goal 9: Industry, innovation and infrastructure: Access to reliable energy is necessary to drive economic growth and sustainable industrial development. Sustainable energy can promote innovation in sectors such as renewable energy, energy efficiency and sustainable transport.
- Goal 13: Combat climate change: To reduce carbon dioxide emissions and limit climate change, a transition to sustainable energy is necessary. By promoting the use of renewable energy sources and improving energy efficiency, Goal 7 can contribute to reducing negative climate impacts.

These are just a few examples of how goal 7 in Agenda 2030 is connected with other goals. The 2030 Agenda is a holistic and integrated framework for sustainable development, where all goals are interdependent and progress in one goal can contribute to progress in other goals.

## Conclusion

In order to achieve goal 7 of Agenda 2030, which aims to ensure access to sustainable energy for all, significant changes and efforts are required at various levels in society.

On a global level, we need to reorganize our energy system and transition to sustainable energy sources. This means reducing our dependence on fossil fuels and increasing the use of renewable energy such as solar and wind power. We must also improve energy efficiency in production and consumption and promote innovation and technology that promote sustainable energy.

At the national level, political will and leadership are required to prioritize investments and development of sustainable energy infrastructure. It is about promoting policy measures and regulations that promote renewable energy and energy efficiency. We must also ensure that energy access is fair and inclusive, especially for vulnerable communities and remote areas.

At the individual level, it is important to promote awareness of energy consumption and encourage energy efficient behaviours. It is about reducing our energy consumption, making conscious choices in our consumption and switching to more sustainable energy alternatives in our homes and means of transport. Education and awareness are key to informing the public of the necessary changes and creating commitment to achieving Goal 7.

However, there are challenges that hinder progress in this area.

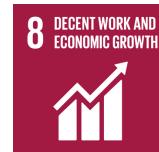
-Lack of access to energy and infrastructure is a challenge in many parts of the world, especially in poor and remote areas.

-Economic and technical obstacles can also limit the development of sustainable energy solutions.

Overcoming these barriers requires political will and leadership, investment in sustainable energy infrastructure and technology, and collaboration and partnership between different stakeholders.

In summary, the achievement of goal 7 of Agenda 2030 requires significant changes at the global, national and individual level. It requires a transition to sustainable energy sources and increased energy efficiency, political commitment and leadership to promote sustainable energy, as well as conscious behaviors and choices that reduce our energy consumption. By implementing these changes, we can strive to ensure access to sustainable energy for all and contribute to a more sustainable future.

## ***Chapter 8***



### ***Goal 8 Decent working conditions and economic growth***

2020 more than half of the world's workers were in precarious employment, often with poor pay and limited access to both education and social security. In the next 20 years, the global workforce is also expected to increase by 800 million people, which requires great efforts to create new jobs that are also sustainable for people and the environment.

Decent working conditions promote sustainable economic growth and are a positive force for the entire planet. We must protect workers' rights and end modern slavery, human trafficking and child labor once and for all. By creating good conditions for innovation and entrepreneurship and ensuring decent working conditions for

everyone, sustainable economic growth that includes the whole of society is promoted.



### ***Analysis for the transformation of Sweden (2018)***

#### ***Summary***

Sweden has good economic development and decreasing unemployment. However, there are inequalities in the labor market and in working life. A special investment is made globally for decent working conditions through the Global Deal partnership.

Some identified challenges based on Agenda 2030:

- Need for welfare measures that complement GDP.
- Difficulties for certain groups to establish themselves in the labor market.
- Unsafe employment conditions.
- Lack of labor in certain sectors.
- Wage differences between women and men.
- Challenges related to the work environment in the form of stress and mental illness.
- Gross vulnerability in the form of forced labour, modern slavery, human trafficking and child labor is a global challenge.



- Make sure that the economy in all countries grows in a way that suits the countries.

The total

economic activity during a year or GDP (gross domestic product) in developing countries must increase by at least 7 percent.

- Get higher economic productivity by investing in variety, and better versions of

technology and new inventions. Invest in areas where you increase the value of goods, and where there are many jobs.

- Support policies for companies to become more productive and have good conditions for those who work. Support creativity and new solutions and encourage entrepreneurship, for example the growth of SMEs.
- The resources in consumption and production must be used more efficiently throughout the world. The economy must grow, without at the same time damaging the environment.
- All women and men, including young people and people with disabilities, must have full employment, i.e. be able to work full-time. Everyone who works must have good conditions and the same pay for the same work.
- Reduce the number of young people who do not work or study.
- Find ways to end forced labor, modern slavery and human trafficking, now or as soon as possible. Make sure to ban children from working or being used as soldiers, so that it can be stopped completely.



**Society 2030 story when the goals are**

**fulfilled**

The year is 2030 and the world has achieved the overall goal and all sub-goals in sustainability area 8, Decent working conditions and economic growth. Humanity has created a world where people can work under dignified conditions and economic growth takes place in a sustainable and inclusive way.

The work for decent working conditions has led to a significant reduction of exploitation and inequalities in the labor market. All workers have access to fair and safe working conditions. Slavery, child labor and forced labor have been eradicated and human rights are fully respected.

Employee rights and benefits have been strengthened. Wages are fair and correspond to the value of the work. Working hours are reasonable and adapted to

health and well-being. Employees have the right to a social safety net and social insurance that ensures security in the event of illness, unemployment and retirement.

Trade union rights are strong and collective bargaining plays a central role in ensuring decent working conditions. The labor market is characterized by cooperation and dialogue between employers, employees and authorities. Everyone has the opportunity to influence working conditions and participate in decision-making.

Economic growth has taken place in a sustainable and inclusive manner. Economic systems and policies promote equality, justice and sustainable development. Investment flows have steered towards sectors that promote social and environmental responsibility.

Entrepreneurship and innovation have flourished. Small and medium-sized companies have received support and opportunities to grow. Business operations are conducted with consideration for social and environmental aspects. Sustainable business principles and responsible business practices are the norm rather than the exception.

No human being lives in extreme poverty. Unemployment has decreased significantly and access to decent work has increased. Income differences have decreased and everyone has access to resources and opportunities to live a dignified life.

This future is characterized by strong solidarity and cooperation between countries and sectors. Global partnerships promote the exchange of knowledge, technology and resources to promote economic growth and decent working conditions worldwide.

By achieving the overall goal and all sub-goals within sustainability area 8, we have created a world where work is a source of dignity and economic growth is sustainable and inclusive for all



***Obstacles to achieving the goals***

In order to reach the described existence where decent working conditions and economic growth are achieved in a sustainable and inclusive way, there are several obstacles and challenges that need to be overcome. Here are some examples:

- Inequality and social injustice: One of the biggest obstacles is the existing inequality in society. There may be political, economic and social structures that create and maintain inequality. Reducing income inequality and ensuring fair working conditions for all requires comprehensive policy action and reforms.
- Weak labor rights and lack of union protection: Many countries and regions have weak labor law regulations and limited union protection. To achieve decent working conditions, labor rights must be strengthened and trade union rights promoted.
- Informal work and lack of social protection: A large part of the world's workforce is involved in informal work, which can be insecure and without any social safety net. Extending social protection to all workers, regardless of employment, is an important challenge.
- Challenges in Global Supply Chains: Global supply chains can be complex and difficult to monitor. It is a challenge to ensure that companies and organizations act responsibly and respect working conditions along the entire supply chain.
- Economic system and political priorities: Achieving sustainable economic growth and decent working conditions requires transformation of the prevailing economic system and political priorities. There may be resistance and interests that prevent a comprehensive change.
- Lack of education and skills development: To achieve decent working conditions and promote economic growth, education and skills development are needed. Lack of access to education and training opportunities can be an obstacle to improving working conditions and supporting economic growth.
- Sustainable business models and responsible business: To promote sustainable economic growth, businesses need to adapt their models to include social and environmental considerations. It requires a change in business culture and that companies integrate sustainability principles as a central part of their operations.
- Global cooperation and resource sharing: Achieving decent working conditions and sustainable economic growth worldwide requires strong global cooperation and resource sharing. The challenges can vary between countries and regions, and a global partnership is essential to address these differences and create equal opportunities for all.

Overcoming these barriers requires a combination of policy action, legislation, investment, education and awareness-raising. It also requires the commitment of governments, businesses, trade unions, community organizations and individuals to actively work to promote decent working conditions and sustainable economic

growth.

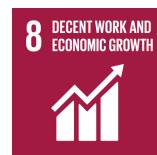


### Summary

By 2030, the world has successfully achieved the goal of decent working conditions and sustainable economic growth. Exploitation and inequalities in the labor market have been significantly reduced, and all workers have access to safe and fair working conditions. Slavery, child labor and forced labor are eradicated, and human rights are fully respected. Wages are fair and correspond to the value of the work, and working conditions are adapted to health and well-being. Trade union rights are strong, and cooperation between employers, workers and authorities is the norm. Economic growth takes place in a sustainable and inclusive way, with investments that promote social and environmental responsibility. Small and medium-sized enterprises have been supported, and business activities are conducted with consideration for social and environmental aspects.

Despite these advances, there are obstacles to overcome. Inequality and social injustice require comprehensive political action and reform. Labor rights must be strengthened, and social protection must be extended to all workers. Global supply chains are complex and require monitoring to ensure responsible behavior. Changes in economic systems and political priorities may face resistance. Education and skills development are essential, and businesses must adapt to sustainable business models. Finally, strong global cooperation and resource allocation is required to address challenges worldwide.

Overcoming these barriers requires a broad effort from governments, businesses, unions and community organizations. It requires policy action, investment, education and awareness-raising to ensure that decent working conditions and sustainable economic growth become a reality for all.



Links to other targets

There are several other goals within Agenda 2030 that depend on or have links to goal 8. Here are some examples:



- Goal 1: No Poverty: Promoting economic growth and productive employment is essential to reducing poverty. By creating more and better job opportunities, Goal 8 can help lift people out of poverty and promote economic inclusion.
- Goal 4: High quality of education: Employment and education are close to each other. By promoting access to quality education and training, Goal 8 can help equip people with the skills needed to decent and productive jobs.
- Goal 5: Equality: Goal 8 emphasizes the importance of promoting gender equality in working life. Offering equal opportunities for employment and decent working conditions for women and men is an important part of achieving gender equality and women's economic empowerment.
- Goal 10: Reduced inequality: Economic growth and productive employment can contribute to reducing inequalities. By promoting inclusive growth and working to reduce differences in income and economic opportunities, Goal 8 can contribute to creating a fairer and more equal societal development.
- Goal 12: Sustainable consumption and production: Sustainable economic growth and productive employment are connected to more sustainable consumption and production. By promoting resource efficiency, sustainable production and consumption patterns, goal 8 can contribute to more sustainable development and reduce the impact on the environment.
- Goal 16: Peaceful and inclusive societies: Employment and economic stability are essential to creating peaceful and inclusive societies. By promoting sustainable economic growth and decent working conditions, Goal 8 can help reduce social tensions and promote stability and cohesion.

These are some examples of how goal 8 in Agenda 2030 is connected with other goals. All goals in the 2030 Agenda are interdependent and progress within one goal can have positive effects on several other goals. An integrated and sustainable strategy is essential to promote sustainable development.

### ***Conclusion***

Achieving Goal 8 of the 2030 Agenda, which aims to promote decent work and economic growth, requires similar significant changes and efforts at different levels of society.

At the global level, a restructuring of the labor market is required to promote decent jobs and economic growth. This means creating a favorable business environment and economic opportunities for companies and workers. It also requires promoting fair and inclusive working conditions, as well as combating informal and bonded labour.

At the national level, political will and leadership are required to promote economic growth and create decent jobs. It is about investing in education and vocational training to strengthen workers' skills and adapt them to the needs of the labor market. It also requires promoting gender equality in the workplace and combating discrimination in employment and wage setting.

On an individual level, it is important to promote entrepreneurship and financial awareness. It is about promoting education and knowledge about entrepreneurship and financial independence. It also requires creating access to financial services and microcredit to support small businesses and micro-entrepreneurs.

However, there are challenges that hinder progress in this area. Lack of employment, especially for youth and women, is a challenge in many parts of the world. Inequality in income distribution and access to resources can also hinder economic growth and the creation of decent jobs. Overcoming these obstacles requires political will and leadership, investment in education and skills development, as well as cooperation and partnership between the labor market partners.

In summary, the achievement of goal 8 of the 2030 Agenda requires significant changes at the global, national and individual level. It requires labor market restructuring to promote decent jobs and economic growth, political commitment and leadership to create a favorable business environment and equal working conditions, as well as individual entrepreneurship and economic awareness. By implementing these changes, we can strive to promote decent work and economic growth for all and contribute to a sustainable future.

**System or structure that can strengthen or hinder the transition.**

**Sovereignty of countries**

There was once a world where the sovereignty of countries played a decisive role in the implementation of Agenda 2030 and its sustainability goals. The 2030 Agenda was an ambitious global agreement aimed at addressing the world's most pressing challenges, including poverty, inequality and climate change.

In this world, each country was sovereign and had full control over its internal affairs. This meant that each country's government had the authority to make decisions on how to implement and achieve the various sustainability goals of the 2030 Agenda. This created a challenge as some countries had different priorities and resources to address the sustainability challenges.

For some countries, the sustainability goals were the highest priority and they worked actively to integrate them into their national policies. These countries recognized the importance of fighting poverty, promoting education, improving the healthcare system and reducing their climate impact. They understood that by achieving these goals, they would not only improve their own communities, but also contribute to a more sustainable and just world.

But there were also countries where sovereignty was used as a pretext to neglect or ignore the sustainability goals that were not in their immediate interest. These countries prioritized their economic growth over environmental concerns and social challenges. They saw the 2030 Agenda as a curtailment of their sovereignty and were unwilling to tackle the major changes required to achieve sustainability.

Conflicts between countries also arose due to disagreements about the best methods to achieve the sustainability goals. Some countries advocated market solutions and investment in green technology, while others favored government regulation and support for traditional industries. This disagreement hindered the cooperation and global coordination necessary to successfully implement the 2030 Agenda.

Despite these challenges, there were also many examples of how countries' sovereignty could be used in a positive way to promote the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Some countries, realizing that they shared similar challenges, formed coalitions and alliances to jointly work towards the sustainability goals. By sharing experiences and resources, these countries were able to benefit from sovereignty while promoting global cooperation.

Gradually, more countries realized the importance of cooperating and coordinating their efforts to achieve sustainability. By recognizing that global problems require global solutions, sovereignty could be used as a basis for shaping international agreements and cooperation platforms. By the countries' governments jointly

adopting and committing to meeting the common sustainability goals, sovereignty became a force for change rather than an obstacle.

Finally, sovereignty became a reason for countries to take on a greater role in implementing Agenda 2030. They realized that, as sovereign nations, they had responsibility for the welfare of their own populations and for protecting the planet. By integrating the sustainability goals into their national plans and policies, the countries could create a future where sovereignty and global cooperation did not conflict, but rather strengthened each other.

So, despite the challenges and differences that sovereignty can create, this story showed that sovereignty can also be a force to drive forward the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and its sustainability goals. With mutual recognition of our common challenges and strong global cooperation, countries can work together to shape a more sustainable and just world.

## Chapter 9



### Goal 9 Sustainable industry, innovations and infrastructure

A functioning and stable infrastructure is the foundation of all successful societies. To meet the future challenges that we humans and our planet face, our industries and infrastructures must be made more inclusive and sustainable.

Innovation and technological progress are the key to finding sustainable solutions to both economic and environmental challenges. It also contributes to creating new markets and jobs that can contribute to an efficient and equal use of resources. Investing in sustainable industries, research, environmentally friendly technology and innovation are all important ways to create the conditions for sustainable development.

*Analysis for the transformation of Sweden (2018)*



### ***Summary***

Sweden has a well-developed infrastructure, has long worked for sustainable industry and has a innovation-promoting climate. Going forward, the challenges are deemed to be linked to the need for change in Sweden and globally, resource-efficient industry, to counter climate change and a transport infrastructure in line with the ambition of a fossil-free transport sector.

Some identified challenges based on Agenda 2030:

- Taking advantage of the possibilities of digitization requires continued expansion of secure and accessible networks with high transmission speed and geographical coverage.
- Transition to a fossil-free transport sector means new requirements and conditions for modernize and develop transport infrastructures.
- Strengthen Swedish competitiveness in the transition towards a circular and bio-based economy.
- Increased resource efficiency and environmental considerations in production.



- Expand the infrastructure within and between countries, so that it maintains good quality. It must be hardy, durable and reliable. The infrastructure must support economic development and people's well-being. It should also be available to everyone, at a price they can afford.
- Work to make industrialization inclusive and sustainable. Increase employment in industry. Also increase the total economic activity (GDP) of industry based on the conditions of the countries, and double the GDP of industry in the least developed countries.
- Give, for example, small industrial companies access to financial services, such as credit at a good price. Also help them so that they can be a part of the market.

- Equip the infrastructure and adapt the industry for sustainable development. It must become more sustainable and use resources more efficiently. It must use more clean and environmentally friendly techniques and processes in industry, based on the conditions that exist in the countries.
- Improve research and technology in industry in all countries. Encourage new inventions, and increase the number of people working with research and development.
- Expand the infrastructure in developing countries, so that it becomes sustainable and durable. Give them financial, technological and technical support for the expansion.
- Support developing countries' own development of technology, research and new inventions. Make sure there is a good policy for, for example, variety in the industry and increasing the production of goods with the country's raw materials. Raw materials are cheaper to sell than products you make from them.
- Greatly increase access to technology for information and communication. Ensure that there is universal access to the Internet, which everyone can afford, in the least developed countries.



**Society 2030 story when the goals are fulfilled**

The year is 2030 and the world has achieved the overall goal and all sub-goals within sustainability area 9, Sustainable industry, innovations and infrastructure. Humanity has created a world where industrial development and infrastructure promotion takes place in a sustainable and innovative way.

The industry has undergone an extensive transformation towards sustainability. Companies have adopted sustainable production methods and minimized their impact on the environment. Carbon dioxide emissions have been reduced drastically and the use of resources is efficient and circular. Recycling and reuse are integrated into the production process, reducing waste and promoting a circular economy. Innovation and technology play a key role in sustainable development. Research and development have been driven forward to find innovative solutions to global challenges. Technologies such as artificial intelligence, robotics and the Internet have been applied to optimize production and increase efficiency. Digitization and automation have created a more adaptable and sustainable industry.

The infrastructure has been modernized and adapted to sustainability principles. Sustainable transport systems, including fast and reliable public transport, have reduced reliance on private vehicles and minimized traffic congestion and pollution.

Renewable energy infrastructure, such as solar and wind farms and energy storage systems, is well developed and ensures access to clean and reliable energy.

In this future, societies are well-connected and integrated. Digitization and broadband infrastructure have increased access to information and enabled remote work and distance education. Engineering and innovation have also improved access to clean water supply, sanitation and basic infrastructure in remote and underdeveloped areas.

Sustainable industry, innovations and infrastructure have not only promoted economic growth, but also social prosperity and equality. More jobs have been created in the sustainable sector, and a diversified workforce with inclusive opportunities has flourished. At the same time, it has been a priority to include marginalized groups, such as women and young people, in technological and industrial development.

This world is characterized by strong global cooperation and partnership. Countries and companies collaborate to share knowledge, technology and resources to promote sustainable industry and innovative solutions. Education and capacity building are central to ensuring that people have the skills required for the rapidly changing labor market.

By achieving the overall goal and all sub-goals within sustainability area 9, we have created a world where industrial development and infrastructure promotion go hand in hand with sustainability and innovation, leading to a prosperous and sustainable future for all.



***Obstacles to achieving the goals***

In order for our world to look as described in 2030 in sustainability area 8, Decent working conditions and economic growth, there are several likely obstacles and challenges to overcome. Here are some examples:

- Inequalities and lack of rights: Challenges with inequalities and lack of respect for workers' rights can be obstacles to achieving decent working conditions. There may be political opposition, lack of enforcement of laws and weaker trade union rights that make the position of workers more difficult and lead to exploitation and inequalities in the labor market.
- Social and cultural norms: Some social and cultural norms can be resistant to changes in working conditions and economic growth. Traditional attitudes and structures can limit women's and marginalized groups' access to decent work and

equal opportunities.

- Economic and political interests: The interests of business and politics can be in conflict with workers' rights and sustainable economic growth. Some companies and political actors may have incentives to exploit labor or promote skewed economic systems that benefit some groups at the expense of others.
- Weak institutional capacity: Weak institutional capacity and lack of effective regulatory and supervisory systems can be obstacles to maintaining decent working conditions and promoting sustainable economic growth. Weak or corrupt institutions can reduce the enforcement of labor laws and hinder economic reforms.
- Complex global economy: The global economy is complex and interconnected, and addressing challenges of inequality and exploitation at the global level can be difficult. Different national economic policies and competition can affect workers' rights and economic growth in different ways.
- Environmental challenges: Climate change and environmental problems can have negative consequences for the labor market and economic growth. For example, natural disasters and extreme weather conditions can negatively affect job opportunities and economic sectors.

Overcoming these obstacles requires cooperation and action from governments, social partners, civil society and international organizations.

Effective regulatory and supervisory systems are needed to protect workers' rights.

Investment flows and economic policies need to be directed towards sustainable and inclusive growth.

Education, awareness-raising and gender equality initiatives can contribute to changing social and cultural norms.

Strong global partnerships and cooperation are essential to address the challenges at the global level and promote decent working conditions and economic growth worldwide.



By 2030, the world has successfully achieved the goal of sustainable industry, innovations and infrastructure. The infrastructure is of high quality, durable and accessible to everyone at reasonable prices. Industrial development takes place in an inclusive and sustainable way, which has increased employment and GDP in the sector, especially in developing countries.

Small industrial companies have access to financial services and are an active part of the market. The infrastructure and industries have been adapted for sustainable development and use resources more efficiently. Clean and environmentally friendly technology has been integrated into production.

Research and technology in industry has flourished, and new inventions are encouraged. The infrastructure in the developing countries has been equipped with financial, technological and technical support.

Access to information and communication technologies, including the Internet, has increased significantly in least developed countries, promoting digital inclusion and opportunities for all.

Although the goals have been achieved, several obstacles have been overcome, including inequalities, lack of rights, economic and political interests, weak institutional capacity, complex global economy and environmental challenges.

Through cooperation and action by governments, social partners and international organizations, these obstacles have been tackled to create a world where sustainable industry, innovations and infrastructure are the key to sustainable development and economic growth.

[Links to other targets](#)



There are several other goals within Agenda 2030 that depend on or have links to goal 9. Here are some examples:



- Goal 1: No poverty: Sustainable industrialization and infrastructure development can help reduce poverty by creating economic opportunities and generating jobs. A strong infrastructure can support productivity and economic growth, which in turn can reduce poverty levels.
- Goal 2: No Hunger: Infrastructure and technology are critical to improving agricultural production, food distribution and creating sustainable food systems. For example, improved transport infrastructure can facilitate access to food in remote areas and facilitate trade in agricultural products.
- Goal 7: Sustainable energy: Infrastructure development is necessary to promote the use of renewable energy sources and improve energy efficiency. Access to sustainable energy requires expanded energy infrastructure and access to modern energy systems to ensure reliable and sustainable energy supply.
- Goal 11: Sustainable cities and communities: Sustainable infrastructure is central to developing sustainable and resilient cities. Investments in infrastructure for transport, housing, water and sewage systems and improved urban planning can create vibrant, inclusive and sustainable cities.
- Goal 12: Sustainable consumption and production: Sustainable industrialization and innovation are important to promote resource efficiency and the transition to a circular economy. By promoting sustainable production technology and industrial processes, goal 9 can contribute to reducing environmental impact and resource consumption.
- Goal 13: Combat climate change: Sustainable infrastructure and technology are necessary to reduce climate impact. By investing in climate-smart infrastructure projects and promoting innovation in renewable energy and energy efficiency, Goal 9 can contribute to reducing emissions and managing climate change.

It is important to note that the goals of Agenda 2030 are interdependent and that progress in one goal can have positive effects on several other goals. An integrated and holistic approach is essential to promote sustainable development.

## Conclusion

In order to achieve goal 9 of Agenda 2030, which aims to build a robust infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and promote innovation, significant changes and efforts are required at various levels in society.

At the global level, it is necessary to promote sustainable and inclusive industrialization and infrastructure development. It is about promoting economic diversification and improving access to modern infrastructure, such as transport networks, energy infrastructure and digital communication systems. We must also

promote innovation and technology development to meet the challenges and needs that arise.

At the national level, political will and leadership are required to create a favorable environment for industrial development and innovation. It is about developing and implementing effective industrial policies and regulations that promote competitiveness and sustainable growth. It is also important to invest in infrastructure development and improve access to modern and sustainable technologies.

On an individual level, it is important to promote entrepreneurship and innovation and create a culture of entrepreneurship and business development. It is about promoting education and knowledge exchange to promote technical competence and innovation. Education and awareness are key to informing the public about the opportunities and benefits of industrial development and innovation. However, there are challenges that hinder progress in this area.

-Lack of capital, technical skills and access to markets can be obstacles to promoting industrial development and innovation, especially in developing countries.

- Inequality and lack of access to education and skills development can also be obstacles to promoting entrepreneurship and innovation.

Overcoming these barriers requires political will and leadership, investment in education and infrastructure, and collaboration and partnership between the public and private sectors.

In summary, the achievement of goal 9 of Agenda 2030 requires significant changes at the global, national and individual level. It requires the promotion of sustainable and inclusive industrialization, investment in infrastructure development, promotion of innovation and entrepreneurship, as well as education and knowledge exchange. By implementing these changes, we can strive to build a robust infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization, and foster innovation to create a sustainable and prosperous future.

## Chapter 10



### Goal 10 Reduced inequality

Equality means that all people should be treated equally and have the same rights. Things like gender, ethnicity, religion or functional variation don't matter. Equality is

important in a sustainable society where no one should be left out. A fair distribution of money and that everyone should be able to participate and influence society is the basis for equality.

Many countries have gotten better, and fewer people are poor today. But equality has nevertheless decreased, both within countries and between countries. In an equal society, there are fewer conflicts, and people have a greater chance to be involved and influence society.

The basis for a sustainable society is a fair distribution of resources and economic, social and political influence in society. The global goals' watchword is Leave No One Behind and goal 10 highlights the importance of working for a society where no one is left behind in development.

An egalitarian society is based on the principle of equal rights and opportunities for everyone regardless of, for example, gender, ethnicity, religion, functional variation, age and other status. Although many countries have had positive economic development with reduced poverty in recent decades, gaps have widened both within and between countries. Equality reduces the risk of conflict and promotes the opportunity for all people to participate in and influence societal development.

#### **Analysis for the transformation of Sweden (2018)**



#### ***Summary***

Sweden is one of the most equal countries in the world, but is also the OECD country where economic inequality is increasing the most. There are also inequalities between groups regarding factors such as health, education and work.

Some identified challenges based on Agenda 2030:

Increasing income inequality.

Housing and labor market segregation.

Inequalities in health and lack of equality in education (see goal 3 and goal 4).

Discrimination in society and that Swedish discrimination protection does not include a general prohibition of discrimination.

Varying conditions between municipalities, which causes challenges to offer equivalent public service.



Objective- Ensure that incomes increase more than they do now for the 40 percent of people who have the lowest income in a country.

Goal- Make it possible, and work for everyone to be included in social, economic and political life. Things like gender, disability, origin, religion or financial situation should not matter.

Goal- Make sure everyone has the same opportunities. Reduce the risk of it becoming unequal, including by abolishing laws and policies that can discriminate. Support such legislation, policies and the like that can increase equality.

Goal- Work for gradually increased equality, by introducing policies on the economy, wages, and social protection.

Goal-The control and the supervision of financial markets and institutions must be improved. Support the implementation of such control.

Objective- Ensure the strengthening of the representation and voice of the developing countries. They must participate in decision-making in international economic institutions, so that they can become more efficient and credible, and be forced to take responsibility.

Objective- Make migration more orderly, safe and responsible. Migration policy must be planned and function well.

Objective- Implement the World Trade Organization agreement. It is a principle for a fairer treatment of the developing countries, especially the least developed.

Objective- Encourage public assistance for development, and financial support. It could be, for example, about foreign investments directly to the states that need the financial help the most.

Goal- Reduce: Migrants' fee for transferring money abroad to less than 3 percent. Services for transfer to other countries shall not cost more than 5 percent



### Society 2030 story when the goals are

fulfilled

The year is 2030 and the world has achieved the overall goal and all sub-goals within sustainability area 10, Reduced inequality. Humanity has created a world where inequalities have decreased and all people have equal opportunities for a dignified and meaningful life.

One of the most important advances has been in economic equality. By promoting a fair and inclusive distribution of resources and wealth, the gaps between rich and poor have narrowed significantly. Social safety nets and progressive tax systems have been put in place to ensure that everyone has access to basic services and benefits.

Education has played a central role in reducing inequalities. Quality education has become available to all, regardless of socio-economic background or geographical location. No child is without schooling, and education is considered a basic human right. Opportunities for education have been expanded through digital technology and innovative teaching methods.

Women's and girls' rights have been prioritized, and equality is the norm. By promoting women's participation in working life and in decision-making positions, women have gained greater economic independence and influence. The pay gap has narrowed, and gender discrimination has been actively fought at all levels of society.

Reduced inequality has also been achieved through social inclusion and justice. People with disabilities, ethnic minorities and other marginalized groups have been given equal opportunities and protection against discrimination. Their voices are heard and their needs are taken into account in decision-making processes.

Health and welfare have become universal rights. Access to quality health care has been extended to all people, regardless of their socio-economic status. No people suffer anymore from a lack of access to basic health care or vital medicines.

Society is characterized by inclusion, respect and solidarity. Human rights are respected and protected, and the judiciary is impartial and fair. No one is discriminated against because of their identity or background, and all people have the opportunity to participate and influence society.

This future is characterized by global collaboration and partnership. Countries and organizations work together to promote social justice and equality across national borders.

Economic and technological resources are distributed fairly, and rich countries

actively support poorer countries in their efforts to reduce inequality and promote sustainable development.

By achieving the overall goal and all sub-goals within sustainability area 10, the world has created a fairer and more inclusive future for all. Inequalities have been reduced, and all people have equal opportunities to flourish and contribute to society in their own unique ways.



***Obstacles to achieving the goals***

In order for our world not to be able to look as described in 2030 within sustainability area 10, Reduced inequality, there are several potential obstacles and challenges to overcome. Here are some examples:

- Economic and political interests: Power imbalances, economic interests and political ideologies can influence the distribution of resources and counter measures to reduce inequalities. Opposition from wealthy and influential groups can hinder the implementation of fair tax systems and social safety nets aimed at reducing disparities.
- Education system challenges: Inequalities within the education system can reinforce social divides and make it difficult for everyone to access quality education. Weak school systems, lack of resources and infrastructure, and socio-economic barriers can be obstacles to ensuring equal opportunities for education for all.
- Cultural and social norms: Inequalities can be rooted in deep-rooted social and cultural norms. Gender discrimination, discrimination against ethnic minorities and prejudice against certain groups can be obstacles to achieving equality. Changing such norms and achieving an inclusive and equal culture can be a challenge.
- Lack of inclusive policies and fair institutions: Weak institutions and corruption can thwart efforts to reduce inequality. Lack of implementation of legislation and lack of transparency and accountability can hinder efforts to promote just and inclusive societies.
- Environmental change and natural disasters: Climate change and natural disasters can exacerbate inequalities by hitting the most vulnerable social groups the hardest. Environmental challenges can undermine progress in social justice and economic equality.

- National and global conflicts: Conflicts and political instability can have negative effects on economic development and social justice. War, internal division and lack of cooperation between countries can hinder progress towards reducing inequality.

Overcoming these obstacles requires a broad and holistic approach which includes policy measures, institutional reforms, education and awareness-raising, and international cooperation. It requires political will to prioritize reduced inequality and create inclusive societies where all people have equal opportunities and rights.



**Summary**

By 2030, the world has successfully achieved the goal of reducing inequality and creating a more just and inclusive future. Economic equality has been promoted through measures of equitable distribution and progressive tax systems, which have narrowed the gaps between rich and poor. Education has played a central role in reducing inequalities, and everyone has access to quality education regardless of background.

The rights of women and minorities have been prioritized, and equality is the norm. Social inclusion and justice have become a cornerstone of society, and all people have equal opportunities and protection against discrimination.

Health and welfare have become universal rights, and access to high-quality health care is available to all. Society is characterized by inclusion, respect and solidarity, and human rights are respected and protected.

International cooperation and equitable distribution of resources have been key to overcoming obstacles such as economic interests, weak education systems, cultural norms and lack of inclusive policies. Through political will and action, the world has created a fairer and more equal future where inequalities have been significantly reduced.



**Links to other targets**

It is important to keep in mind that the goals of the transition are integrated and interdependent, which means that progress in one goal can affect progress toward

other goals. Below are some links and dependencies that Goal 10 has to other goals in the transition:



- Goal 1 - No poverty: Inequalities and poverty are closely linked to each other. Reduced economic inequalities can contribute to reducing the proportion of people living in poverty and thus promote Goal 1.
- Goal 4 - Good education: Education plays an important role in reducing inequalities. By providing equal access to quality education and promoting inclusion, Goal 9 can contribute to reducing inequalities.

Goal 5 - Equality: By promoting gender equality, Goal 5 can contribute to reducing inequalities. Women and girls are often more vulnerable to inequality and Goal 9 contributes to reducing inequality discrimination, and by promoting their rights and equal opportunities Goal 10 can be promoted.

- Goal 8 - Decent working conditions and economic growth: Reduced economic inequalities can contribute to promoting decent working conditions and economic growth. Equitable distribution of income and resources can create a more sustainable and inclusive economy, which promotes Goal 8.

Goal 16 - Peaceful and inclusive societies: Inequalities can be an underlying cause of social unrest and conflict. By reducing inequalities, Goal 16 can be promoted by creating peaceful and inclusive societies.

It is important to note that these connections and dependencies are examples and that there are more connections between Goal 10 and other goals in the transition. By working towards Goal 10 and the other goals in collaboration, we can promote a more sustainable and inclusive world for all.

## Conclusion

In order to achieve goal 10 of Agenda 2030, which aims to reduce inequalities within and between countries, significant changes and efforts are required at various levels in society.

At the global level, it is necessary to promote economic and social integration in order to reduce inequalities. It is about promoting fair trade agreements and creating a favorable international trading environment. We must also promote development aid and investment in developing countries to promote economic growth and reduce poverty. It is also important to reduce the economic gap by promoting progressive taxation and social safety nets.

At the national level, political commitment and leadership are required to reduce inequalities. It is about developing and implementing effective social and economic policies that promote inclusion and equality. It is also important to invest in education, health care and social programs to promote opportunities and reduce gaps.

At the individual level, it is important to promote awareness and inclusive behavior to reduce inequalities. It is about promoting tolerance, respect and equality in society. Education and awareness are key to informing the public about issues of inequality and promoting behavioral change that promotes inclusion and equity.

However, there are challenges that hinder progress in this area.

Lack of access to education, work and social resources is a challenge in many parts of the world, especially for vulnerable groups and marginalized communities.

Inequalities can also be reinforced by discrimination and lack of equal opportunities. Overcoming these barriers requires political will and leadership, investment in social programs and resources, and collaboration and partnership between different stakeholders.

In summary, the achievement of goal 10 of Agenda 2030 requires significant changes at the global, national and individual level. It requires the promotion of economic and social integration, investment in education and social programs, and the promotion of inclusion and equality. By implementing these changes, we can strive to reduce inequalities and create a more just and inclusive world.

## ***Chapter 11***



***Goal 11 Making cities and settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable***

Over half of the world's population lives in urban areas, and the proportion is expected to rise to 70 percent by 2050. Growing cities can create new opportunities for economic growth, but can also contribute to increased social divides and stresses on ecosystems. The rapid and large migration to cities poses new demands that need to be met in an ecologically, economically and socially sustainable way.

Sustainable urban development includes sustainable construction and sustainable planning of housing, infrastructure, public places, transport, recycling and safer chemical handling, which in turn requires new technology and cooperation between several sectors. Inclusive and innovative urban planning is needed to make cities safe and sustainable for the future.

Sustainable development of cities means building and planning housing, public locations, transport, recycling and handling of chemicals in a sustainable way. To make cities safe and sustainable, planning must be done so that no one is left out.



### **Analysis for the transformation of Sweden (2018)**

#### **Summary**

A large majority of Sweden's population lives in and around cities and urban areas. At the same time that urbanization brings social and environmental challenges, urban development is also an important tool in the work with sustainable development.

Some identified challenges based on Agenda 2030:

Residential segregation.

Housing shortage and increased indebtedness.

Risk of quality deficiencies in planning and construction at a high rate of construction.

Cities climate and environmental impact.

Cities' lack of resilience

**GOAL in sight**



**Goal** -Se to ensure that everyone has access to housing that works and is safe, at a price that everyone can afford. Everyone must have access to basic services, and the slums must be upgraded.

**Goal** - That there must be safe, accessible and sustainable systems for transport, at a price that everyone can afford. Traffic must become safer, especially by expanding public transport for everyone.

**Goal** -Cities must be inclusive and sustainable. Ensure that people can participate in the planning and management of housing, which must be sustainable, in all countries.

**Goal** -Proportion of cities with a democratic structure for civil society participation in urban planning and management that is used regularly

**Goal** -The number of people who die and suffer from disasters, for example due to water, must decrease. The economic losses due to disasters must be reduced. Special focus must be on people who are poor and in vulnerable situations.

**Goal** -Make sure to strengthen things that can protect and secure the world's valuable natural and cultural heritage.

**Goal** -Reduce the negative environmental impact per person in cities. Ensure better air quality, and focus on waste management.

**Goal** -Everyone should have access to green areas and public places that are safe and inclusive. They must be accessible to everyone, including women and children, elderly people and people with disabilities.

**Goal** -Proportion of the built-up city that is available for public use, by gender, age and disability

**Goal** -Support positive and environmental connections between different urban, peri-urban and rural areas. This must be done by strengthening planning for

development, both within the countries and in regions.

**Goal** -Increase the number of cities and communities implementing strategies and plans to increase inclusion, to use resources efficiently, to cope with climate change and to reduce disasters.

**Goal** -Support the least developed countries financially and with technical assistance, so that they can build sustainably. The buildings must consist of local materials, and they must withstand a lot.



#### **Society 2030 story when the goals are fulfilled**

Cities have undergone a radical transformation to become sustainable. By focusing on public transport and sustainable transport systems, emissions from private cars have been reduced significantly. The cities' infrastructure has been optimized to promote sustainable mobility, with well-developed cycle paths and footpaths. Green areas have been integrated into the urban environment, which not only contributes to better air quality but also promotes physical activity and well-being.

The energy supply in the cities is now mainly based on renewable sources. Solar panels and wind turbines decorate the roofs and facades of the buildings and provide the cities with clean and sustainable energy. Low-energy technologies and energy efficiency have also been implemented, significantly reducing energy consumption and carbon dioxide emissions.

Urban planning has been imbued with the principles of social justice and inclusion. All residents have access to affordable, high-quality housing and basic infrastructure. Slum areas have been transformed into well-ordered and prosperous communities, where residents are given the opportunity to participate in decision-making and the development of their area.

Sustainable cities also promote local production and sustainable consumption patterns. By promoting local businesses and agriculture, economic growth and job creation are stimulated. Residents are encouraged to make conscious and sustainable choices in their consumption, which reduces waste and promotes a circular economy.

The cities have become centers of cultural exchange and innovation. Cultural diversity and creativity thrive, and people from different backgrounds and disciplines

collaborate to solve common challenges. Innovative technologies and digitization have been integrated to improve urban management, service delivery and communication between residents and authorities.

Sustainable cities and communities are also resilient to climate change and natural disasters. Adaptation measures have been taken to protect cities against floods, storms and other climate-related risks. Residents are well prepared and have access to the necessary resources and infrastructure to manage and recover from any stresses.

In this future, the world's cities and communities have been transformed into vibrant and sustainable places where people thrive, collaborate and live in harmony with nature. By achieving the goals in sustainability area 11, the world has created a future where urban life is characterized by sustainability, inclusion and opportunities for all



#### **Obstacles to achieving the goals**

In order for our world to be able to achieve the scenario described in 2030 in sustainability area 11, Sustainable cities and communities, there are several obstacles that must be overcome:

- Lack of political will and prioritization: Without strong political commitment and prioritization, it can be difficult to implement the necessary measures for sustainable development in cities. Policy makers need to understand the importance of sustainable cities and communities and act accordingly.
- Financial challenges: In order to implement sustainable urban projects and investments, financial resources are required. The lack of financial means or financial constraints can be an obstacle to implementing the necessary changes in the infrastructure and the transition to renewable energy sources.
- Technical challenges: The introduction of sustainable technologies and infrastructures may require technical expertise and innovation. If there are technical limitations or difficulties in adapting existing infrastructures, this can hinder the transition to sustainable cities and communities.
- Social and cultural factors: Changes in behavioral patterns and consumption habits can be challenging due to social and cultural factors. Residents' motivation and resistance to change can affect the implementation of sustainable solutions.

- Urbanization and population growth: Rapid urbanization and population growth can create challenges for building and managing sustainable cities. Planning, infrastructure and resource allocation must be managed in a sustainable way to meet the needs of a growing population and avoid reinforcing inequalities.
- Lack of cooperation and coordination: Creating sustainable cities and communities requires cooperation and coordination between different actors, such as governments, urban planners, residents and business. Lack of cooperation and coordination can hinder the implementation of integrated sustainability solutions.

To overcome these obstacles, efforts are required on several fronts.

Strong political leadership and prioritization of sustainable development are crucial.

Financial resources and financial support are needed to implement the necessary investments and projects.

Technical innovation and expertise are needed to develop and implement sustainable technologies.

It also requires creating awareness and education to change behaviors and consumption patterns.

The cooperation between different actors, both within and between cities, is crucial for creating integrated sustainability solutions and exchanging best practices.



**Summary**

The goals in sustainability area 11, Sustainable cities and communities, aim to transform our cities into sustainable, inclusive and resilient places where everyone can thrive. This includes goals such as improving housing, transportation, environmental impact, and involving the community in urban planning.

In the future scenario in 2030 where the goals are met, the cities have undergone radical changes. Public transport and sustainable transport systems have reduced emissions from private cars. Renewable energy sources dominate the energy supply, and the cities have a focus on social justice and inclusion in urban planning. Local production and sustainable consumption patterns are promoted, and the cities are centers for cultural exchange and innovation. They are also resilient to climate change and disasters.

To achieve this scenario, we need to overcome obstacles such as lack of political will and prioritization, economic challenges, technical barriers, social and cultural factors, rapid urbanization and lack of cooperation. Strong political leadership, financial resources, technological innovation, awareness and collaboration between different actors are essential to create sustainable cities and communities.



Links to other targets

As previously mentioned, the goals of the transition are integrated and interdependent. Here are some connections and dependencies that Goal 11 has to other goals in the transition:



- Goal 1 - Zero poverty: The goal of reducing poverty and inequality is linked to Goal 11. Creating inclusive cities and settlements can promote economic development and improve the quality of life of people living in poverty.
- Goal 3 - Health and well-being: A sustainable urban environment can promote the health and well-being of residents. Access to clean air and water resources, green spaces and health care services are important aspects of Goal 3 that can be achieved by improving the urban environment according to Goal 11.
- Goal 7 - Sustainable energy: Goal 11 is linked to Goal 7 by promoting sustainable energy supply in cities. By integrating renewable energy sources, energy efficiency and smart energy systems, energy-efficient and sustainable cities can be created.
- Goal 13 - Combat climate change: Cities are responsible for a large part of carbon dioxide emissions and are also affected by climate change. By adapting the city to climate change and reducing emissions, Goal 11 can contribute to combating climate change according to Goal 13.
- Goal 16 - Peaceful and inclusive societies: By creating inclusive, safe and sustainable cities, Goal 11 can help promote peaceful and inclusive societies according to Goal 16. A well-functioning urban environment can promote social cohesion and reduce conflict.

These examples illustrate some of the connections and dependencies that Goal 11 has to other goals in the transition. By working with the goals as a whole, we can

create more sustainable, inclusive and resilient cities that promote human well-being and the health of the planet.

### **Conclusion as a story**

There was once a city by name Solhåla, which strove to become a sustainable and vibrant place for its inhabitants. To achieve goal 11 of Agenda 2030, the city's residents, authorities and organizations worked together with burning passion and determination.

They realized that in order to create a sustainable city, they needed to change their urban planning. By integrating green spaces and parks, they created a natural oasis in the middle of the city core. They also built smart homes that used renewable energy and energy-efficient technologies. Solar panels adorned the roofs and green roofs became a common sight, helping to reduce energy consumption and emissions.

Transport was another important aspect to achieve the goal. The inhabitants of Solhåla were tired of traffic jams and air pollution. They invested in an extensive public transport infrastructure that made it easy to get around the city without having to use private cars. Extensive cycle paths and footpaths were also built to promote sustainable transport options and improve the health of residents.

To preserve the city's unique culture and history, Solhåla took steps to protect their cultural heritage. Old buildings were renovated and given new life while preserving their historic charm. Natural areas and green areas around the city were protected and were valued for its ecological diversity. Residents had access to natural recreation areas and could enjoy a balance between urban life and the beauty of nature.

But what made Solhåla particularly successful was inclusion and participation. Residents were active participants in urban development and their opinions and needs were listened to. Through citizen dialogue and commitment, they were able to help shape their city, which created a strong sense of community and responsibility.

Solhåla's success also depended on collaboration and knowledge sharing. The city's authorities and organizations cooperated closely with each other and dividend best practices to achieve the sustainability goals. They shared resources, technical know-how and lessons learned to accelerate development.

Through their collective efforts and visionary leadership, Solhåla became a model for sustainable cities around the world. They showed that in order to achieve goal 11 of the 2030 Agenda, it was necessary not only to focus on technical solutions, but also to include the inhabitants, protect cultural heritage and cooperate across borders.

Solhåla became a place where people enjoyed, where nature and city interacted harmoniously and where sustainability permeated every aspect of life. Their successful journey was proof that when people come together and strive towards a common vision, they can change the world and create a better future for all.

### **System or structure that can strengthen or hinder the transition.**

#### ***Forms of democracy can favor or prevent the transition (3 different models)***

Forms of democracy as a positive force can play an important role in different countries.

Here are some ways democracy can contribute to meeting the goals in Agenda 2030.

- **Participation and citizen influence:** In democratic societies, citizens have the opportunity to participate in the decision-making process and influence politics. This includes the opportunity to engage in environmental and sustainability issues, influence political agendas and participate in community discussions. By promoting citizen participation, democratic systems can create space to prioritize and drive forward sustainable initiatives and solutions.
- **Public debate and transparency:** Democratic systems enable public debate and transparency in political decision-making processes. This makes it possible for environmental and sustainability issues to be highlighted and discussed openly. By promoting transparency and access to information, democratic countries can also strengthen citizens' ability to pressure political decision-makers to prioritize ecological sustainability.
- **Environmental protection and sustainable political action:** Democratic societies can create political institutions and legislation that promote environmental protection and sustainability. Citizens' rights and opportunities to influence political decisions can lead to a more responsible and transparent political process. This can help to introduce and implement laws and regulations that promote ecological sustainability, for example by promoting renewable energy, promoting recycling and reducing emissions.
- **Civil society involvement:** In democratic countries, civil society can play an active role in promoting ecologically sustainable development. Non-profit

organizations, grassroots movements and environmental organizations can push forward issues and influence policy through campaigns, advocacy and activism. This contributes to increasing awareness and commitment to sustainability in society.

However, it is important to note that democratic processes are not a guarantee of ecological sustainability. Challenges such as corruption, party politics and lobbying can affect decision-making and weaken the policy's focus on sustainability. To ensure ecologically sustainable development within democratic systems, a combination of citizen activism, strong institutions and political will to prioritize the environment and sustainability is required.

#### **Forms of democracy as a negative force can play an important role in different countries**

Here are some ways democracy can prevent the goals of Agenda 2030 from being met.

- Political polarization: In some democratic systems, political polarization and party splitting can make it difficult for unity and a coherent approach to poverty reduction. If different political groupings cannot agree on priorities and actions, it can lead to delays or obstruction in the implementation of effective programs and policies.
- Bureaucratic processes: Democratic decision-making processes can be slow and bureaucratic, which can lead to delays in adopting and implementing poverty-related measures. Bureaucracy and administrative barriers can limit the speed and efficiency of decision-making and implementation.
- Stakeholder influence: In a democratic system, different interest groups and lobbyists can have strong influence over political decisions. If certain interests are prioritized over others, it can lead to an unequal distribution of resources and hinder a fair and effective fight against poverty.
- Short-term thinking: Democratic governments may be inclined to focus on short-term political gains rather than long-term development goals. It can be difficult to get politicians to invest in poverty-related programs and policies that may not bring immediate political benefits or popularity.
- Weaknesses in representation: Some democratic systems may have deficiencies in representativeness and inclusion, which may result in certain groups and strata of society not being sufficiently taken into account in the fight against poverty. This can reinforce inequalities and make it more difficult to achieve the goals.

In summary, democratic obstacles and challenges, such as political polarization, bureaucracy, stakeholder influence, short-term thinking and weaknesses in representation, can prevent the goals of achieving a world without poverty from being met. Overcoming these obstacles requires a balance between democratic principles and the need to take effective measures to combat poverty. It also requires political leadership, dialogue and cooperation to achieve the goals.

### **Democratic systems**

There was once a world where democracy played a crucial role in the implementation of Agenda 2030 and its sustainability goals. Democracy was a fundamental principle that meant that the people had the opportunity to influence the decision-making process and participate in the design of the policies that affected their communities and environment.

In this world, it was through democratic processes that countries' governments were elected and their policies shaped. Democracy gave people the right to express their opinions, organize themselves and participate in decisions that affected their future and well-being. This created a platform for citizens to engage with the sustainability goals of Agenda 2030 and influence their implementation.

In democratic countries, there was a strong connection between the involvement of citizens and the orientation of politics towards sustainability. Citizens had the right to information and could critically scrutinize the government's actions to ensure they were in line with sustainability goals. They also had the right to organize and influence political decisions through, for example, protests, campaigns and participation in public consultations.

Citizen engagement and participation played an important role in creating political will and pushing governments to act to achieve the sustainability goals. By organizing themselves in society's organizations, interest groups and citizen movements, people could gather around specific sustainability issues and influence politics at local, national and international level.

Democracy also facilitated accountability and transparency in the implementation of Agenda 2030. Governments were required to account for their progress and report on their actions to achieve the various sustainability goals. Citizens had the opportunity to monitor and evaluate government performance and report deficiencies or non-compliance. This helped create incentives for governments to be responsible and work actively to achieve sustainability.

Non-democratic countries, on the other hand, faced greater challenges when it came to implementing Agenda 2030 and its sustainability goals. In these countries, citizens often lacked the opportunity to express their opinions and influence politics in the same way as in democratic societies. Decision-making was concentrated in a small group of people or a single government power, leading to a lack of transparency, accountability and citizen influence.

Although there were challenges in implementing the 2030 Agenda in democratic countries, such as political disagreement and competing interests, democracy was nevertheless a decisive factor in creating a wider understanding and agreement on the need to work towards sustainability. By giving people rights, freedoms and opportunities to influence politics, democracy became a force to drive forward the implementation of the sustainability goals.

Thus, this narrative shows that democracy played a crucial role in promoting the implementation of Agenda 2030 and its sustainability goals. By giving people the opportunity to participate, influence and monitor politics, democracy was able to create a stronger political will and a responsible system that prioritized sustainability on both a local and global level.

## Chapter 12

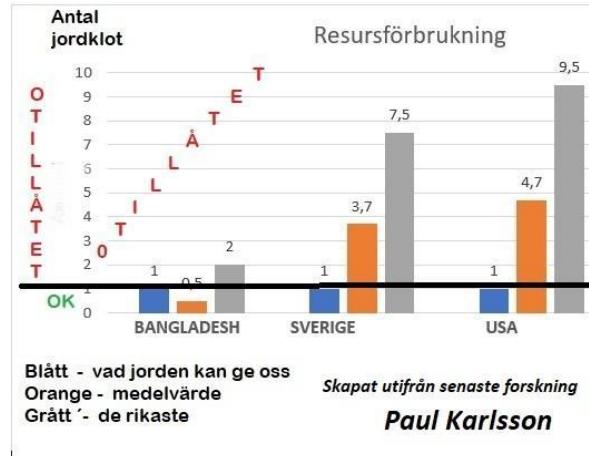


### Objective 12 Consumption and production

For years the planet has provided us with an abundance of natural resources, but we humans have not used them responsibly and are now consuming far beyond what our planet can handle. Did you know, for example, that 1/3 of the food produced is thrown away? Achieving sustainable development requires us to reduce our ecological footprint by changing the way we produce and consume goods and resources.

Sustainable consumption not only entails environmental benefits but also social and economic benefits such as increased competitiveness, growth in both the local and global market, increased employment, improved health and reduced poverty. Transitioning to a sustainable consumption and production of goods is a necessity in

order to reduce our negative impact on the climate, environment and human health.



*Consumption in the world today! Almost 80 countries have the same situation as Bangladesh. (2021)*

**Analysis for the transformation of Sweden (2018)**



### Summary

Sustainable consumption and production has been identified by the OECD as the goal where Sweden has the greatest challenges. Prevailing consumption patterns have a negative impact on people's health, the climate and the environment, both in Sweden and globally.

Some identified challenges based on Agenda 2030:

A transition from a linear to a circular economy means a comprehensive and long-term social transformation.

The consumption-based emissions of greenhouse gases are high, especially linked to food, transport and accommodation.

A large proportion of the goods and products consumed in Sweden are produced in other countries that have lower sustainability requirements.

Imported goods lead to the release of hazardous substances in Sweden, substances that are neither permitted in Sweden nor the EU.

Phasing out of hazardous chemicals and reduced chemical use.

Weak disclosure requirements for Swedish companies in international operations.



- Implement the ten-year framework for sustainable models in consumption and manufacturing. The developed countries must be the first to show the way for development, but all countries must make sure to do what they can.

- Take care of and use natural resources in a sustainable and efficient way.

- Reduce food waste, i.e. the food that is thrown away, by half worldwide. This applies both to what is thrown away by private individuals, shops and after the harvest.

- Ensure that chemicals and all types of waste are handled in an environmentally friendly manner. Also reduce their emissions into the air, water and soil.

- Reduce the amount of waste by making sure that things are not thrown away. Instead, the waste must be reused and recycled.

- Everyone, but especially large companies, must be encouraged to introduce sustainable methods in their operations. They must also be encouraged to include information about their sustainability when they report on their operations.

- Public procurement is when authorities and other government activities purchase goods and services. They must have sustainable methods that fit with the countries' laws and policies.

- Ensure that people everywhere have information and awareness about how to live sustainably and in harmony with nature.

- Support developing countries to strengthen the science and technology needed to have more sustainable consumption and production.

- Develop and implement methods that look at how sustainable development affects sustainable tourism. Tourism should create jobs, and support the local culture and local products.

- Remove subsidies, i.e. financial support, of fossil fuels that encourage wasteful consumption. Use the opportunities available in the country to ensure that the market is not distorted, i.e. unfairly by making it easier to buy fossil fuels.



**Society 2030 story when the goals are**

**fulfilled**

One of the most important changes is the transition to renewable energy and sustainable production methods. Solar and wind power plants are common and replace the fossil fuels that used to be the main energy sources. By reducing emissions, we have succeeded in slowing climate change and creating a cleaner and healthier environment for people and nature.

In the manufacturing sector, the circular economy has become the norm. Products are designed with recycling and reuse in mind. The materials used are biodegradable or recycled. By extending the product's lifespan and reducing waste, we have succeeded in reducing the impact on the environment and saving resources.

People's consumption habits have also changed radically. With increased awareness of the environmental consequences of our choices, responsible consumption and ethical choices are the norm. Consumers prioritize products that are manufactured in a fair way, without exploitation of labor or harmful impact on the environment. This has led to companies restructuring their operations to become more sustainable and socially responsible.

The global poverty level has decreased significantly as economic growth has taken place in a sustainable and inclusive manner. By promoting a fair distribution of resources and education, we have succeeded in reducing inequalities and giving all people the opportunity to live a dignified life.

Society has become more aware of the importance of protecting and conserving natural resources. Forests, seas and biodiversity recover thanks to effective nature conservation work. By protecting ecosystems and conserving endangered species,

we have ensured that biodiversity continues to enrich our planet.

In this sustainable future, people have learned to live in harmony with nature. We have realized that our survival and well-being depend on a balance between human needs and the planet's resources. By following the goals established within Agenda 2030, we have created a better and sustainable world for future generations.

### Obstacles to achieving the goals



Despite the progress and positive changes in the description, there are still obstacles that need to be overcome to achieve the stated goals for a sustainable future. Here are some of the obstacles that can be identified:

- Opposition to renewable energy: Although solar and wind power plants have become commonplace and replaced fossil fuels, there is still opposition and influence from the fossil fuel industry. Certain interests may oppose the transition to renewable energy due to financial interests or resistance to change.
- Challenges with energy storage: One of the major obstacles to a broad transition to renewable energy is the need for efficient energy storage systems. Solar and wind power are intermittent sources of energy and require advanced storage solutions to meet constant demand.
- High cost of sustainable production methods: Switching to sustainable production methods can be costly for companies, especially SMEs. It requires investment in new technology and restructuring of production systems, which can be a challenge for companies with limited resources.
- Consumption habits and behavioral changes: In order to achieve responsible consumption and ethical choices, behavioral changes in consumers are required. Changing consumption habits and prioritizing sustainable products can be a challenge, especially in societies where convenience and price tag are often prioritized.
- Fighting global poverty: Despite economic growth occurring in a sustainable and inclusive manner, there are still challenges in reducing global poverty and inequality. It requires continued efforts to promote a fair distribution of resources and access to education and opportunities.

- Challenges of conservation and conservation: Protecting and conserving natural resources requires effective action and cooperation at the global level. There are challenges in dealing with environmental degradation, illegal logging, overfishing and other threats to ecosystems and biodiversity.
- Short-term financial interests: Many of the necessary changes for a sustainable future may require short-term financial sacrifices. Some interests may be reluctant to make such sacrifices and may prioritize short-term gains over long-term sustainability goals.

Overcoming these obstacles required political will and international cooperation. It required technological innovations and an awareness among the public of the need for change. It was a journey that would require perseverance and commitment from everyone. Because only by addressing these obstacles and continuing to work towards the sustainability goals could they create a better world for future generations.

#### A local personal story from the year 2030– Consumption and Production

My hometown has changed shape over a five-year period. A gentle but clearly visible change has been made. The large business complexes have been divided into smaller units as most of the surplus goods have disappeared from production. The dominant stores are still there but their product range has shrunk from perhaps 20,000 items to 7,000.

In the spaces that have become vacant, previously unknown businesses have taken their place. Second Hand has become so big that there are special shops for women's, men's and children's clothes and shoes. Sometimes it is even stated that the stores sell with a focus on certain ages.

Furniture, interior design, leisure, sports, music and second-hand pet stores have sprung up like mushrooms from the earth. In 2024, there was one big thrift store in my neighborhood that sold everything and also served several suburbs. Today, the business has grown to at least 25 stores.

Other businesses that have been added are shops that carry out repairs and alterations with a focus on furniture, electronics, shoes and clothes. This is because production has received higher demands on durability and the possibility of repairing goods that are sold. You also see companies in the center that take care of different types of waste, including environmentally hazardous ones, and transport it to the

nearest recycling center. These are now also completely changed in their care. Something else that you cannot avoid seeing are shops where you rent out everything from tools to special tools and machines.

Another sign of a time of new values is that everywhere you see calls not to buy more food than you need. In the big shops, reminders about this constantly appear and you now have the same price per kilo regardless of the size of the package. The packaging has also significantly changed shape and colors and is now entirely made of recyclable material. Even in restaurants, guests are now asked about portion sizes.

Advertising with the call to "buy yourself happy" has almost ceased and has been replaced by consumer information and lifestyle campaigns for new values about our consumption. We are asked to be minimalists in our way of life.

On the roads, car traffic and in particular lorries have decreased significantly and in the cities pedestrian streets and green areas have increased significantly. Even in ports and airports, traffic is considerably less, while public transport is being expanded and increased more and more.

In the homes, you have a standard that has been adapted to the new spirit and you have in a short time gotten used to the idea that the accommodation should also be adapted to people's situation and needs.

Out in the countryside, there has also been a change in terms of community service. It has been decided that citizens should only have more than a certain number of kilometers to healthcare, pharmacies, banks and grocery stores in exceptional cases.

#### **A Global Story - Consumption and Production - Kenya**

In coastal areas, many millions of people have been able to resume coastal fishing, which has been their livelihood for generations. Fish stocks were close to collapse in the early 2020s. People have again taken up small-scale manufacturing of everyday items and likewise more are employed in small-scale agriculture which now dominates the countryside. It has meant a big boost for the local marketplaces.

A liter of milk used to cost about the same as in Sweden, despite the fact that a worker in Sweden earned per hour what a worker in Kenya can hope to earn per

week. Now prices have leveled out thanks to more people getting rights to cultivate the land, better methods, tools and infrastructure so that farmers can also sell their products in other places and with different conditions. They have also created a peaceful coexistence within countries.

The population used to be one of the world's poorest, despite the fact that there is both gold and diamonds in the ground and the soil is among the most fertile in Africa. When natural resources must be extracted in a sustainable way, chemicals and waste must be managed responsibly, foreign investors lose interest in many businesses in poor countries. When the countries and their own people ran businesses, the country and the population developed. The profits thereby stayed within the country.

It also succeeded in slowing down the informal sector. Now the workers have more power over their own situation and thereby avoid locking people with low education in poorly paid jobs.

The ownership of resources and the rights to extract them has also changed and thereby unused natural resources that were previously seen as a cause of resource scarcity have been turned into profits for both individuals and society.

Short-term greed was once about to deprive the African population of the right to share in the continent's immense riches, but by fulfilling the objectives of Agenda 2030, they have developed their societies so that a dignified standard of living spreads to more and more people.

They have been able to realize old thoughts that "There are no excuses for Africa's population and environment to once again pay for the outside world's need for raw materials and cheap consumer goods".

The unequal distribution of power, in terms of production, which applied in almost all poor countries, has been a major problem. This means not only that people are poor, but also that inequality itself excludes the poor from development by concentrating resources on the social elite.

Most African states are already far more unequal than European ones in particular. A big reason for this is the large informal working life (undeclared jobs) and widespread corruption. How resources are concentrated does not therefore depend on legal and legitimate development with skewed distribution of resources. In Kenya, for example, in 2013, approximately 30 percent of the previous year's state budget could not be

accounted for.

The inefficiency and racketeering has been so widespread that it is difficult to understand the patience of Kenyans with those in power. In Kenya, ideas of redistribution and equalization have never had a strong hold.

When the target descriptions and the accounting system according to Agenda 2030, in Consumption and Production, were fulfilled, it meant a clear rise in the standard of living for the poorest part of the population and the countries also became richer and could improve their infrastructure.



### Summary

The goals set within sustainability area 12, Sustainable consumption and production, aim to create a more sustainable and responsible management of resources and consumption. This includes goals such as promoting renewable energy, reducing food waste, managing chemicals and waste in an environmentally friendly way, promoting the circular economy and encouraging businesses and the public sector to integrate sustainability into their operations.

In the future society of 2030 where the goals are met, the transition to renewable energy and sustainable production methods has reduced carbon dioxide emissions and created a cleaner environment. Circular economy has become the norm, and conscious consumers prioritize responsible consumption. People live in harmony with nature and fight global poverty while conserving natural resources.

Despite the progress, there are obstacles such as resistance to renewable energy, technical challenges, costs of sustainable production, behavioral changes, and challenges with nature conservation and poverty alleviation. Overcoming these obstacles requires political will, technological innovation, awareness and international cooperation.

The goal is to create a better and more sustainable world for future generations by addressing these challenges and following the goals set within Agenda 2030.



### Links to other targets

If we meet Goal 12: Sustainable consumption and production in Agenda 2030, it will have a significant impact on several other goals within the Agenda.

*In this chapter there is a story about the connection to each other's goal. To elucidate the connections in detail*



Goal 1: No poverty: Sustainable consumption and production can help reduce poverty by creating economic opportunities and better living conditions for people. By promoting sustainable production methods, fair trade and economically favorable conditions for producers, Goal 12 can contribute to reducing poverty and promoting economic development.

Goal 2: No Hunger: Sustainable consumption and production can improve food production and ensure that everyone has access to sufficient, nutritious and safe food. By reducing food waste, promoting sustainable agricultural methods and ensuring fair access to land and resources, Goal 12 can contribute to fighting hunger and promoting food security.

Goal 3: Health and well-being: Sustainable consumption and production can contribute to improving health and well-being by promoting safe and non-toxic products, reducing pollution and improving working conditions in production. By promoting sustainable production and consumption patterns, Goal 12 can contribute to promoting a healthy and sustainable lifestyle.

Goal 6: Clean water and sanitation: Sustainable consumption and production is important to protect and preserve the water resources. By reducing water consumption, improving water quality and streamlining water management in production, Goal 12 can contribute to ensuring clean water and sanitation for all.

Goal 13: Combat climate change: Sustainable consumption and production are crucial to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and reducing climate impact. By promoting energy efficiency, the transition to renewable energy, and reducing the use of resources and waste, Goal 12 can contribute to combating climate change and promoting a sustainable environment.

Goal 15: Ecosystems and biodiversity: Sustainable consumption and production can contribute

a to protect and preserve ecosystems and biological diversity. By promoting sustainable forestry, combating illegal trade in animals and plants, and reducing pollution, Goal 12 can contribute to protecting nature and promoting sustainable ecosystems.

There are also other connections between Goal 12 and several other goals in Agenda 2030, but these examples provide an overview of the broad implications of achieving sustainable consumption and production. By investing in sustainable and responsible consumption and production, we can contribute to achieving several goals within the Agenda at the same time.

All connections as story

### **What are the connections between objective 1 and objective 12?**

#### **Story**

Goal 1: No Poverty: In a remote village lived a young boy named Malik. He and his family struggled against extreme poverty, where access to food, water and healthcare was a constant struggle. Malik dreamed of a future where all people could live a dignified life without worrying about basic survival.

Goal 12: Sustainable consumption and production: At the same time in a modern metropolis there was a young woman named Maya. She was deeply aware of the great challenges the world was facing due to overconsumption and overexploitation of resources. The Maya strongly believed that if humanity would change and adopt sustainable production and consumption patterns, they could preserve the earth's resources for future generations.

These two stories of Malik and Maya may seem completely independent, but in Agenda 2030 there was a clear connection between Goal 1 and Goal 12, which would unite their dreams and hopes.

One day Malik and his village had been reached by the news of Agenda 2030 and its ambitious goals. At first it seemed distant and unreal, but over time changes slowly came to the village. Through sustainable practices and resource management, they were able to increase their crops, improve water quality and provide better health care to residents. Malik and his family began to see hope for a life beyond the noose of poverty.

Meanwhile, Maya, the young woman from the city, had been struggling to convince her community of the importance of reducing overconsumption and moving to more sustainable production methods. By inspiring companies and governments to act responsibly, she saw how production became more environmentally friendly and resources were used in a more sustainable way.

It was when Malik and Maya were finally crossed that the connection between Target 1 and Target 12 became clear. Maya's city-based businesses found new markets in Malik's village and began collaborating to promote sustainable production and trade of agricultural products. By introducing sustainable practices in the village, they were able to jointly increase production and improve the living conditions of Malik and his fellow villagers.

This dependency between Goal 1 and Goal 12 proved to be an example of how global cooperation and purposeful efforts can bring about real change. By reducing extreme poverty and promoting sustainable consumption and production, Malik and Maya could, on their respective sides, contribute to building a world where all people could live in dignity and the earth would be protected for future generations. They realized that by uniting their dreams and goals, they could create a better future for all of humanity.

### **What are the connections between objective 2 and objective 12?**

Goal 2: No Hunger: Sustainable consumption and production can improve food production and ensure that everyone has access to sufficient, nutritious and safe food. By reducing food waste, promoting sustainable agricultural practices and ensuring fair access to land and resources, Goal 12 can contribute to fighting hunger and promoting food security.

#### **Story**

Let me tell you a story about how Goal 2 and Goal 12 of Agenda 2030 turned out to be linked and how it affected the lives of two people.

In a remote village lived a young woman named Amina. She loved her farming and growing crops to support her family and community. But Amina faced a challenge. Her crops depended on uncertain and unpredictable weather conditions. Droughts and floods often threatened her crops, leading to food shortages in the village.

Goal 2 - No hunger: Goal 2 of Agenda 2030 aims to eradicate hunger and ensure access to nutritious food for all people. Amina's dream was that no one in her village would have to go hungry, but she faced the challenge of producing enough food to meet the needs of all the villagers.

Goal 12: Sustainable Consumption and Production: At the same time, a young man named Raj lived in a nearby town. He was an engineer and owned a manufacturing plant. Raj realized that his factory was contributing to environmental degradation by emitting pollutants and generating large amounts of waste. He felt it was time to change his way of producing and consuming to preserve the environment for future generations.

These two young individuals, Amina and Raj, were on the surface not particularly connected. Amina focused on agriculture and Raj on industry. But when Agenda

2030 was presented and they learned about the global goals for sustainable development, they realized how their dreams could work together.

One day, Amina and Raj met at a conference on sustainable development. They started talking about their respective challenges and soon realized that there was an opportunity for collaboration.

Amina told Raj about the problems she faced with erratic weather conditions and food shortages in her village. Raj shared his efforts to reduce pollution from his factory and increase efficiency in production. Together, they began exploring how they could use technology and sustainable practices to improve agriculture in Amina's village while reducing the environmental impact of Raj's factory.

By combining their skills and resources, Amina and Raj managed to implement modern irrigation systems in the village to combat drought and improve harvests. They also reused waste from Raj's factory as fertilizer for the crops, reducing the need for chemical fertilizers and reducing environmental impact.

The results were remarkable. The villagers now got enough food, and hunger began to diminish. At the same time, Raj's factory reduced its environmental impact and became more sustainable.

Amina and Raj realized that by collaborating and working together towards both Goal 2 and Goal 12 of the 2030 Agenda, they could create positive change in their communities and contribute to a more sustainable and just future for all.

This story shows how Goal 2 and Goal 12 of Agenda 2030 can be linked. By combining efforts in agriculture, food production and industry, we can work towards eradicating hunger while promoting sustainable consumption and production to protect our planet and its resources.

### **What are the connections between objective 3 and objective 12?**

Goal 3: Health and well-being: Sustainable consumption and production can contribute to improving health and well-being by promoting safe and non-toxic products, reducing pollution and improving working conditions in production. By promoting sustainable production and consumption patterns, Goal 12 can contribute to promoting a healthy and sustainable lifestyle.

#### **Story**

Let me take you on a journey to a small village where a young woman named Sofia lived. She was known for her interest in health and wellness. Sofia was committed to improving the lives of the villagers by sharing knowledge about healthy eating and exercise.

Goal 3 - Health and well-being: Goal 3 of Agenda 2030 aims to ensure health and well-being for all people of all ages. Sofia was passionate about this goal and wanted everyone in her village to have access to basic healthcare, clean water and knowledge of how to live a healthy life.

At the same time, a young man named Erik lived in a nearby town. He was an entrepreneur who owned a factory that made disposable plastic items. Erik was aware of the environmental consequences of plastic waste and wanted to do something about the problem.

Goal 12 - Sustainable consumption and production: Goal 12 in Agenda 2030 is about promoting sustainable consumption and production to reduce environmental impact and manage natural resources in a responsible manner. Erik felt it was time to transform his factory and switch to more environmentally friendly alternatives to reduce the amount of plastic waste.

One day, when Sofia and Erik attended a sustainability conference, their paths crossed. They started talking about their respective challenges and soon realized that their goals were linked.

Sofia told Erik about the health problems some of the villagers were facing due to contaminated water and lack of access to healthcare. Erik shared his efforts to reduce plastic waste and searched for more sustainable alternatives for his products.

Together they began to explore how they could work together to promote both Goal 3 and Goal 12 of the 2030 Agenda. Sofia suggested that Erik could switch to manufacturing reusable and biodegradable products to reduce waste from his factory. She also offered to organize workshops in the village to teach residents about the importance of sustainable consumption and how to reduce plastic waste by using reusable options.

Erik was enthusiastic about the idea and began to restructure his factory to produce more environmentally friendly products. He also created collaborative partnerships with Sofia to conduct workshops in the village and promote health and wellness among residents.

The results were remarkable. Villagers began to change their consumption habits and use fewer disposable items. They also began to focus on a healthy lifestyle, which led to a reduction in disease and improved health in the village.

Sofia and Erik realized that by combining their efforts and collaborating on both Goal 3 and Goal 12 of the 2030 Agenda, they could create a positive change in their communities and contribute to a sustainable future for all.

This story shows how Goal 3 and Goal 12 of Agenda 2030 can be linked. By promoting health and well-being while working to reduce environmental impact and promote sustainable consumption and production, we can create a healthier and

more sustainable world for all.

### **What are the connections between objective 6 and objective 12?**

Goal 6: Clean water and sanitation: Sustainable consumption and production is important to protect and conserve water resources. By reducing water consumption, improving water quality and streamlining water management in production, Goal 12 can contribute to ensuring clean water and sanitation for all.

#### **Story**

Let me take you to a remote village surrounded by lush greenery and clear water sources. There lived a young man named Amir. He was deeply rooted in the traditions of his society and valued nature as a sacred gift.

Goal 6 - Clean water and sanitation: Goal 6 in Agenda 2030 aims to ensure access to clean water and sanitation for all people. For Amir and his villagers, water was a scarce resource, and securing enough clean water for their needs was a daily struggle.

At the same time, in a nearby town there was a young woman named Maya. She was an environmentalist who was deeply committed to combating water pollution and promoting the sustainable use of natural resources.

Goal 12 - Sustainable consumption and production: Goal 12 in Agenda 2030 is about promoting sustainable consumption and production to protect the environment and use resources responsibly. The Maya struggled to reduce the overconsumption and pollution that threatened the water in the lakes and rivers around the city.

One day, when Amir visited the city to collect supplies, he was met by Maya at an environmental conference. There they both discussed their challenges and soon realized that their goals were linked.

Amir told Maya about the constant struggle for water in his village and how they desperately needed clean water to survive and grow their crops. Maya shared her efforts to reduce water pollution and promote sustainable water management practices.

Together they began to explore how they could work together to promote both Goal 6 and Goal 12 of the 2030 Agenda. Maya suggested that they could set up a project to clean and conserve the water sources in Amir's village. By using sustainable filtration systems and reusable water containers, they were able to reduce waste and pollution.

Amir offered to share his knowledge of traditional water management practices that had been used in his village for generations. These methods were in harmony with nature and preserved the water in a sustainable way.

The results were amazing. Villagers now had access to clean water, and the need to travel long distances to find water was dramatically reduced. At the same time, water pollution in the city was reduced thanks to Maya and Amir's efforts to promote sustainable water management.

Amir and Maya realized that by combining their efforts and collaborating on both Goal 6 and Goal 12 of the 2030 Agenda, they could create positive change in their communities and contribute to a more sustainable and cleaner future for all.

This story shows how Goal 6 and Goal 12 of Agenda 2030 can be linked. By promoting access to clean water and sanitation while working to reduce water pollution and promote sustainable water management, we can create a world where all people have access to a precious resource and nature's sanctity preserved for future generations.

### **What are the connections between objective 13 and objective 12?**

Goal 13: Combat climate change: Sustainable consumption and production are crucial to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and reducing climate impact. By promoting energy efficiency, the transition to renewable energy, and reducing the use of resources and waste, Goal 12 can contribute to combating climate change and promoting a sustainable environment.

#### **Story**

Let me take you to a beautiful seaside town where a young woman named Lara lived. She loved the ocean and was a passionate environmentalist. Lara had seen rising sea levels and climate change affecting her beloved city and its residents in a disturbing way.

Goal 13 - Combat climate change: Goal 13 in Agenda 2030 is about taking immediate action to combat climate change and its impact. Lara was determined to bring awareness to the threats climate change posed to both her local community and the world at large.

At the same time, in the same city lived a young man named Alex, who was an entrepreneur and owned a production factory. He was aware that industrial production and overconsumption had a significant negative impact on the climate and the environment.

Goal 12 - Sustainable consumption and production: Goal 12 in Agenda 2030 is about promoting sustainable consumption and production to reduce environmental impact and manage natural resources more responsibly. Alex realized it was time to transform his factory and switch to more sustainable production methods to reduce climate impact and preserve the environment.

One day, Laras and Alex met at a local environmental conference. There they both shared their insights into the challenges that climate change and overconsumption meant for society and the environment.

Lara recounted the drastic changes she had seen in the coastal city, including increased flooding and declining fish stocks in the sea. Alex shared his efforts to reduce production waste and transition to more environmentally friendly materials and techniques.

Together they began to explore how they could work together to promote both Goal 13 and Goal 12 of the 2030 Agenda. Lara suggested that they could organize workshops and campaigns to inform local people about the small changes they could make in their lives to reduce their climate impact. She also inspired Alex to explore sustainable options for her products.

Alex was enthusiastic about the idea and began to restructure his factory to produce more environmentally friendly products and reduce emissions. He used renewable energy sources and recycled materials to reduce the factory's environmental footprint.

The results were significant. Through Lara and Alex's efforts to combat climate change and promote sustainable consumption and production, the city began to see a reduction in climate impact and an increased awareness of environmental issues among residents.

Lara and Alex realized that by combining their efforts and collaborating on both Goal 13 and Goal 12 of the 2030 Agenda, they could create a positive change in their community and contribute to a more sustainable and climate-smart future for all.

This story shows how Goal 13 and Goal 12 of Agenda 2030 can be linked. By fighting climate change and reducing overconsumption through sustainable consumption and production, we can work towards a better future where both the environment and humanity are protected against climate threats.

#### **What are the connections between objective 15 and objective 12?**

Goal 15: Ecosystems and biodiversity: Sustainable consumption and production can help protect and preserve ecosystems and biodiversity. By promoting sustainable forestry, combating illegal trade in animals and plants, and reducing pollution, Goal 12 can contribute to protecting nature and promoting sustainable ecosystems.

#### **Story**

Let me take you to a remote forest where a young man named Jonas lived. He loved nature and was deeply rooted in preserving the riches of the forest and its diversity of animal and plant life.

Goal 15 - Ecosystems and biodiversity: Goal 15 in Agenda 2030 is about preserving and sustainably managing ecosystems and promoting biodiversity. Jonas was passionate about this goal and was determined to protect the forest and its inhabitants for future generations.

At the same time, a young woman named Emma lived in a nearby town. She was an environmental activist and owned a manufacturing plant that produced chemical cleaning products. Emma was aware that the chemicals used in production could damage the environment and threaten the biodiversity of the forests.

Goal 12 - Sustainable consumption and production: Goal 12 in Agenda 2030 is about promoting sustainable consumption and production in order to reduce environmental impact and use resources responsibly. Emma realized it was time to transform her factory and switch to more environmentally friendly and biodegradable options to protect the forest and its inhabitants.

One day, Jonas and Emma met at an environmental conference. There, they both shared their insights on the challenges the forest was facing due to chemical pollution and overexploitation.

Jonas talked about the forest's biological diversity and its importance for the balance of the ecosystem. He expressed his concern about the deforestation that threatened the habitats of animals and plants. Emma shared her efforts to reduce the environmental impact of her factory and search for more sustainable and biodegradable cleaning products.

Together they began to explore how they could work together to promote both Goal 15 and Goal 12 of the 2030 Agenda. Jonas suggested that they could organize campaigns and workshops to raise awareness of the importance of forests and biodiversity. He also inspired Emma to explore more sustainable alternatives for cleaning agents, which would not harm the forest ecosystem.

Enthusiastic about the idea, Emma began restructuring her factory to produce more environmentally friendly and biodegradable cleaning products. She used natural ingredients that would not harm the forest or its inhabitants.

The results were significant. Through Jonas and Emma's joint efforts to preserve the forest and its biological diversity, the forest began to recover and the animal and plant life thrived again. At the same time, the environmental impact of Emma's factory was reduced, which made a positive contribution to the health of the forest and the preservation of its diversity.

Jonas and Emma realized that by combining their efforts and collaborating on both Goal 15 and Goal 12 of the 2030 Agenda, they could create a positive change in their communities and contribute to a more sustainable and prosperous future for the forest and all its inhabitants.

This story shows how Goal 15 and Goal 12 of Agenda 2030 can be linked. By conserving and sustainably managing ecosystems, including forests, while working to reduce environmental impact through sustainable consumption and production, we can protect biodiversity and create a balanced and sustainable planet for current and future generations.

There are also other connections between Goal 12 and several other goals in the 2030 Agenda, but these examples provide an overview of the broad implications of achieving sustainable consumption and production. By investing in sustainable and responsible consumption and production, we can contribute to achieving several goals within the Agenda at the same time.

### **Conclusion**

In order to meet the goals in terms of consumption and production, we had been forced to fundamentally reorganize society. We understood that we in the rich countries could not continue with the overexploitation of natural resources but instead switch to sustainable products, reuse and recycling. Likewise, that we must reduce that 30% of our food does not become food for humans. Chemicals and other dangerous substances must be recycled in an environmentally friendly way and the amount of waste must be significantly reduced.

The current economic model, political resistance and lack of cooperation, socio-economic factors, cultural challenges, lack of knowledge and public awareness and the need to change behavioral patterns and consumption habits, also hinder progress. Education and awareness-raising are also important to change behavior and promote a sustainable lifestyle.

We also realize that it takes political will and leadership to prioritize sustainability, support research and technology.

### **The conclusion as a story**

Let me take you on a journey to a fictional place by the name “Ekobyen”, where the residents had a burning commitment to achieving goal 12 of Agenda 2030 - sustainable consumption and production. Their story gives us an insight into what is required to create a world with responsible and sustainable consumption patterns.

In Ekobyen the inhabitants were tired of the increasing consumption culture that led to overexploitation of resources and negative environmental impact. They realized that a change was necessary and that they needed to return to a more balanced and responsible view of consumption.

An important part of their journey was to reduce waste and promote recycling. The inhabitants of Ekobyen became masters of recycling and repurposing materials. By creating a culture of creativity and innovation, they were able to give new life to old things and reduce the need to produce new ones. Old clothes were remade and broken items were given new life through repair. By establishing recycling stations and providing residents with easily accessible options for recycling, they were able to minimize waste and maximize resource recovery.

Another key factor was to promote sustainable production and consumption by prioritizing environmentally friendly products and services. The inhabitants of Ekobyen supported local businesses working to reduce their environmental impact and offer sustainable alternatives. By demanding and supporting these products and services, they helped create a market for sustainable goods and drive innovation in sustainable production.

The inhabitants of Ekobyen also recognized that education and awareness played a critical role in promoting sustainable consumption and production. They organized workshops and information campaigns to spread knowledge about sustainability and inspire others to make informed choices. By educating young generations and integrating sustainability principles into the education system, they were able to ensure a long-term change towards sustainability.

But what really did Ekobyen special was that they created a social culture that valued sharing and community over abundance. Residents shared resources, tools and knowledge with each other. They created sharing economy platforms and exchanged goods and services among themselves. By reviving the traditional values of cooperation and solidarity, they created a society where it was not about having the most, but about sharing and contributing to each other's well-being.

### **Holistic view**

Ekobyen showed that in order to achieve goal 12 of Agenda 2030, we needed to reshape our consumption habits and prioritize sustainability over abundance. It was about reducing waste, promoting recycling, supporting sustainable products and services, educating and raising awareness, and reviving values of sharing and community. By following Ekobyen's example, we can create a world where consumption and production are driven by sustainable principles and where we take responsibility for our choices and their impact on the planet and society as a whole.

Agenda 2030 covers all of society's activities and therefore you will get a presentation of how the various themes affect and depend on each other. There you realize that it is not possible to break free and fight for change within just one theme.

Now we leave the individual goals and deal with the whole that arises when all goals are summarized and analyzed. Four stories in different forms describe how society could be designed in 2030 when the whole is taken into account. Even in this overall perspective, there are obstacles of an overall nature. What do they look like and how difficult are they?

It is important to protect this society against unwanted changes in the future, regardless of how far we get in the change work..

Time to return to reality in 2023 to weigh it against what the fulfilled goals of Agenda 2030 could give us for Society year 2030.

When are people's characteristics and personalities the biggest obstacle in changing work? A series of practical examples that are suitable for your own reflections and thoughts.

The whole in a summary and a decisive factor for our future. What do the world leaders want? The question is; "What accounts for the difference between what is achieved and what could be the result if all goals were met?"

## Chapter 13



### *Goal 13 Combat climate change*

Considering that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change is the main international, intergovernmental forum for negotiations on how the world should deal with climate change.

Climate change is a real and undeniable threat to our entire civilization. Greenhouse gas emissions continue to rise and as a result we risk reaching average global warming exceeding two degrees, which would have serious consequences for ecosystems, ocean acidification, human safety, food production, water supply, health and increased risk of natural disasters.

The effects are already visible and will be catastrophic unless we act now. Through education, innovation and compliance with our climate commitments, we can make the necessary changes to protect the planet. These changes also provide great opportunities to modernize our infrastructure that will create new jobs and promote prosperity worldwide.

The Paris Agreement stipulates that the global temperature increase must be limited to below two degrees, with the aim of limiting it to 1.5 degrees. This is primarily to be achieved by reducing emissions of greenhouse gases. Another part of the agreement deals with providing support to those affected by the effects of climate change and increasing the opportunities for climate adaptation.



#### **Analysis for the transformation of Sweden (2018)**

#### ***Summary***

Sweden is relatively far ahead in climate change, but the Paris Agreement requires faster emission reductions from the industrialized countries. The national emissions are relatively low and in the current climate bill, Sweden is aiming for zero net emissions by the year 2045.

Some identified challenges based on Agenda 2030:

Emissions of greenhouse gases in other countries as a result of Swedish consumption.

Challenges for ecosystems as a result of climate change.

Continued transition from the fossil-dependent society to a sustainable bio-based one.

Climate and environmentally harmful subsidies within the EU.

***GOAL in sight***



- All countries must be helped to adapt and better withstand natural and climate-related disasters.
- Number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies
- Reducing climate change must be part of policy and planning in all countries.
- Improve the education, knowledge and skills of people and society to withstand climate change. It is about reducing climate change and its consequences, and being able to adapt to changes. Systems are also needed to be able to warn of climate change in time.
- Continue to do what the UN has agreed to in its Framework Convention on Sustainable Development. The goal is for the industrialized countries to jointly pay 100 billion US dollars per year to ensure that the developing countries receive help to implement the framework convention.
- Support efforts in the least developed countries, so that they can plan and implement what is needed for the climate. Special focus must be on women, young people and small communities that are outside development.



**Society 2030 story when the goals are**

**fulfilled**

The year is 2030 and the world has succeeded in achieving the overall goal and all sub-goals within sustainability area 13, Combat climate change. Humanity has taken decisive steps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, adapt to climate change and protect the planet for future generations.

Through ambitious measures and international cooperation, the world has transitioned to a carbon-neutral economy. Renewable energy sources have become the main source of energy and the development of fossil fuel-free technologies has revolutionized the energy sector. Solar and wind power have been expanded on a large scale and new innovations in sustainable energy systems have been introduced. Thanks to these efforts, carbon dioxide emissions have been significantly reduced and climate change has been slowed down.

At the same time, adaptation measures have been taken to deal with the consequences of climate change. Coastal communities have strengthened their defenses against rising sea levels and storms, with innovative engineering and natural solutions such as mangrove swamps and coastal restoration. Agricultural systems have become more resilient by using smart irrigation methods, tolerant crops and sustainable farming practices that reduce vulnerability to drought and extreme weather conditions.

International cooperation has played a central role in combating climate change. Countries have actively worked together to reduce emissions and share technology and knowledge. Global agreements and understandings have been strengthened to ensure that all countries take their responsibility to reduce climate impact. Financial support has also been provided to developing countries to help them adapt to climate change and transition to sustainable development models.

In this future, awareness of climate change and sustainability has permeated society at large. Citizens have become active agents of change and have adapted their lifestyles to reduce their own climate impact. Green initiatives and sustainable choices are integrated into everyday life, from choosing public transport and electric vehicles to reducing waste and consuming more sustainably.

There is also a newfound respect and understanding for nature and its importance to the health of the planet. Forests have been replanted and preserved, helping to absorb carbon dioxide and protect biodiversity. Natural ecosystems have recovered and wildlife has been given a chance to thrive again.

By achieving the goals in sustainability area 13, the world has taken great strides towards preserving the planet for future generations. Climate change is no longer a threatening dystopia, but rather a success story about humanity's ability to make positive changes and create a sustainable future for all.

#### Obstacles to achieving the goals



In order for our world to look as described in 2030 within sustainability area 13, Combat climate change, there are several obstacles and challenges that must be overcome. Here are some examples:

- Lack of political commitment: In order to effectively combat climate change, strong political leadership and commitment is required at the global level. If political decision-makers do not prioritize climate action or do not cooperate to address the challenge, it may be difficult to achieve collective goals and agreements.
- Short-term thinking and lack of awareness: Climate change is a challenge that requires long-term planning and action.
- Lack of awareness and understanding of the seriousness of climate change as well as short-term thinking can reduce the will to take the necessary measures and investments to combat climate change
- Resistance and conflicts of interest: Certain interests and industries may oppose changes that affect their existing operations. The fossil fuel industry and other industries with high climate emissions may struggle against the transition to renewable energy. These conflicts of interest may prevent or delay the implementation of necessary actions.
- Economic challenges: Transitioning to a carbon-neutral economy and implementing sustainable energy systems can be a costly process. The lack of financial resources and financial support can be an obstacle to implementing the necessary measures and investments in renewable energy and climate adaptation.
- Technical limitations: Development and implementation of climate-friendly technologies and solutions may require technical expertise and innovation. If there are technical limitations or difficulties in adapting existing infrastructure, this can hinder the transition to sustainable energy systems and reduce the effectiveness of climate adaptation measures.
- International cooperation: Combating climate change requires strong international cooperation and solidarity. If there is not sufficient global agreement and cooperation between countries, it can be difficult to reach agreements, share technology and resources and tackle the global challenges effectively. .

Overcoming these obstacles requires strong political leadership, financial support and technological innovation. Increased awareness and education about climate change and its consequences are also important in mobilizing public support and commitment. International cooperation and dialogue are essential to reach agreements and address conflicts of interest. Continued research and development

of climate-smart technologies and financial incentives are also required to facilitate the transition to sustainable energy systems.

### ***Personal story***

I am in a world where it is the year 2030 and the goals in sustainability area 13, "Combating climate change", have been met. It is a world that I dreamed of and worked for for a long time.

I remember how together, as a global community, we tackled the challenge of climate change. We realized that we had a shared responsibility to protect our planet for future generations. Political leaders around the world put climate action at the top of the agenda and worked together to find solutions.

We made a decisive effort to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The fossil fuel industry was gradually replaced with renewable energy sources such as solar and wind power. Innovative technologies in sustainable energy were developed and implemented on a large scale. I remember how I myself installed solar panels on my house and became part of the green energy transition.

We also changed our consumption habits. We became aware of our impact and began to make conscious choices to reduce our climate impact. Public transport and electric vehicles became the norm, and we reduce waste through recycling and reuse. Sustainability became an integral part of our everyday life.

We placed great emphasis on adapting to climate change. Coastal communities took measures to protect themselves from rising sea levels and storms. Innovative engineering and natural solutions such as mangrove swamps and coastal restoration were used to strengthen protection. Agriculture became more resilient through smart irrigation methods and crops that can withstand extreme weather conditions.

International cooperation was the key to our success. Countries around the world worked together to reduce emissions and share technology and knowledge. Global agreements and understandings were strengthened to ensure that all countries took their responsibilities. Financial support and resources to developing countries to help them adapt to climate change and transition to sustainable development models.

Now, when I look back on the journey we have made, I am filled with hope and pride. We have proven that humanity can make positive changes when we work together

towards a common goal. We have created a future where our planet is protected and where we live in harmony with nature.

I see people around me who live their lives with respect and concern for the environment. We are aware that nature is vulnerable and we take our responsibility to care for it. Forests have been replanted and preserved, helping to absorb carbon dioxide and protect biodiversity. I can see that natural ecosystems have recovered and wildlife is thriving again.

We have created a future where we no longer fear climate change as a dystopia, but instead see it as a success story about humanity's ability to make positive changes. We have proven that through determination, collaboration and innovation we can shape a sustainable future for all.

In this future I am filled with hope and commitment. I continue to be an active agent of change and work to ensure that we continue to protect and preserve our planet. I know the road ahead can be challenging, but I am determined to continue fighting for a world where climate change is a challenge we have overcome and where sustainability is a fundamental principle in everything we do.



Climate change poses a real and serious threat to our entire civilization. Greenhouse gas emissions continue to rise, which risks leading to average global warming exceeding two degrees. This would have serious consequences for ecosystems, ocean acidification, human security, food production, water supply, health and increased risk of natural disasters. The effects of climate change are already noticeable and are expected to be catastrophic if nothing is done.

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change is the main international forum for negotiations on how the world should deal with climate change. The Paris Agreement is an important part of this work and sets the goal of limiting global temperature increase to below two degrees Celsius, with the goal of limiting it to 1.5 degrees. The goal is to be achieved by reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases and supporting the countries affected by the effects of climate change.

To ensure that the world can achieve the goals described in sustainability area 13, Combating climate change, we must overcome several obstacles and challenges.

Strong political leadership and commitment is necessary to prioritize climate action and cooperate at the global level.

Economic challenges, such as lack of funding and support, can be obstacles to implementing the necessary measures and investments in renewable energy and climate adaptation. Technical limitations can hinder the transition to sustainable energy systems and adaptation of infrastructure. International cooperation is essential for reaching agreements, sharing technology and resources, and addressing global challenges.

Resistance and conflicts of interest from some industries can prevent changes and the transition to renewable energy.

Increased awareness and education is also required to mobilize support and commitment from the public.

Overcoming these obstacles requires strong political leadership, financial support, technological innovation, international cooperation and increased awareness of the seriousness of climate change.

In a future where these goals have been achieved by 2030, the world has implemented ambitious measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to climate change. Carbon neutral economies have been established with renewable energy as the main source of energy. Adaptation measures have strengthened protection against climate-related risks, and international cooperation has played an important role. Citizens are aware of the seriousness of climate change and have adapted their lifestyles to reduce their climate impact.



[Links to other targets](#)

There is a clear connection between Goal 13 and several other sustainability goals. By combating climate change and reducing greenhouse gas emissions, we can

create a foundation for achieving sustainability in other areas, including energy, cities, oceans, biodiversity, consumption, and the fight against poverty and hunger.

These linkages illustrate the importance of integrating measures to combat climate change across sectors and areas. By working simultaneously towards several I's in the transition, we can promote a more sustainable and climate-smart future.



Goal 1: "No poverty" and Goal 2: "No hunger" - Climate change affects agriculture and food production, which can lead to increased poverty and hunger. By combating climate change, we can reduce vulnerability to these challenges.

Goal 2: No hunger - Malnutrition and hunger have a negative impact on health. In order to achieve good health, it is important to ensure that people have sufficient and nutritious food. By eradicating hunger, one can improve the state of health and prevent disease.

Goal 7 - Sustainable energy: Goal 13 and Goal 7 are closely linked as the energy sector is a significant source of greenhouse gas emissions. By promoting the transition to renewable energy and energy efficiency, Goal 7 can contribute to reducing emissions and thus support Goal 13.

Goal 11 - Sustainable cities and communities: Cities are responsible for a significant part of carbon dioxide emissions. By promoting sustainable urban planning, public transport, energy-efficient buildings and other climate-smart solutions, Goal 11 can contribute to reducing emissions and fighting climate change according to Goal 13.

Goal 12 - Sustainable consumption and production: Reduced emissions and combating climate change are linked to Goal 12 by promoting sustainable consumption and production patterns. By reducing overconsumption, promoting circular economy and sustainable production, Goal 12 can contribute to reducing climate impact and support Goal 13.

Goal 14 - Oceans and marine resources: Climate change negatively affects oceans and marine ecosystems. Reduced emissions and measures to limit global warming can help protect ocean and marine resources and thus promote Goal 14.

Goal 15: "Life on land" aims to protect, restore and promote the sustainable use of ecosystems on land and to preserve biological diversity. The goal is to stop the loss of natural habitats, reduce deforestation and land degradation, and take measures to protect endangered species and promote sustainable forestry.

## Story

Goal 1 and Goal 13 of the 2030 Agenda are closely linked as they both deal with sustainable development and the fight against poverty, but also with addressing the global challenges of climate change.

Goal 1: "No Poor" aims to eradicate extreme poverty in all its forms and dimensions. It is about ensuring that all people, especially the most vulnerable and marginalized, have access to financial resources, enough food, education, health care, and an opportunity for a dignified and sustainable standard of living.

Goal 13: "Combat climate change" is about taking immediate action to combat climate change and its consequences. This means reducing greenhouse gas emissions and promoting adaptation to climate change to reduce the vulnerability of the most vulnerable communities.

The connection between goals 1 and target 13 is clear because climate change can worsen poverty and increase inequalities. The most vulnerable and poor people, especially in developing countries, are often the ones most affected by the effects of climate change, such as droughts, floods, extreme weather events and food insecurity.

When climate change exacerbates natural disasters and affects agricultural production, it can lead to food shortages and food price increases, which in turn can push more people into poverty and insecurity. Therefore, it is important to combine efforts to fight poverty and at the same time reduce greenhouse gas emissions in order to adapt to climate change.

By integrating sustainable solutions in the fight against poverty, which promote renewable energy, climate-adapted agricultural practices and better access to climate information, we can reduce the vulnerability of the most vulnerable communities and support more equitable and sustainable development.

In summary, Goal 1 and Goal 13 have an important connection as they both deal with sustainable development and addressing poverty in a way that takes into account the impact of climate change. By working together to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and strengthen resilience to climate-related risks, we can create a fairer and more sustainable future for all.

## Story

Goal 2 and Goal 13 of the 2030 Agenda are two different goals that have an important connection to each other, as they are both interdependent to achieve a sustainable and climate-friendly future.

Goal 2: "Space to achieve net zero emissions and stabilize climate change" aims to reduce global greenhouse gas emissions to keep global warming well below two degrees Celsius, with the goal of limiting it to 1.5 degrees. The goal focuses on

combating climate change by reducing emissions and switching to sustainable and renewable energy sources.

Goal 13: "Combat climate change" is about taking immediate and powerful action to combat climate change and its impacts. This means supporting developing countries in increasing their resilience to climate-related risks and integrating climate aspects into national policy and planning.

The connection between goals 2 and goal 13 is clear because both goals are aimed at addressing climate change and its consequences. In order to achieve Goal 2, which means reaching zero net emissions and stabilizing climate change, it is necessary to take measures consistent with Goal 13. This means reducing carbon dioxide emissions and promoting the transition to renewable energy, as well as increasing resilience to climate-related risks in all countries.

On the other hand, to effectively achieve Goal 13 and combat climate change, there must also be ambitious measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and transition to a sustainable and climate-friendly economy. Goal 2 provides the overall framework for achieving these emission reductions and promoting sustainability efforts in all sectors of society.

Thus, Goal 2 and Goal 13 are mutually dependent on each other to create a sustainable and climate-friendly future. By collaborating and working together, they can help protect the planet from dangerous climate change and ensure a better future for future generations.

### **Story**

Goal 7 and goal 13 of Agenda 2030 are strongly linked to each other as both goals aim to address climate change and promote sustainable development by changing energy systems at a global level.

Goal 7: "Sustainable energy for all" is about ensuring access to clean, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all. The goal involves increasing the use of renewable energy, improving energy efficiency and promoting a transition to sustainable energy solutions that reduce the impact on the climate and the environment.

Goal 13: "Combat climate change" aims to take immediate action to combat climate change and its impacts. The goal is to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases and strengthen resilience against climate-related risks.

The connection between targets 7 and goal 13 is clear because energy production and energy consumption has a significant impact on climate change. Fossil fuel combustion, which is used to generate energy in the energy sector, is one of the main sources of carbon dioxide emissions and other greenhouse gases. By reducing the use of fossil fuels and increasing the use of renewable energy, we can effectively

reduce emissions and slow climate change.

As we strive to achieve Goal 7 by promoting renewable energy such as solar, wind and hydropower, we are also helping to reduce the impact of climate change on the planet. By replacing fossil fuels with clean and sustainable energy alternatives, we reduce greenhouse gas emissions and contribute to meeting goal 13.

In addition, progress towards Goal 7 and increased use of renewable energy can have positive effects in the form of reduced air pollution and improved public health, which in turn strengthens society's resilience to the effects of climate change.

In order to create a sustainable future, it is therefore crucial to work to achieve both goal 7 and goal 13 in parallel. By switching to sustainable energy systems and reducing greenhouse gas emissions, we can help fight climate change and ensure a better and sustainable future for everyone.

Goal 11 and Goal 13 of the 2030 Agenda are linked as they both focus on sustainable development and combating climate change by promoting resilience and sustainability in cities and human settlements.

#### **Story**

Goal 11: "Sustainable cities and societies" aims to make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable. The goal is to improve people's quality of life in cities by providing better housing, transport, infrastructure, the environment and access to green spaces.

Goal 13: "Combat climate change" is about taking immediate action to combat climate change and its impacts. The goal is to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases and strengthen resilience against climate-related risks.

The connection between targets 11 and target 13 is clear because cities play a decisive role in climate change. The city is the center of economic activity, energy use and greenhouse gas emissions. They account for a significant proportion of global emissions and are also vulnerable to the effects of climate change, such as floods, heat, droughts and storms.

To combat climate change and reduce emissions, it is necessary to make cities more sustainable and climate-friendly. This means promoting the use of renewable energy in cities, improving energy efficiency in buildings and transport, reducing waste and increasing recycling, and integrating green spaces and green solutions to absorb carbon dioxide and reduce the greenhouse effect.

At the same time, cities must adapt to the impacts of climate change in order to be resilient and reduce the vulnerability of their residents. This can include creating protection against flooding, improving water management systems, planning for extreme weather events and improving the health and safety of city residents.

By working to achieve goal 11 and making cities more sustainable and resilient, we can at the same time contribute to meeting goal 13 and combating climate change.

By creating sustainable cities, we can reduce the urban climate impact and at the same time strengthen society's resilience against the impact of climate change. This contributes to a more sustainable and climate-friendly future for both the city's residents and the planet as a whole.

#### **Story**

Goal 12 and Goal 13 of the 2030 Agenda are closely linked as they both focus on sustainable development and combating climate change by promoting responsible consumption and production.

Goal 12: "Sustainable consumption and production" aims to ensure that human consumption and production become more sustainable and resource-efficient. The goal is to reduce waste and the negative environmental effects from production and consumption, promote resource efficiency, improve waste management and encourage sustainable production methods.

Goal 13: "Combat climate change" is about taking immediate action to combat climate change and its impacts. The goal is to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases and strengthen resilience against climate-related risks.

The link between goal 12 and goal 13 is clear because the way we produce and consume goods and services has a direct impact on climate change. Unsustainable and excessive consumption leads to increased emissions of greenhouse gases and consumption of natural resources, which contributes to climate change and affects the environment negatively.

In order to combat climate change and reduce emissions, it is necessary to switch to more sustainable production methods and consumption patterns. This includes reducing the use of fossil fuels, promoting the use of renewable energy, improving energy efficiency in production and reducing greenhouse gas emissions from industry.

Sustainable consumption and production also means reducing the amount of waste and increasing recycling. By reducing the amount of waste, we reduce the emissions of greenhouse gases generated from the disposal and decomposition of waste. Recycling and reuse also reduce the need for new production and contribute to a more circular economy that reduces the burden on the environment and the climate.

By working to achieve goal 12 and promoting sustainable consumption and production, we can simultaneously contribute to meeting goal 13 and fighting climate change. By changing the way we produce and consume, we can reduce our climate impact and contribute to a more sustainable and climate-friendly future for both people and the planet as a whole.

## **Story**

Goal 14 and Goal 13 of the 2030 Agenda are linked as they both deal with sustainable development and combating climate change by addressing the challenges of ocean acidification and its impact on the climate.

Goal 14: "Protect the ocean and marine resources for sustainable development" aims to conserve and sustainably use the oceans and their resources. The goal is to protect sea and coasters ecosystems, promote sustainable fisheries, reduce ocean acidification and combat pollution to ensure a healthy and productive marine environment.

Goal 13: "Combat climate change" is about taking immediate action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and strengthen resilience to climate-related risks, including ocean acidification.

The connection between targets 14 and target 13 is clear because the oceans play a decisive role in climate change and its impact. The ocean's role as an important carbon sink is critical to balancing the carbon dioxide content of the atmosphere. The oceans absorb a significant part of the carbon dioxide emissions generated by human activities, which contributes to mitigating the effects of climate change.

At the same time, ocean acidification causes the oceans to become more acidic due to the uptake of carbon dioxide, which has harmful consequences for marine ecosystems and organisms, including corals, crustaceans and fish. This impact on the marine environment affects the vulnerability and productivity of ecosystems and has a negative impact on marine life and its ability to act as a carbon sink.

In order to combat climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, it is therefore necessary to work to reduce ocean acidification and protect the health of the ocean. This means reducing emissions of carbon dioxide by switching to renewable energy and sustainable production methods, as well as taking measures to protect marine and coastal ecosystems.

By achieving goal 14 and protecting the ocean and marine resources for sustainable development, we can simultaneously contribute to meeting goal 13 and fighting climate change. By promoting sustainable ocean management practices and reducing greenhouse gas emissions, we can protect the oceans and their role as an important carbon sink and contribute to a more sustainable and climate-friendly future for both people and the planet as a whole.

Goal 15 - Ecosystems and biodiversity: Climate change has a direct impact on ecosystems and biodiversity. By combating climate change, you can protect and preserve the world's ecosystems and thereby promote Goal 15.

## **Story**

Goal 15 and Goal 13 of Agenda 2030 are linked to each other as they both deal with

sustainable development and combating climate change by addressing the challenges of conservation and sustainable use of ecosystems and biodiversity.

Goal 13: "Combat climate change" is about taking immediate action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and strengthen resilience to climate-related risks, which affect ecosystems and biodiversity.

The connection between goals 15 and goal 13 is clear because ecosystems on land play a decisive role in counteracting climate change. Healthy and intact ecosystems act as carbon sinks by absorbing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and storing it in soil and biomass. Forests are particularly important as carbon sinks, as they bind large amounts of carbon dioxide.

At the same time, ecosystems and biological diversity are sensitive to the impact of climate change. Rising temperatures, droughts, increased frequency of fires and other extreme weather events can affect the health and productivity of ecosystems. Changes in ecosystems can also affect biodiversity and threaten different species, including those that play an important role in ecosystem services and climate adaptation.

In order to combat climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, it is therefore necessary to work to protect ecosystems and biodiversity. By stopping deforestation, promoting sustainable forestry, protecting endangered species and preserving natural habitats, we contribute to strengthening the ecosystems' ability to function as carbon sinks and counteract climate change.

By achieving goal 15 and protecting life on land, we can simultaneously contribute to meeting goal 13 and fighting climate change. By promoting the sustainable use of ecosystems and preserving biodiversity, we can ensure a more sustainable and climate-friendly future for both people and the planet as a whole.

## Conclusion

Let's explore the story of a place by name "Grönhjärta", where residents came together to fight the ongoing climate crisis and achieve goal 13 of Agenda 2030 - action to combat climate change. Through their journey, we gain insight into what is required to create a sustainable and climate-friendly future.

In Grönhjärta the inhabitants found themselves in a situation where climate change had begun to affect their ecosystem and quality of life. They understood that it was time to act and that each individual, community and nation must take responsibility for reducing emissions and adapting to the changing conditions.

One of the most important insights of their trip was the need to reduce the use of fossil fuels and transition to renewable energy. The inhabitants of Grönhjärta invested

in solar, wind and other renewable energy sources to power their communities and reduce carbon emissions. By investing in green technology and promoting energy efficiency, they helped reduce their climate impact and create a cleaner future.

Grönhjärta also recognized the importance of protecting their natural ecosystems to combat climate change. They preserved their forests, wetlands and other natural areas as carbon sinks to absorb and store carbon dioxide. By restoring and protecting their natural resources, they not only created a better environment for themselves but also a buffer against the negative effects of climate change.

Customization was another key factor in Grönhjärtas trip. They understood that some changes were already inevitable and that they needed to be prepared to deal with the consequences. The inhabitants of Grönhjärta invested in climate-adapted agricultural practices and infrastructure solutions to deal with floods and extreme weather events. By adapting to the changed conditions, they were able to minimize the negative effects and strengthen their resilience.

But what really made Grönhjärta successful was the commitment and awareness of their residents. They understood that the fight against climate change was something that required the participation of everyone. By organizing campaigns, educating and raising awareness among their residents, they were able to create a culture of sustainability and climate responsibility. Everyone became ambassadors for change, working together to reduce emissions and protect the planet.

Grönhjärta showed us that achieving Goal 13 of the 2030 Agenda requires a comprehensive effort to reduce emissions, adapt to changing conditions and create awareness and commitment among citizens. By transitioning to renewable energy, protecting natural ecosystems, adapting to change and creating a culture of sustainability, we can fight climate change and build a more resilient and sustainable future. Grönhjärtas story shows that if we work together, we can make a real difference and ensure that future generations can enjoy a healthy and safe planet.

## ***Chapter 14***



### **Goal 14 Oceans and marine resources**

The world's oceans—their temperature, chemistry, currents, and life—drive global systems that make Earth habitable for humanity. The oceans cover 70 percent of our planet and over three billion people depend on marine and coastal biodiversity for their livelihoods. How we manage our oceans is critical to humanity as a whole and to balancing the effects of climate change.

Overfishing, acidification, toxins and pollution are some of the problems affecting our oceans today. Did you know, for example, that eight million tons of plastic end up in the oceans every year? If it continues at this rate it will have to consist of more plastic than fish by 2050. We must protect our oceans and ensure sustainable use of ocean-based resources and ecosystems. We have always needed the oceans. Now the oceans need us.

**Analysis for the transformation of Sweden (2018)**



### **Summary**

Long-term conservation and use of the oceans and marine resources is a challenge for Sweden. The long-term challenges are linked partly to seabed death, environmental toxins and plastics, partly to exploitation of coastal waters, fishing and fishing methods.

Some identified challenges based on Agenda 2030:

It is a slow process to reverse the tide of seabed death, even if the supply of nutrients is slowed.

Climate change exacerbates many problems in the ocean as it leads to increased runoff, ocean acidification and the warming of the oceans.

Large amounts of marine debris and plastics.

Exploitation of coastal shallow waters.

Overfishing and destructive fishing methods.

The cross-border nature of the ocean issue requires cooperation at global, national and local level.



- Stop or reduce all types of pollution in the oceans. Especially those that come from activities on land, but also rubbish from boat traffic and emissions of nutrients from agriculture and other things.
- Make the oceans less acidic, and solve the problem that acidification has created. To do that, scientific collaboration is needed, among other things.
- Introduce rules to stop overfishing, illegal fishing and harmful methods of fishing. Develop plans for how to get more fish and conserve the fish, using scientific methods.
- Protect at least 10% of coastal and marine areas. It must be done according to the countries' and international laws, and with the support of research.
- Remove subsidies, i.e. financial support, which cause fishermen to take too much fish. Also remove subsidies that help people to fish illegally, and make sure not to introduce new such subsidies.
- Increase the economic benefits of using ocean resources sustainably for small island developing nations and least developed countries. This must be done, among other things, through sustainable fishing, using the water in sustainable ways and through tourism.
- Increase scientific knowledge and develop research and marine technology that can create healthier oceans. Also increase marine biodiversity, which is needed for the development of developing countries.
- Make sure that even small fishing companies can take part in using the sea's resources and its market.
- Implement the international laws contained in the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). The laws must preserve the oceans, and strengthen a sustainable way of use so that the oceans can become healthy and provide us with fish and other resources.
- Marine and coastal ecosystems must be restored to the way they were before

humans destroyed them. Ecosystems must also not be destroyed any more. It is needed so that the oceans can become healthy and provide us with fish and other resources.



**Society 2030 stories when the goals are**

**fulfilled**

The year is 2030 and the world has succeeded in achieving the overall goal and all sub-goals within sustainability area 14, Oceans and marine resources. Humanity has taken decisive steps to protect and preserve our oceans and marine ecosystems, resulting in a sustainable and thriving marine environment.

By actively fighting overfishing and protecting endangered species, fish stocks have recovered. Sustainable fishing has been implemented worldwide, with strict regulations and monitoring systems to ensure that fishing resources are used responsibly. The fishing industry has been transformed into a model of sustainability and has become an important driver of economic development and local employment.

Plastic pollution has decreased dramatically. By introducing efficient recycling and waste management systems, the amount of plastic waste ending up in the oceans has been significantly reduced.

Research and innovation have led to advances in the biodegradation of plastics and the development of environmentally friendly alternatives to single-use products.

Protection of coastal and marine habitats has been intensified. Coastal areas and coral reefs have been restored and protected to preserve biodiversity and ecosystem function. By creating marine reserves and protected areas, endangered species and their habitats have been given an opportunity to recover and thrive.

Sustainable tourism has become the norm in coastal areas and on islands around the world. The tourism industry has adapted to sustainable practices and travelers actively choose to support trips that promote conservation of the marine environment. Respect for the ocean and its vulnerability has permeated the tourism sector, and visitors are encouraged to explore and enjoy the ocean in a way that is sustainable and responsible.

Research and innovation play a crucial role in protecting and preserving the ocean. Scientific discoveries and technological advances have enabled us to better

understand ocean ecosystems and their connection to climate. Cooperation between researchers, authorities and civil society has promoted the exchange of knowledge and the implementation of measures to preserve and restore the marine environment.

In this future, our oceans are characterized by purity, biodiversity and balance. They play a central role in the health of the planet, helping to regulate the climate, provide us with food and provide an abundant source of natural experiences and resources. By achieving the goals in Sustainability Area 14, the world has ensured that our oceans and marine resources can continue to support life on Earth for generations to come.



**Obstacles to achieving the goals**

For the world to look as described by 2030 in sustainability area 14, Oceans and marine resources, there are some looming obstacles that must be overcome:

- Lack of global cooperation: To protect and preserve the ocean, cooperation and agreements are required at the global level. If there is a lack of political will or international cooperation, it can be difficult to implement common measures and regulations to combat overfishing, plastic pollution and protect marine habitats.
- Illegal fishing and lack of monitoring: Despite efforts to introduce sustainable fishing, illegal fishing activities may continue to be a problem. Failure to have adequate monitoring and sanctioning systems to prevent illegal fishing can undermine conservation goals and threaten the recovery of fish stocks.
- Lack of technological solutions: The development of technologies to combat plastic pollution and monitor the marine environment can be a challenge. Unless there is sufficient research and innovation to develop effective solutions for plastic degradation and monitoring of ocean health, pollution and negative environmental impacts may continue.
- Economic interests and lack of incentives: Some economic interests may oppose the transition to sustainable fishing and tourism due to economic losses or conflicts of interest. If there are not sufficient financial incentives or political measures to promote sustainable practices, it may be difficult to achieve the goals in sustainability area 14.

- Climate change and more acidic oceans: Climate change can have negative effects on the marine environment, including ocean acidification and temperature increases. These changes can affect marine ecosystems and threaten biodiversity. Addressing and adapting to these climate-related challenges is critical to protecting our oceans.
- Lack of awareness and commitment: Achieving sustainable oceans and marine resources requires awareness and commitment from the public, tourists, policy makers and business. If there is a lack of awareness of the importance of the ocean or a lack of commitment to implementing sustainable choices and behaviors, it may be difficult to achieve the goals in sustainability area 14.

To overcome these obstacles, strong political commitment, international cooperation, technological innovation, financial incentives and education to raise awareness of the marine environment are essential



**Summary**

In conclusion, to achieve the sustainability goals in area 14, Oceans and marine resources, several obstacles must be overcome.

A lack of global cooperation can hinder the implementation of joint measures to combat overfishing, plastic pollution and protect marine habitats. Illegal fishing activities and lack of monitoring pose threats to conservation goals and the recovery of fish stocks.

Developing technological solutions to combat plastic pollution and monitor ocean health can be challenging.

Economic interests and lack of incentives can work against the transition to sustainable fishing and tourism. Climate change and more acidic oceans affect marine ecosystems and biodiversity.

Lack of awareness and commitment hinders the implementation of sustainable measures.

To overcome these obstacles, strong political commitment, international cooperation, technological innovation, economic incentives and education are necessary to increase awareness of the marine environment and promote sustainable choices and behaviours.



#### Links to other targets

There are several other goals within Agenda 2030 that depend on or have links to goal 14. Here are some examples::



- Goal 2 - No hunger: The ocean plays an important role in the world's food supply through fishing and aquaculture. By conserving and sustainably managing marine resources, Goal 14 can contribute to ensuring food security and fighting hunger according to Goal 2.
- Goal 6 - Clean water and sanitation: Clean water and sanitation are fundamental to maintaining healthy and viable marine environments. Goal 6, which aims to ensure access to clean water and sanitation for all, indirectly contributes to protecting ocean resources and the marine ecosystem.
- Goal 11 - Sustainable cities and communities: Although Goal 14 is specifically aimed at the marine environment, sustainable urban planning and management of coastal communities can play an important role in protecting marine resources and ecosystems. By reducing pollution and overexploitation of resources, Goal 11 can contribute to promoting sustainable use of the ocean.
- Goal 13 - Combat climate change: Climate change directly affects the oceans and marine ecosystems. Rising sea temperatures, ocean acidification and rising sea levels threaten biodiversity and marine life. By combating climate change and reducing emissions, we can protect the marine environment according to Goal 14.
- Goal 15 - Ecosystems and biological diversity: The marine environment is an important part of the Earth's ecosystem and is home to a large biological diversity. By preserving and protecting the marine environment, Goal 14 can contribute to maintaining biological diversity according to Goal 15.

These connections show how different goals in the transition are mutually dependent on each other. By working together to achieve several goals at the same time, we can promote the sustainable use and conservation of the marine environment and its resources.

## Conclusion

Let's move to a coastal city by name "Havsglädje" where the inhabitants have dedicated themselves to achieving goal 14 of Agenda 2030 - to preserve and sustainably use the oceans and marine resources. By exploring their journey, we can gain insight into what it takes to create a healthy and sustainable marine environment.

In Havsglädje the inhabitants were deeply rooted in their love for the sea and realized that they needed to protect it from the stresses it was subjected to. They understood that in order to conserve the ocean and its marine resources, it was necessary to act at multiple levels and involve all stakeholders.

One of the key insights of their trip was the need to reduce overfishing and promote sustainable fishing practices. The inhabitants of Havsglädje worked with fishermen and fisheries authorities to introduce quota systems and recovery plans for threatened fish stocks. By promoting responsible fishing practices and supporting local fishing industries, they helped ensure long-term sustainability and viable marine ecosystems.

Havsglädje also realized the importance of reducing pollution and combating plastic pollution in the oceans. They introduced strict waste management systems and encouraged residents to reduce the use of disposable products and plastic packaging. By organizing beach cleanups and informing about the negative consequences of plastic in the oceans, they created awareness and contributed to reducing marine pollution.

The protection of the ocean's ecosystem was another central aspect of Havsglädje's journey. Residents worked to create marine protected areas and preserve sensitive ecosystems such as coral reefs and seagrass beds. By promoting sustainable tourism and teaching about the value and vulnerability of the ocean, they helped raise awareness of the importance of protecting and conserving marine biodiversity.

Another key factor was promoting research and innovation to understand and address the challenges facing the ocean. The inhabitants of Havsglädje collaborated with research institutions and technology companies to develop new methods and techniques for monitoring, ocean management and marine restoration work. By promoting knowledge exchange and investing in marine research could they make informed decisions and design effective measures for the well-being of the ocean.

Havsglädje showed us that in order to achieve goal 14 of Agenda 2030, a wholehearted commitment to protect and sustainably use the oceans and marine resources is required. By promoting sustainable fishing practices, reducing pollution, protecting sensitive ecosystems and promoting research and innovation, we can create a future where the oceans continue to be the lifeblood of the planet.

Havsglädje's story shows that if we focus on sustainability and collaborate across borders, we can preserve and protect the ocean for future generations to enjoy and benefit from its riches.

### **System or structure that can strengthen or hinder the transition.**

#### **Personal freedom**

There was once a world where people had a strong belief in personal freedom. They believed in the right to make their own choices and to live their lives according to their own wishes and values. In this world, they have also set ambitious goals to achieve sustainable development through the Agenda 2030 sustainability goals. But how would personal freedom affect the implementation of these goals?

Personal freedom was fundamental to creating awareness and commitment to the sustainability goals. People had the right to express their opinions, get involved in social issues and influence decision makers to prioritize sustainability. By having the opportunity to participate in debates, organize in different movements and exercise their right to vote, people could influence political decisions and ensure that sustainability is integrated in the social agenda.

Personal freedom was also linked to education and the spread of knowledge. By guaranteeing access to quality education and information flow, people could understand the importance of sustainable development and act accordingly. They were able to learn about various sustainable methods and innovations that can contribute to achieving the set goals. By promoting education and knowledge sharing, people became better equipped to make informed decisions in their own lives and contribute to the sustainability goals at an individual level.

Personal freedom also meant that people had the opportunity to act as agents of change in their own lives and societies. They could make conscious choices and change their consumption habits to be more environmentally friendly. By choosing

sustainable products and services, reducing their energy consumption and contributing to recycling, people can live in accordance with the sustainability goals. In addition, they had the freedom to start their own companies or collaborate with others to create innovative solutions for sustainable development. Entrepreneurship and entrepreneurship could be driven by the personal freedom to follow one's passion and at the same time contribute to socially beneficial goals.

But personal freedom also had an inherent responsibility. People were aware that their choices and actions had consequences, both for themselves and for the planet. It was important to balance personal freedom with care and respect for other people and ecosystems. Being aware of and following ethical and moral principles was essential to ensure that personal freedom was not exploited to the detriment of others or the planet.

So, in this world, personal freedom became a powerful driving force to achieve the sustainability goals of Agenda 2030. By promoting awareness, education, civic activism and individual choices, people could influence society and contribute to a more sustainable future. Personal freedom was not only a right but also an obligation to act responsibly to create a sustainable and just world.

## Chapter 15



### Goal 15 Ecosystems and biodiversity

Biodiversity and functioning ecosystems, or habitats for animals and plants, are the basis of all life on Earth. All of us who live on earth are part of the earth's ecosystem, and are equally important for all living things to remain. Biodiversity means that there are many different species of plants and animals and that all are needed to have sustainable ecosystems. Animals and plants provide us services, ecosystem services, which we depend on. They purify the water and the air, for example.

Many species have become extinct due to humans influencing nature so much. In the last 44 years, for example, wild vertebrates have declined by 60%. Some reasons for that are that land has been destroyed, and forests have been cut down too quickly.

Deserts where almost nothing can grow or live have also become larger. If we are to be able to continue to get food, water, energy and materials from nature, we must take care of it, and work to protect biological diversity.

Protect, restore and promote the sustainable use of land-based ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation and halt the loss of biodiversity

Meeting humanity's needs for food, energy, water, minerals and raw materials without harming biodiversity and ensuring sustainable use of ecosystem services is a crucial challenge for our survival.

Terrestrial ecosystems such as forests, wetlands, drylands and mountains provide habitats for millions of species while purifying air and water. Land destruction and deforestation lead to increased levels of greenhouse gases and threaten both the climate and the survival of animal species. Did you know, for example, that populations of wild vertebrates have declined by 60 percent in 44 years? We are all part of the Earth's ecosystem and all play an important role in preserving habitats that ensure the survival of plant and animal species on land.

**Analysis for the transformation of Sweden (2018)**



### ***Summary***

Long-term conservation and utilization of ecosystems with their biological diversity is a challenge for Sweden. Protected areas with valuable nature are increasing. The challenges going forward include, among other things, a need for increased environmental consideration in methods of use as well as a need to develop current area protection.

Some identified challenges based on Agenda 2030:

While the bioeconomy is being strengthened, develop sustainable forestry where the environmental goals are met.

Many species are negatively affected and the loss of biodiversity is not decreasing at a sufficiently high rate, while the presence of alien species continues to increase.

Some nature types in the agricultural landscape are declining despite investments.

Need for wetland restoration.



***GOAL in sight***

- Ecosystems and ecosystem services on land and in freshwater (for example, lakes) must be restored to the way they were before humans destroyed them. They must then be used in a sustainable way. This is especially true in forests, wetlands, mountains and in dry areas.
- Forest area as a proportion of total land area.
- Ensure that all types of forests are used in a sustainable way, stop the reduction of forests and restore those forests that have been greatly reduced. Ensure that forests increase throughout the world.
- Make sure to stop the spread of deserts. Restore land and soil destroyed, for example by desertification, drought and floods. Be careful not to destroy more land than can be restored in the world.
- Ensure the preservation of mountain ecosystems and their biodiversity. In this way, we can get what we need from the mountains for sustainable development.
- Make sure to quickly stop destroying the natural habitats of plants and animals. Ensure that biodiversity does not continue to decline. Protect endangered species and ensure that no more species become extinct.
- Support the equitable distribution of plant and animal genetic resources. They must be able to be used by those who need them, in the right way.
- Make sure to stop poaching of protected species of animals and plants. Also stop their trade by stopping both the sale and purchase of illegal wildlife products.
- Make sure that alien, so-called invasive, species do not come to places where they destroy ecosystems. Invasive species have no natural place in the new ecosystems

and therefore grow unchecked. Reduce the impact of invasive species on ecosystems, and control or eradicate the species that cause the most damage.

- The value of ecosystems and biological diversity must be included when planning and developing things in society and the economy. It must also be included when countries and municipalities plan and develop strategies against poverty.
- Organize and increase the financial resources available, to preserve and use ecosystems and biological diversity.
- Coordinate so that there is money to use the forest in a sustainable way. Give developing countries extra help so that they have reason to develop sustainable ways of using the forest, and to preserve forests and plant new ones.
- Increase support in all countries to combat the poaching and trade of protected species. One way is to increase the possibilities of being able to make a living in some other, sustainable way.



**Society 2030 when the goals are**

**fulfilled**

By restoring forests, wetlands and other natural habitats, we have recovered from the loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services. Deforestation has been reduced significantly and forests have been given the opportunity to grow and thrive again. By replanting trees and preserving natural habitats, we have restored the balance of ecosystems and promoted biodiversity.

The diversity of animals and plants has been protected and promoted. Endangered species have been given a chance to recover by protecting their habitats and restoring their habitats. Strict regulation of illegal trade in endangered animals and plants has reduced demand and preserved the unique species our planet has to offer.

Sustainable agricultural practices have been introduced worldwide to protect biodiversity and preserve soil fertility. By promoting organic farming, using natural methods of pest control and conserving genetically diverse crops, we have ensured sustainable food production while protecting nature.

Communities have become aware of the importance of biodiversity and have actively contributed to its conservation. Education and awareness have spread and people have become aware of the direct link between biodiversity and their own well-being. By adopting sustainable lifestyles and respecting nature, humans have become part of the solution to preserving our planet's unique life diversity.

Research and innovation have played a crucial role in preserving ecosystems and biodiversity. By developing advanced technologies and methods, we have gained a better understanding of the complexity of ecosystems and their importance for the survival of our planet. Cooperation between researchers, authorities and civil society has promoted the exchange of knowledge and the implementation of measures to protect and preserve biological diversity.

In this future, our planet is characterized by abundant biodiversity and living ecosystems. We live in harmony with nature and recognize that our own well-being is dependent on biodiversity. By achieving the goals in sustainability area 15, we have ensured that our ecosystem continues to provide us with essential services and that biodiversity thrives for future generations to experience and enjoy.



**Obstacles to achieving the goals**

In order to achieve the described vision of the future by 2030 and preserve the ecosystem and biodiversity, there are several obstacles that must be overcome. Here are some of the main obstacles:

- Insufficient measures and political will: Achieving the goals in sustainability area 15 requires ambitious measures and strong political will from governments and the international community. Without sufficient political commitment and action, it may be difficult to implement the necessary measures to protect and restore ecosystems and biodiversity.
- Weak or inadequate legislation and regulation: Without adequate and effective laws and regulations, the protection of ecosystems and biodiversity may be inadequate. There may be gaps in legislation or a lack of enforcement and monitoring, allowing negative activities to continue without consequence.
- Short-term thinking and lack of long-term plans: Many challenges in biodiversity conservation are long-term and require continuous and sustainable

solutions. If policy makers and stakeholders only focus on short-term gains and quick results, it may be difficult to achieve the necessary changes to preserve ecosystems.

- Economic interests and short-term profit opportunities: Economic interests can conflict with the preservation of ecosystems and biological diversity. Extraction of natural resources, intensive agriculture and exploitation of environmental resources can be economically attractive in the short term, which can make it difficult to maintain sustainability measures and protect sensitive habitats.
- Climate change: Climate change poses a major challenge to preserving ecosystems and biodiversity. Changes in temperature, Precipitation and sea levels can affect habitats and endangered species. To maintain a thriving planet, steps must be taken to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the existing changes.
- Illegal trade in wildlife: Despite strict regulations and international agreements, illegal trade in endangered animals and plants continues to be a serious threat to biodiversity. Combating illegal trade and smuggling networks requires cooperation at a global level and strengthened efforts by authorities and organizations.
- Lack of awareness and education: To achieve a harmonious and prosperous planet, it is important to spread awareness about the importance of ecosystems and biodiversity. Education and awareness at all levels, from the community to policy makers, is essential to gain support and commitment to implement the necessary actions and change behaviours.
- Lack of resources and technical capacity: In order to implement measures to protect and restore ecosystems and biodiversity, sufficient resources and technical capacity are required. Developing countries may face particular challenges in terms of access to finance, technology and expertise to implement sustainability measures.
- Weak cooperation and lack of international coordination: Biodiversity conservation is a global challenge that requires cooperation and coordination across national borders. If there is a lack of cooperation between countries, organizations and stakeholders, it can be difficult to develop and implement effective measures to protect ecosystems and species worldwide.

To overcome these barriers, it is important to work together at different levels, from individual awareness and behavior change to stronger political commitment, legislation and international cooperation. Only by addressing and overcoming these obstacles can we hope to achieve the sustainability goals of biodiversity conservation and create a more sustainable future for our planet.

## Summary



Obstacles to achieving the goals in sustainability area 15 include economic interests that prioritize short-term profits over sustainable alternatives, lack of political will to implement the necessary measures to conserve biodiversity, weak or inadequate legislation and regulation, lack of awareness and education about the importance of biodiversity, short-term thinking and lack of long-term plans as well as weak cooperation and lack of international coordination.

Overcoming these barriers requires a combination of individual behavioral changes, strong political commitment, development of effective legislation and regulation, comprehensive education and awareness-raising, long-term plans and sustainable solutions, as well as increased cooperation and international coordination. By addressing these barriers, we can hope to achieve biodiversity conservation goals and create a more sustainable future for our planet.

## Links to other targets



If we meet Goal 15: Ecosystems and biodiversity in Agenda 2030, it will have a significant impact on several other goals within the Agenda.



Here are some connections and dependencies that Goal 15 has to other goals in the transition:

- Goal 1 - No poverty: Sustainable management of ecosystems on land can create economic opportunities for local people and help reduce poverty. By preserving the ecosystem's resources and promoting sustainable use, Goal 1 can be

promoted.

- Goal 2 - No hunger: The ecosystems on land are important for food production and agriculture. Sustainable management of land and forest resources can ensure sustainable and sufficient food production and contribute to fighting hunger according to Goal 2.
- Goal 6 - Clean water and sanitation: The protection of ecosystems on land is closely linked to water resources. Healthy and functional ecosystems contribute to protecting water sources and ensuring access to clean water according to Goal 6.
- Goal 13 - Combat climate change: The goal of preserving and restoring ecosystems on land is linked to combating climate change. Forests and other land areas act as carbon reservoirs by absorbing carbon dioxide. By protecting and restoring forests, we can reduce the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere and contribute to combating climate change according to Goal 13.
- Goal 14 - Oceans and marine resources: Ecosystems on land and in the sea are closely linked. Reduced runoff of pollutants from land can contribute to protecting the marine environment and preserving biological diversity according to Goal 14.

These connections show that ecosystem health and sustainable management are crucial to achieving several goals in the transition. By conserving biodiversity and restoring ecosystems, we can promote a more sustainable and balanced future for both people and the planet.

### ***Conclusion***

Let me take you to an enchanted place called Naturriket, where the inhabitants are passionately striving to achieve goal 15 of Agenda 2030 - to preserve and restore terrestrial ecosystems and ensure sustainable use of natural resources. By following their journey, we can gain insight into what is required to create a harmonious coexistence between people and nature.

In Naturriket, the inhabitants found themselves in a situation where they saw the negative effects of deforestation, habitat loss and destruction of ecosystems. They realized that in order to preserve nature and its resources, they must act with care and respect for the natural world.

One of the most important insights of their journey was to protect and restore forests and biodiversity. The inhabitants of Naturriket invested in the replanting of trees and established protected areas to preserve natural ecosystems. By collaborating with

forestry experts and local people, they helped create a balance between deforestation and biodiversity conservation.

Naturriket also recognized the importance of promoting sustainable agriculture and land use. Residents worked to introduce organic farming methods and reduce the use of chemical pesticides and fertilizers. By promoting sustainable land use and land reclamation, they created a healthy and productive environment while preserving the soil's fertility for future generations.

Another key factor was combating illegal wildlife trade and protecting endangered species. Residents of Naturriket worked to curb the illegal hunting and trade by strengthening surveillance and imposing strict laws and penalties. By promoting awareness and education about the importance of protecting biodiversity, they were able to create a stronger connection between humans and wildlife.

Naturriket also realized that sustainable use of natural resources was essential. Residents developed management plans and guidelines to ensure that exploitation of natural resources took place in a responsible manner. By promoting a circular economy and recycling of resources, they reduced waste and overexploitation.

What really made Naturriket successful was that they deepened their understanding and connection to nature. The inhabitants learned to listen to nature, to understand its cycles and collaboration. They embraced traditional knowledge and wisdom from local people to design sustainable solutions.

Naturriket's story shows that in order to achieve goal 15 in Agenda 2030, mutual respect and coexistence between people and nature is required. By protecting and restoring ecosystems, promoting sustainable land use, combating illegal wildlife trade and promoting the sustainable use of natural resources, we can create a future where people and nature live in harmony. Naturriket reminds us that we are part of nature and that our survival and well-being are closely intertwined with the well-being of all living things on our beautiful planet.

## ***Chapter 16***



## Goal 16 Peaceful and inclusive societies

Peaceful societies and freedom from violence are both a goal and a means of sustainable development. Inclusive, responsible and fair institutions are the basis for good governance free from conflict, corruption and violence. All people are equal before the law and must have equal access to justice and opportunities to exercise influence and demand accountability over decision-making.

No lasting progress can be achieved in a context characterized by conflict and violence. Violence not only causes human suffering, it also destroys the foundations of society's economic, environmental and social development. The countries that are affected by war and protracted conflicts are the countries that have the hardest time lifting their population out of poverty. Strengthening the rule of law and promoting human rights are key to peaceful, inclusive and sustainable societies.



### Analysis for the transformation of Sweden (2018)

#### Summary

Sweden is a peaceful country with well-functioning institutions, strong faith in the legal system, low corruption and high interpersonal trust. However, Sweden has an extensive export of military equipment, which, among other things, constitutes a conflict with the feminist foreign policy and Politics for Global Development.

Some identified challenges based on Agenda 2030:

Criticism from international review bodies for human rights regarding the position of human rights conventions in the national legal order.

There is a lack of a national strategy for combating corruption.

A slightly increased perceived insecurity.

Violent extremism and organized crime.

Children exposed to abuse and sexual abuse.

The Swedish export of military equipment involves a conflict of objectives.

**GOAL in sight**



- Ensure that all forms of violence and death due to violence are greatly reduced everywhere.
- Stop all abuse and violence against children. They shall not be sold or subjected to torture.
- Everyone must have legal certainty and justice, for example the right to be protected by laws and courts, both within and between countries.
- The number of illegal finances and money, as well as weapons, must be greatly reduced. It should be easier to recover stolen money, and all organized crime should be reduced.
- All forms of corruption and bribery must be much less.
- Build institutions in society that are efficient and transparent, and that take responsibility at all levels of society.
- Those who make decisions at all levels in society must listen to and represent the citizens, and let them participate in the decisions.
- Give more and greater opportunities for developing countries to participate in the institutions that govern the world.
- Everyone in the world should be given a legal identity, for example by registering everyone who is born.
- Make sure everyone has access to the information they need. Protect the basics the freedoms found in the countries' laws, and in agreements between countries.
- The institutions that work to prevent and fight against violence, terrorism and crime must become stronger. Cooperation between countries is needed, and developing countries need extra support.
- Make sure to introduce, and work for, policies and laws against discrimination and for sustainable



**Society 2030 story when the goals are**

**fulfilled**

Democracy is not explicitly mentioned under Goal 16, but can be considered a key to a peaceful and well-functioning society. Sweden ranks high in international surveys with well-functioning institutions and a free civil society.

The year is 2030 and the world has succeeded in achieving the overall goal and all sub-goals within sustainability area 16, Peaceful and Inclusive Societies. Humanity has made tremendous progress in creating peaceful and just societies where all people can live in harmony and with respect for one another.

Conflicts and violence have decreased drastically around the world. Through diplomacy, dialogue and peace negotiations, nations have found sustainable solutions to their conflicts. Investments in conflict prevention and peacekeeping have yielded positive results, and people can now feel safe and secure in their communities.

Equity and inclusion have become core values in societies worldwide. Discrimination, inequality and injustice have been actively fought. By promoting human rights and equality, societies have become more inclusive and respectful of all individuals regardless of gender, ethnicity, religion or sexual orientation. People have access to equal opportunities and rights and can live their lives freely and with pride in their identity.

Fighting corruption and organized crime has been high on the agenda. By strengthening the legal system and implementing effective measures against corruption, societies have become more transparent and accountable. People have confidence in their institutions and feel confident that justice will be done.

Education and knowledge have been key factors in building peaceful and inclusive societies. By investing in high-quality education and lifelong learning, people have been given the tools they need to contribute to the development of society. Education has promoted tolerance, respect and understanding of different cultures and perspectives, and has created an atmosphere of cooperation and peace.

Civil society and youth have played a crucial role in shaping peaceful and inclusive societies. By getting involved in political processes, contributing to social development and bringing forward their voices, they have been involved in creating change. Their energy, creativity and visions have inspired others and contributed to a positive change in society.

In this future, the world is characterized by peace, justice and inclusion. People live in harmony with each other and with the planet. By achieving the goals in sustainability

area 16, we have created a foundation for a sustainable and peaceful future where all people can thrive and flourish. I woke up to the sound of birdsong outside my window and instantly felt calm. It is a world where Goal 16 has been achieved, and peace and justice are an integral part of our everyday lives. In my society, conflict and violence are a thing of the past, and people live side by side in harmony and mutual respect.

### **Personal story**

I go out into the street and am greeted by smiles and happy greetings from my neighbors. Our society is diverse and inclusive, and we embrace differences that enrich our lives. We celebrate our unique cultures, traditions and languages, and we learn from each other to create a stronger community.

Our institutions are transparent and accountable. Corruption and abuse of power are a thing of the past, and we have full confidence in our leaders and decision-makers. Our institutions work to serve us, with civic influence and participation as fundamental principles. We have access to legal certainty and know that justice will be served regardless of our background or financial position.

I go to my job and feel safe in the workplace. The working conditions are fair and equal. No one is discriminated against or exploited, and we work together towards common goals. We have access to education and opportunities for skill development, which help us realize our dreams and contribute to the progress of society.

In the evening, I attend a local community meeting where we discuss important issues that affect us all. Our voices are valuable and listened to, and we have the opportunity to influence the decisions that are made. It is an atmosphere of cooperation and open dialogue, where we strive to find solutions that benefit everyone.

When I go to bed at night, I feel grateful to live in a world where Goal 16 has been achieved. I know that my children and future generations will inherit a world marked by peace, justice and inclusion. We have built a sustainable foundation for development and faith in the future.

Living in a world where Goal 16 is achieved means that we can develop our full human potential, unleash our creativity and build stronger communities. It is a world

where we respect each other and take responsibility for our planet. It is a world where we not only survive, but thrive and thrive together.



### **Obstacles to achieving the goals**

There are several obstacles that could make it difficult or impossible for the world to look as described in 2030. Here are some potential obstacles:

- Ongoing conflicts: Despite progress in conflict resolution and peace negotiations, there may be conflicts and violence that continue or escalate. Complex geopolitical interests, territorial disputes, ethnic or religious tensions, and socio-economic injustices can all contribute to continued conflicts around the world.
- Political Instability: Achieving peaceful and inclusive societies requires stable and effective political institutions. If there is political instability, corruption or a lack of democratic processes, it can be difficult to maintain peace and justice.
- Climate change and environmental degradation: If climate change continues to negatively affect the world and if environmental degradation continues, it may be difficult to achieve sustainable societies. Climate-related disasters, resource shortages and ecological imbalances can lead to social and political tensions.
- Increasing inequality: If inequality in society continues to increase, it may be difficult to create fair and inclusive societies. Lack of access to education, health care, economic opportunities and political influence can create social divides and injustices.
- Negative social and cultural norms: If negative social and cultural norms continue to dominate, such as discrimination based on gender, ethnicity, religion or sexual orientation, it can be difficult to create inclusive societies. Changes to such norms can be difficult and face resistance.
- Lack of international cooperation: Achieving peaceful and inclusive societies requires international cooperation and solidarity. If there is a lack of global leadership and cooperation between nations, it can be difficult to address global challenges and achieve sustainable goals.

These are some examples of obstacles that could make it difficult or impossible for the world to look as described in 2030. Overcoming these obstacles requires the commitment, cooperation and action of both individuals and nations around the

world.



### ***Summary***

Peaceful societies and freedom from violence are both a goal and a means of sustainable development. Achieving this requires inclusive, accountable and fair institutions that can prevent conflict, corruption and violence. It is important that all people are equal before the law and have equal access to justice and opportunities to participate in decision-making. Violence and conflict prevent lasting progress and undermine economic, environmental and social development in societies, particularly in countries affected by war and protracted conflict. Strengthening the rule of law and promoting human rights are key to peaceful, inclusive and sustainable societies.

Sweden identifies challenges according to Agenda 2030, including criticism of human rights, lack of strategy against corruption and increased insecurity. Goal 16 includes reducing violence, ending child abuse, promoting the rule of law and justice, reducing illicit finance and organized crime, reducing corruption, and building effective and transparent institutions with citizen influence. The goal is also about giving developing countries greater opportunities to participate in global institutions, ensuring legal identity for all, providing access to information, strengthening institutions against violence and crime, and fighting discrimination for sustainable development.

2030: A person lives in a world where Goal 16 is achieved, which means peace and justice. Conflict and violence have been reduced dramatically through diplomacy and investment in prevention measures. Society is inclusive and fair, and people have access to education and opportunities for skills development. Institutions are transparent and accountable, and political participation is high. Challenges such as political instability, climate change, inequality and negative norms have been overcome through cooperation and engagement at the international level.

**[Links to other targets](#)**



Here are some connections and dependencies that Goal 16 has to other goals in the transition:



- Goal 5 - Gender Equality: Goal 16 and Goal 5 are closely linked as they both aim to promote inclusive societies. Gender equality is an important component of peaceful societies and just institutions.
- Goal 10 - Reduced Inequalities: Goal 16 and Goal 10 have similar goals by working for inclusive societies and fair institutions. Reduced inequalities and discrimination are necessary to achieve peaceful and inclusive societies.
- Goal 11 - Sustainable cities and communities: Goal 16 can be linked to Goal 11 by promoting inclusive and sustainable cities and communities. Effective and accountable institutions at the local level are crucial to creating a safe and fair social environment.
- Goal 16 - Peace, justice and strong institutions: Goal 16 is itself part of the goal by promoting peaceful societies and strong institutions. However, it also links to the other goals by creating a basis for implementing sustainable development and promoting equitable and inclusive institutions.
- Goal 17 - Partnerships to achieve the goals: Goal 16 is dependent on Goal 17 because partnerships and cooperation are critical to building effective institutions and achieving sustainable development. By collaborating and sharing knowledge, we can strengthen institutional capacities and promote peace and justice.

These linkages demonstrate the importance of integrating efforts to promote peace, inclusion and strong institutions in the pursuit of sustainable development. By addressing these goals in collaboration, we can create a safer, more just and inclusive world for all.

## Conclusion

The background information emphasizes the importance of peaceful societies and freedom from violence as both a goal and a means of sustainable development. To achieve this, inclusive, accountable and fair institutions are required that can counter conflicts, corruption and violence. The rule of law and equal access to justice for all is

important, and violence and conflict prevent lasting progress and undermine society's economic, environmental and social development. The goal of peaceful and inclusive societies (Goal 16) within Agenda 2030 is comprehensive and includes efforts to reduce violence, strengthen institutions, fight corruption and promote human rights.

At the same time, there are challenges and obstacles that can make it difficult to achieve this goal, including continued conflicts, political instability, climate change, increasing inequality and negative social norms. Overcoming these obstacles requires commitment and cooperation at the national and international level.

Finally, the background information also provides a vision of a future where Goal 16 has been achieved, where conflict and violence are dramatically reduced, societies are inclusive and just, and people live in harmony with each other and the planet. To reach this future, efforts and measures are required to create sustainable and peaceful societies where all individuals can thrive and flourish.

## Chapter 17



### Goal 17 Implementation and global partnership

The world today is more connected than ever before and the Global Goals can only be realized through global partnership and cooperation. Achieving the goals requires global solidarity, capacity building and the mobilization of financial resources to ensure that no country or group is left behind in development.

International investment and coordinated policies are needed to ensure innovative technological development, fair trade, reliable monitoring and support in humanitarian crises. Exchange of knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources are all important components for achieving the goals, especially to meet the needs of the poorest and most vulnerable countries. Goal 17 constitutes a toolbox for how the Global Goals can become a reality.



### Summary

Sweden has a strong tradition of cooperation and partnership both nationally and internationally and has a strong and vibrant civil society. Sweden is also a strong aid nation and contributes with other forms of capacity building and resource mobilization internationally.

Some identified challenges based on Agenda 2030:

Sweden has comparatively high fees on remittances.

Capital and tax evasion is a global challenge.

Shrinking space for global society.

Trade agreements that risk particularly favoring the richer countries and that conditions for trade are set based on an unequal power relationship.

The lack of reliable data and statistics makes monitoring results difficult in many developing countries.

### GOAL in sight



- Help countries organize how they raise revenue, such as taxes. Other countries must support the developing countries so that their opportunities to receive such income will improve.

- The developed countries must keep their promises to provide public aid for development. They should preferably have a goal of giving at least 0.20% of their GNI (gross national income) to the least developed countries. - Organize more financial resources for the developing countries, from many different directions.

- Help developing countries get debt that is sustainable in the long term. Organize a policy that can, among other things, support financial assistance to pay off their debts

if necessary, especially large debts.

- Develop and implement rules that support investment in the least developed countries.
- Strengthen cooperation between North and South, and South and South. Also strengthen the tripartite cooperation, i.e. the cooperation between the state, employees and employers, within and between the countries, regarding access to science, technology and inventions. Agree on how to increase the exchange of knowledge within and between the countries.
- Support the development and spread of environmentally friendly technology to developing countries. Agree on good terms to help developing countries get more environmentally friendly technology.
- The least developed countries must receive help to expand and develop science, technology and inventions. They must also increase the use of technology that they need, especially for information and communication.
- Increase international support to be able to implement all the goals for sustainable development in the developing countries, in an effective way. This must take place, among other things, through cooperation between North and South, South and South and tripartite cooperation, i.e. cooperation between the state, employees and employers.
- Support a trading system between many different countries and parties, within the framework of the World Trade Organization. It must have clear rules, apply to all countries, be open and fair, and not discriminate.
- Increase exports from developing countries by a lot. Double the least developed countries' share of exports in the world.
- Ensure that the least developed countries do not have to pay tariffs and quotas, so that they can participate in world trade. Follow the World Trade Organization's decision on this.
- Increase the stability of the world's overall economy. It can become more stable, among other things, by organizing politics, and arriving at a common policy between the countries.

- Respect that each country must decide for themselves, depending on what they can actually do, what policy they should have for sustainable development, and to stop poverty.
- Strengthen the partnership for sustainable development between all countries, and introduce more partnerships between multiple parties. They must organize and exchange knowledge, technology and financial resources. Everyone must work together to achieve the goals for sustainable development, especially in developing countries.
- Increase support so that developing countries can have more access to up-to-date and good information. The information must be divided according to, for example, gender, income, ethnicity, disability.
- Build on what has already been done to develop ways to measure progress towards sustainable development. They must supplement GDP (gross domestic product), and support the developing countries' ability to keep statistics.



**Society 2030 story when the goals are**

**fulfilled**

The year is 2030 and the world has taken great strides towards achieving the goals for sustainable development. Countries around the world have understood that the realization of these goals requires global cooperation and mutual support. A new era of partnership and solidarity has emerged to shape a better future for all. Let's go on a journey and explore society in 2030 based on various goals.

The goal of helping countries organize their incomes through taxes has proven to be a success. Through increased global cooperation, developing countries have improved their ability to generate income in a fair and sustainable way. Other countries have been eager to support them in this endeavor and have shared their knowledge and expertise.

Developed countries have stuck to their promises to provide public assistance for development. With a goal of giving at least 0.20% of their GNI to the least developed countries, they have helped to reduce inequality and promote economic growth and welfare in these regions.

The organization of financial resources to developing countries has become more diversified. Through several different sources, such as investment, trade and technology transfer, developing countries have gained access to necessary resources for their development. The international community has worked together to facilitate this support and ensure it reaches where it is most needed.

To ensure a sustainable debt situation for developing countries, a policy has been designed that offers financial assistance to deal with any large debts. This policy has relieved the burden on developing countries and enabled them to focus on their economic growth and social development.

Rules supporting investment in the least developed countries have been introduced and implemented. By creating a favorable environment for investment, these countries have succeeded in attracting both domestic and foreign capital. This has stimulated their economies and helped reduce poverty and inequality.

Cooperation between north and south and south and south has been significantly strengthened. In addition, tripartite cooperation, where the state, employees and employers work together, has become an important part of knowledge and technology transfer both within and between countries. By sharing knowledge and experience, developing countries have been given the opportunity to build up their capacity in science, technology and innovation.

The spread of environmentally friendly technology to developing countries has increased significantly. By agreeing on favorable terms, they have gained access to and implemented sustainable solutions in various sectors. This has not only benefited the environment but also promoted economic growth and social welfare.

The least developed countries have received extensive support to expand their scientific, technological and innovative capacity. They have also increased their use of information and communication technology, which has opened new opportunities for education, health and economic growth.

International support for achieving sustainable development in developing countries has increased significantly and has been organized effectively. Through cooperation between north and south, south and south, as well as tripartite cooperation, the resources have been allocated in a way that provides maximum benefit and impact.

A fair and open trading system has been established between many countries and parties within the framework of the World Trade Organization. Clear rules have guaranteed that trade benefits all countries and that there is no discrimination.

Exports from developing countries have doubled, contributing to a fairer and more balanced global economy.

Developing countries have been freed from tariffs and quotas to ensure that they can participate fully in world trade. The decisions of the World Trade Organization have been respected and the developing countries have been given the opportunity to develop and expand their trade relations throughout the world.

The stability of the global economy has increased. By organizing politics and achieving unity between countries, a more robust and resilient economy has been created. This has reduced the risk of crises and created a favorable environment for economic growth and welfare.

It is respected that each country can decide on its own policy for sustainable development and that the fight against poverty must be adapted to the country's specific conditions. The international community has recognized and supported this right to self-determination.

The partnership for sustainable development has been strengthened between all countries, and several new partnerships have been created between different actors. By organizing and exchanging knowledge, technology and financial resources, a big step has been taken towards achieving the sustainable development goals. Everyone works together to create a better future for all people, especially in the developing world.

Support for developing countries to have better access to current and relevant information has increased significantly. The information is available and divided by, for example, gender, income, ethnicity and disability to ensure an inclusive and fair distribution of knowledge.

The work of measuring progress towards sustainable development has continued to develop. New indicators have been created that complement GDP and provide a more nuanced picture of the progress of developing countries. Statistics support has been provided to ensure that data is collected accurately and reliably.

In society in 2030, cooperation, solidarity and justice are the cornerstones of sustainable development. By meeting the goals, the world has created a platform to shape a future where no country or individual is left behind. A new era of global partnership has paved the way for a more inclusive, just and sustainable world for all.



### Obstacles to achieving the goals

Despite the positive visions for the year 2030 and the emphasis on cooperation and global partnership, there are several obstacles that can make it difficult or prevent the world from looking as described. Here are some potential obstacles:

- Lack of political commitment: Achieving global cooperation and implementing sustainability measures requires strong and consistent political commitment from leaders around the world. If political leaders do not prioritize sustainable development and do not take concrete measures, it may be difficult to achieve the goals in sustainability area 17.
- Financial challenges: Mobilizing sufficient financial resources to implement sustainability projects and assist developing countries can be a challenge. Economic obstacles, including global economic crises, can affect the implementation of necessary measures and resource mobilization.
- Imbalance of power and inequality: Inequality and power imbalance between different actors can be an obstacle to an effective global partnership. If certain countries or organizations have superior power and do not take into account or prioritize the needs of the most vulnerable societies and countries, it may be difficult to achieve fair and inclusive sustainable development.
- Resistance to change: There may be conflicts of interest and resistance to implementing sustainability measures and changes in existing systems. Economic, political or social interests can affect the ability to implement necessary reforms and transition to more sustainable practices.
- Weaknesses in implementation and monitoring: Implementing and monitoring the implementation of sustainability measures at the global level can be a complex task. It requires effective governance structures, capacity building and monitoring mechanisms to ensure that actions are actually implemented and that results follow up.
- Short-term thinking and lack of awareness: If there is a lack of awareness of the importance of sustainable development and its long-term consequences, it can be difficult to get the public and decision-makers to act. Short-term priorities and lack of knowledge about sustainability can hinder the implementation of sustainability measures.

It is important to overcome these barriers through strong political leadership, financial commitment, inclusive decision-making and a comprehensive awareness campaign.

By highlighting these barriers, we can work towards a more sustainable and inclusive world by 2030 and beyond.



In summary, there are several obstacles that may hinder or prevent the world from achieving the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. These obstacles include lack of political commitment, economic challenges, power imbalances and inequalities, resistance to change, implementation and monitoring deficiencies, and short-term thinking and lack of awareness.

Overcoming these barriers requires strong political leadership, financial commitment, inclusive decision-making and a comprehensive awareness campaign. Only by actively highlighting and addressing these barriers can we work towards a more sustainable and inclusive world by 2030 and beyond.



Here are some connections and dependencies that Goal 17 has to other goals in the transition:



- Goal 1 - No Poverty: Goal 17 links to Goal 1 by promoting effective partnerships to mobilize resources and support poverty reduction. By cooperating and sharing resources, we can increase opportunities for economic growth and reduce poverty.
- Goal 2 - No Hunger: Goal 17 links to Goal 2 by promoting partnerships to improve agriculture and food systems. By sharing knowledge, technology and resources, we can increase food production and ensure that no one suffers from

hunger.

- Goal 5 - Equality: Goal 17 can contribute to promoting gender equality by strengthening partnerships and mobilizing resources to support efforts promoting gender equality. By working together, we can increase women's participation and influence in society.
- Goal 13 - Combat climate change: Goal 17 is linked to Goal 13 by promoting global cooperation to combat climate change. By mobilizing financial resources and technical cooperation, we can strengthen measures to reduce emissions and adapt to climate change.
- Goal 16 - Peace, justice and strong institutions: Goal 17 links to Goal 16 by promoting partnerships to strengthen institutions and promote peace and justice. By working together, we can strengthen institutional capacity and promote fair and inclusive institutions.

These connections show that Goal 17 plays an important role in strengthening cooperation and resources to achieve the other goals in the transition. By working together and sharing resources, we can create a more sustainable and inclusive world for all.

### **Personal story**

Let's take a look at the story of "Enighetens by", where residents have embraced Goal 17 of the 2030 Agenda - to strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development. By following their journey, we gain insight into what it takes to create a collaborative and inclusive global partnership.

In the village of Enighetens by, the residents understood that no nation or individual was able to solve the global challenges alone. They realized that to achieve sustainable development at the global level, cooperation, partnership and unity must be at the core of their efforts.

An important insight from their trip was the need to promote economic cooperation and trade on fair terms. The residents of the Enighetens by worked to reduce trade barriers and promote mutual benefits in international trade relations. By creating fair and inclusive trade agreements and promoting trade with a focus on sustainability, they helped promote economic growth and development.

Enighetens by also realized that financial resources and technology transfer played a crucial role in promoting sustainable development. Residents worked to strengthen the capacity of developing countries and promote technology transfer in sustainability areas such as renewable energy, water management and agriculture. By building partnerships and developing mechanisms for resource mobilization and technology transfer, they helped developing countries achieve their sustainability goals.

Another key factor was promoting knowledge exchange and education. The residents of Enighetens by understood that knowledge and information were crucial to drive sustainable development. By promoting education, research and knowledge sharing in sustainability areas, they were able to foster innovation, build capacity and disseminate best practices to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

What really made Enighetens by successful was their ability to build bridges and create strong partnerships. Residents understood the value of working together and including different stakeholders, such as governments, civil society, businesses and international organizations. By fostering dialogue, collaboration and joint decision-making, they were able to create a culture of unity and partnership.

The story of the Enighetens by reminds us that in order to achieve goal 17 of Agenda 2030, a strong global partnership and cooperation at all levels is required. By promoting fair trading conditions, strengthening resource mobilization and technology transfer, promoting knowledge exchange and building bridges between different stakeholders, we can create a common front for sustainable development. The Enighetens by shows that when we unite and work together, we can overcome obstacles and shape a future where cooperation, inclusion and unity are the keys to a sustainable and prosperous world.

### **System or structure that can strengthen or hinder the transition.**

#### ***Capitalism -***

There was once a world where capitalism was the dominant economic system. In this world, people had a strong belief in the power of the market and the ability of competition to create prosperity and progress. At the same time, they had set ambitious goals to achieve sustainable development through the Agenda 2030 sustainability goals. But how would capitalism affect the implementation of these goals?

Capitalism's driving force is profit and economic growth. Businesses and entrepreneurs were motivated to create new products and services to meet consumer needs and maximize their profits. This can mean the development of innovative technologies, the streamlining of production processes and the expansion of markets. These economic advances, in turn, can help reduce poverty and increase the standard of living of people around the world.

Capitalism can also play a role in promoting sustainability goals through incentives and rewards. As consumers show increased demand for sustainable products and services, companies can respond by adapting their business models and offering more environmentally friendly alternatives. This demand can drive innovation and investment in areas such as renewable energy, recycling and sustainable agriculture. By meeting the needs of the market and at the same time contributing to sustainable development, capitalism can act as a catalyst for change.

But at the same time there were challenges with capitalism when it was in order to achieve the Agenda 2030 sustainability goals. Capitalism was fundamentally focused on short-term profit and individualism, which could lead to exploitation of resources and social injustice. Some companies could prioritize economic growth over environmental or social considerations. This Could lead to overexploitation of natural resources, pollution and negative consequences for people and society.

To ensure that capitalism contributed to the implementation of the sustainability goals, it was necessary to establish rules and frameworks to guide corporate behavior. Regulations could be introduced to promote responsible business, sustainability reporting and implementation of environmental and social standards. In this way, negative external effects of capitalism could be reduced and a more sustainable and fair economy promoted.

In order to achieve the 2030 Agenda, it was also necessary to promote cooperation and partnership between different sectors. Capitalism could serve as a platform to promote dialogue and cooperation between business, civil society and governments. By working together, they were able to identify common interests and goals, and find solutions that benefit both economic prosperity and sustainable development.

So, in this world capitalism played a complex role when it came to the implementation of Agenda 2030 sustainability goals. Capitalism could be an engine of economic growth and innovation, while requiring regulation and cooperation to manage its potential negative consequences. A balance between capitalist principles and

sustainable values was essential to ensure that economic prosperity and sustainable development could coexist and be promoted.

## *Chapter 18*

### *The whole is reality*

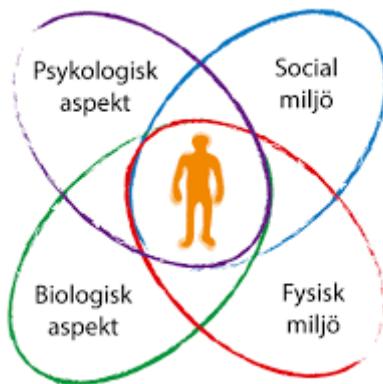
**4 stories**



We have reviewed the goals in each area of sustainability, what society might look like when each goal is met, the obstacles that can prevent or delay the transition, a summary of each goal, how each goal is connected to or dependent on other goals, and a conclusion about the goals can be met.

Now we move up a level and look at the overall goals of Agenda 2030, stories about the society we would get when all these goals are met and what obstacles we have at this level. These stories are more interesting because no goal of the 2030 Agenda can be met in isolation. You have four alternate stories to choose from. Choose from the table of contents on the left or scroll.

**Society in 2030**



### 1 Can today's economic system help us with the transition?

It is important to note that today's economic system is not fully adapted to enable a smooth transition to all these sustainable development measures. There are several challenges and obstacles that need to be overcome to implement these changes on a global scale.

Some of the challenges that can hinder implementation includes:

- Resistance from financial interests: Financial interests and political power structures can oppose changes that affect existing distribution mechanisms. This can make it difficult to implement changes that require financial sacrifices from some actors.

Short term economic gain over long-term sustainability: Many economic decisions and investments are often based on short-term gains, which can hinder the transition to long-term sustainable economic models

Global economic inequalities: The economic differences between countries and regions can affect the implementation of sustainable development measures. Developed countries may have greater financial and technological resources to invest in developing countries, but it is not always certain that these investments take place in a sustainable and fair manner.

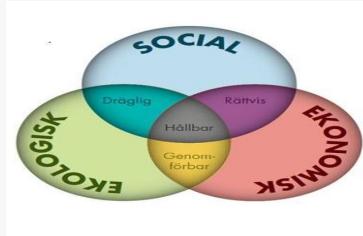
Political obstacles: Political priorities and national interests can also play a role in the obstacle of the transition to sustainable development. National governments may be reluctant to give up certain benefits to advance global goals.

Shortcomings in international cooperation: In order to implement these changes,

strong international cooperation is required. Different interests and political conflicts between countries can make it difficult to reach common agreements.

Difficulties in measuring progress: Measuring progress towards sustainable development can be complex and challenging. Traditional economic indicators such as GDP cannot always capture all aspects of sustainable development.

Despite these challenges, there is an increased awareness of the need to promote sustainable development at a global level. International organizations, civil society and some governments have begun to take initiatives to address these issues. Through increased awareness, political will and cooperation, today's economic system can gradually be rearranged to better promote sustainable development and reduce the gap between rich and poor countries. It will require the commitment and participation of all stakeholders to ensure a fairer and more sustainable global economy.



## 2 Sofia's story about the transition

Once upon a time there was a young woman named Sofia. She grew up in a world marked by inequality, poverty and environmental destruction. But despite the challenges that surrounded her, she always had a spark of hope and a desire to make the world a better place.

As Sofia grew older and heard about the Millennium Development Goals and its sustainability goals, she was immediately inspired. The goals described a vision of a just, sustainable and peaceful world. She knew it would take a huge effort and cooperation from everyone, but she was determined to contribute to the change.

Sofia began her involvement by working as a volunteer on a local aid project to fight poverty. She saw how their efforts helped people gain access to education, health care and clean water. It was a powerful experience to see how these basic rights changed people's lives and gave them hope for the future.

Motivated by this work, Sofia realized the importance of ensuring food safety for everyone. She joined an organization which promoted sustainable agriculture and fair distribution of food. By supporting local farmers and encouraging sustainable practices, Sofia contributed to reducing hunger and creating a more equitable food supply.

Health and well-being were also one of Sofia's heart issues. She trained as a nurse and worked in communities with limited access to healthcare. By offering quality care and educating people about preventive health, she saw life expectancy increase and child mortality decrease. She took pride in being able to contribute to people's well-being and leave a lasting positive impact on their lives.

Agenda 2030, which she came into contact with in 2016, convinced Sofia that education was the key to change. She became a champion of the great importance of education and spread her insights in areas where she worked and access to education was limited. She fought to ensure that every child was given the opportunity to develop to their full potential, regardless of their background. By promoting equality and equity in schools, she helped create a fair and inclusive educational environment.

Sofia realized that all this progress was dependent on sustainable energy and responsible consumption and production. She got involved in projects like promoting renewable energy and the development of sustainable technologies. She also encouraged conscious consumption and shared knowledge on how to reduce one's own environmental impact. Through these efforts, Sofia contributed to reducing the effects of climate change and preserving the planet's resources for future generations.

Over the years, Sofia noticed how the world was changing. Inequalities decreased, sustainable cities and communities flourished, and ecosystem recovered. Peace and inclusion became the norm, and global cooperation to achieve the goals was stronger than ever.

Agenda 2030 was no longer just a vision, but a reality. Sofia felt enormous joy and pride at having been part of that change. She realized that although the goals seemed overwhelming at first, it was through individual efforts and collective efforts that change was truly possible. Sofia's story is just one of many around the world. Every individual, every commitment and every action played a role in shaping a more just, sustainable and peaceful place to live. Agenda 2030 was a reminder that we have the ability to change the world when we work together for a common vision.

Can a single person's commitment, interest and desire have a global impact?

Sofia managed to make her work global through a combination of passion, commitment and determination. Her journey began with volunteering at a local aid project to fight poverty. Through this work, she saw how basic rights such as education, health care and clean water changed people's lives and gave them hope for the future. This experience inspired her to continue her work and expand her efforts to other areas.

Sofia understood the importance of food safety for everyone and joined an organization that promoted sustainable agriculture and fair distribution of food. By supporting local farmers and encouraging sustainable practices, she contributed to reducing hunger and creating a more equitable food supply.

Health and well-being were also an important part of Sofia's work. She trained as a nurse and worked in communities with limited access to healthcare. By offering quality care and educating people about preventive health, she saw life expectancy increase and child mortality decrease. She realized how important access to health care is to creating sustainable and prosperous societies.

When Sofia came into contact with Agenda 2030 in 2016, education became a central part of her work. She became a champion of the importance of education and spread her insights in areas where access to education was limited. By promoting equality and equity in schools, she helped create a fair and inclusive educational environment.

Sofia realized that sustainable energy and responsible consumption and production were crucial to achieving the global goals. She got involved in projects like promoting renewable energy and the development of sustainable technologies. She also shared knowledge about how to reduce one's own environmental impact and encouraged conscious consumption.

Through her efforts and collaboration with various organizations and communities, Sofia's work became global. She realized that change could not happen in isolation and that collective efforts were required to achieve a just, sustainable and peaceful world. Agenda 2030 became a real opportunity and a guide for Sofia and others to work towards a shared vision of a better future for all.

Sofia's story is an inspiring reminder that the actions and commitment of individuals can make a real difference in the world. By working together towards common goals, we can create a more sustainable and inclusive world for future generations.



### 3 A general story

There was once a world where justice, sustainability and peace marked every corner of people's lives. It was the year 2030 and all the goals in Agenda 2030 had been achieved. The world had undergone an amazing transformation, and people lived in harmony with each other and with nature.

In this world, poverty was no longer a burden that weighed on people's shoulders. Through sustainable development programs and a strong social safety net, global poverty has been reduced to a fraction of what it once was. All people had access to basic rights such as education, health care, clean water and nutritious food. No one had to worry about going hungry or living in misery anymore.

The health care system had developed to be of the highest quality and accessible to all. Diseases and epidemics were no longer a constant concern, as infrastructure and resources to combat them had been strengthened. Life expectancy had increased and infant mortality had decreased drastically. The people could live their lives in prosperity and security.

Education was a universal right for everyone, regardless of gender, age or socio-economic background. Schools and educational institutions were equal and offered high quality teaching and opportunities for personal development. Knowledge and skills was promoted to strengthen people's ability to actively participate in society and shape their own future.

Equality was a matter of course in this world. Women and girls were treated with full respect and their rights were protected. They had the same opportunities as men for education, work, political participation and influence over decision-making processes. There were no longer any obstacles to their success and self-realization.

Clean water and sanitation facilities were available to all. Water quality was high and ensured to prevent disease. Good hygiene practices reduced the spread of disease and public health was improved significantly. The people could live their lives without fear of waterborne diseases.

The energy supply had undergone a revolution. Sustainable and renewable energy such as solar, wind and hydro was the primary source of energy. Fossil fuel dependence was almost non-existent and greenhouse gas emissions had decreased dramatically. All people had access to reliable and affordable energy for their needs.

Working conditions were decent and economic growth was sustainable and inclusive. People had fair wages and social protection. Vulnerable groups such as young people, the disabled and migrants were protected and given equal opportunities in the labor market. No human had to live in insecurity and poverty due to poor working conditions anymore.

Infrastructure and technological innovation had been strengthened to support sustainable development. Sustainable means of transport and communication systems were accessible to all and helped reduce carbon dioxide emissions. Investment flows were directed towards infrastructure that benefits the environment and technological advances that promote sustainability.

Inequalities had reduced significantly both within and between countries. A fair distribution system had been established to reduce gaps and ensure inclusion and social justice. People had equal access to resources and opportunities and no one was left behind.

Cities and communities had undergone a sustainable transformation. Construction and infrastructure were environmentally friendly and energy efficient. Everyone had access to housing and basic services such as water, sewage and transport. The cities were safe and inclusive, and residents felt safe and happy in their environments.

Consumption and production patterns had changed to be sustainable and resource efficient. Waste management was efficient and recycling was common. Business Acted responsibly and strived to minimize its environmental impact. People were conscious consumers and made conscious choices to reduce their own impact on the planet.

Climate change was under control. Greenhouse gas emissions had decreased dramatically and the transition to renewable energy was a completed reality. Actions had been taken to protect ecosystems and preserve biodiversity. The people lived in harmony with nature and respected its resources.

The oceans and marine ecosystems were healthy and well managed. Overfishing and littering had been reduced significantly. Coastal zones were protected and

marine biodiversity was preserved. Humans managed their ocean resources sustainably to ensure their survival for future generations.

Earth's ecosystems and biodiversity were protected and restored. Deforestation had decreased significantly and sustainable forestry was the norm. Protected areas and ecological corridors had been established to preserve endangered species and their habitats. The people had learned to live in harmony with nature and protect biological diversity.

Peaceful and inclusive societies were the norm in this world. Fairness, non-discrimination and effective institutions were fundamental to promoting legal certainty and access to justice for all. Conflict and violence were rare and people resolved their differences through dialogue and peaceful means.

The implementation of the sustainability goals was a priority and was effectively implemented. Countries collaborated and formed strong partnerships to share knowledge, technology and resources. International institutions and organizations played an active role in supporting and promoting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

This world was the result of an extensive effort and commitment from governments, organizations, companies and people all over the world. It took courage, determination and collaboration to achieve this vision. The people had realized the importance of living in harmony with each other and with the planet, and they had acted accordingly.

This story of a world where all the sustainability goals of Agenda 2030 have been met gives us a vision of what we can achieve if we work together for a better future. It is a reminder that we have the ability to make real change and create a just, sustainable and peaceful world in which to live. Let's let this vision inspire us to act and make the impossible possible.

#### **4 Sustainable growth.**

In the described world, where all the sustainability goals of Agenda 2030 have been achieved, economic growth has been an important driving force behind the overall success. However, economic growth in this society has been characterized by sustainability and inclusion, where the goal has been to promote welfare while protecting the environment and reducing inequalities.

Here are some practical aspects of economic growth in this society:

- Sustainable production and consumption: Companies and industries have adapted to more sustainable production methods. That has included reducing waste, using renewable resources and adhering to strict environmental standards. Consumers have also become aware of their choices and have increasingly demanded environmentally friendly products and services.
- Renewable energy: The energy supply in this society is based on renewable energy sources such as solar, wind, hydropower and other sustainable alternatives. The transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy has reduced greenhouse gas emissions and contributed to slowing climate change.
- Green technology and innovation: Economic growth has promoted research and development of green technology. New technology has enabled more efficient use of resources and reduced environmental impact from various sectors such as transport, industry and agriculture.
- Social safety net: A strong social safety net has contributed to reducing poverty and inequality. Through various social programs and financial support, society has supported those who are most vulnerable and ensured that everyone has access to basic resources and services.
- Sustainable investments: Financial investments have targeted sustainable projects and infrastructure that promote a balance between people's needs and the environment's resources. This has stimulated green industries and jobs that benefit both people and the planet.
- Inclusive labor market: Economic growth has created more jobs and promoted inclusion in the labor market. People have equal opportunities regardless of gender, age, functional ability or background.
- Sustainable cities and communities: Cities have undergone a transformation to become more sustainable and inclusive. More efficient infrastructure, public transport and green areas have contributed to reducing the environmental impact and creating attractive living environments.
- International cooperation: In order to achieve all the goals of Agenda 2030, society has cooperated on a global level. International partnerships have promoted technology transfer, knowledge sharing and financial support for sustainable projects around the world.

In this society, economic growth has served as a tool to achieve the overall goals of sustainability, justice and peace. It has been sustainable and inclusive, which has enabled a harmonious coexistence between people and nature. Through an

awareness of how economic growth affects society and the planet, this society has been able to shape a future that everyone can be proud of and enjoy.

### ***5 Is the economy sufficient to achieve all these changes?***

To stay within the limits of the planet with consumption, prices, growth and a fair distribution, it is important to implement a sustainability strategy that takes into account social, economic and environmental aspects. Here are some essential steps that can be taken:

- Sustainable consumption and production: Promote and encourage sustainable consumption habits by increasing awareness of the environmental impact of products and services. Focus on producing goods with a lower environmental impact, using recycled materials and reducing waste through recycling and reuse.
- Pricing that reflects true costs: Set prices that include the actual environmental and social costs of products and services. This means internalizing external costs such as emissions of greenhouse gases, pollution and environmental degradation. Pricing should reflect the true sustainability costs to create incentives for sustainable choices.
- Economic restructuring: Restructure the economy to reduce dependence on resource-intensive sectors and encourage growth in sustainable industries and green technologies. Invest in sectors that promote circular economy and resource efficiency.
- GDP as a measure of progress: Reassess GDP as the primary measure of progress and include sustainability indicators in economic decision-making. Develop new methods of measuring welfare and progress that include social justice and environmental performance.
- Fair distribution of resources: Create mechanisms and policies that ensure a fair distribution of resources within society. Reduce inequalities by strengthening social safety nets, promoting gender equality and giving everyone access to basic rights such as education, healthcare and housing.
- Education and Awareness: Educate the public about sustainability and its importance to society and the planet. Make consumers aware of their choices and impact on the environment and encourage sustainable behaviour.
- Green tax exchange: Introduce green tax exchange by reducing taxes on work and instead taxing environmentally harmful activities and resource extraction. This would provide financial incentives for companies and individuals to reduce their environmental impact.

- International cooperation: Cooperation at the international level to address global challenges such as climate change and biodiversity loss. Build strong partnerships and promote technology transfer and resource sharing to support sustainable development globally.

By combining these measures, we can create a sustainable economy that respects the planet's limits, promotes fair distribution and provides the opportunity for sustainable growth. This requires a joint commitment from governments, businesses, civil society and individuals to shape a future that is sustainable, fair and balanced for all.

***The peoples must become one, under the collective name humanity, speak in a voice that can be heard without background noise and the only message must be:***

***“We want decisions that save humanity and all life forms.”***

### ***Chapter 19***

#### ***Economic systems***

The transition was not a given. However, in order to achieve the visionary society where all the sustainability goals of the 2030 Agenda have been met and the world is a more just, sustainable and peaceful place to live, there were several obstacles that had to be overcome. Here we will turn and twist the biggest obstacle: The economy and the economic system.

Achieving all sustainability goals requires significant financial resources and investments. It can be difficult to get enough funding and resources to implement the necessary measures and projects, especially in the poorest countries. It also requires economic restructuring and changes in production and consumption patterns.

Changing to an ecologically sustainable and just society requires extensive changes in the economic system, both on a macro and micro level. Here are some actions and principles that may be relevant to achieving such a change on a personal level:

- -Green transition and circular economy: The economic system must be transformed to promote production and consumption that are sustainable and circular. This means reducing the use of resources, recycling materials and reducing waste. The state can stimulate this by introducing incentives for companies that invest in environmentally friendly technology and products.
- -Tax system and subsidies: Tax policy should be restructured to reward environmentally friendly behavior and punish harmful activities. Subsidies for fossil fuels should be phased out and instead directed towards renewable energy and other sustainable sectors.
- -Key figures for well-being: Instead of focusing solely on gross domestic product (GDP), society should measure and prioritize factors such as people's well-being, health, education and the environment. This can lead to a more holistic view of progress and growth.
- -Distribution of income and social safety net: A fairer society requires a redistribution of income and assets. Progressive taxation of higher incomes and wealth can be used to fund social programs and services that promote equality and inclusion.
- -Local production and consumption: Promoting local production and consumption can reduce carbon dioxide emissions from transport and strengthen local economies. Small-scale agriculture and local crafts can benefit through financial incentives.
- -Education and awareness: Training is the key to change. Integrating sustainability and ecological awareness into the education system can create a generation of aware and responsible citizens who actively contribute to sustainable development.
- -Sharing economy and collaboration: Sharing economy and shared consumption can reduce overconsumption and resource needs. Platforms for sharing resources and services can be promoted and supported.
- -Increased division of labor and shorter working weeks: Reducing working hours can promote a balance between work and leisure, reduce overconsumption and create more jobs. This can also contribute to reduced stress and increased quality of life.
- -Sustainable investments: Individuals and institutions can be encouraged to invest in sustainable projects and companies that contribute to environmental protection and social justice.
- -Further education and transition: In a transition to a more sustainable economy certain industries and professions are adversely affected. It is important to offer opportunities for retraining and education to enable a smooth transition for

those affected.

It is important to remember that these measures should be adapted to each country's specific conditions and needs. A transition to an ecologically sustainable and just society is a complex task that requires cooperation at all levels of society, from individuals and businesses to governments and international organizations.

### **The economic system - aids in the transition?**

The economic system plays a central role in the transition to an ecologically sustainable society. Here are some ways in which the economic system can contribute to this transition:

1. Sustainable production and consumption: By promoting sustainable production methods and consumption patterns, the economic system can contribute to reducing environmental impact and resource consumption. This may include switching to renewable energy, reducing waste and emissions, promoting the circular economy and supporting companies that take responsibility for their environmentally impactful actions.
2. Green investments and financial incentives: The economic system can promote investments in green and sustainable projects by offering economic incentives and beneficial financial instruments. It could include subsidies for renewable energy, tax rules favoring sustainable businesses, and the development of green financial markets such as sustainable bonds and green investment funds.
3. Economic transition and restructuring: The economic system can support the transition from resource-intensive and polluting industries to more sustainable and resource-efficient sectors. This may include promoting green jobs, stimulating innovation in sustainable technology and supporting the transition of companies and workers to more sustainable operations.
4. Pricing of environmental resources: By internalizing the costs of environmental degradation and resource use, the economic system can help create incentives for sustainable choices. This may include introducing environmental taxes, charges for emissions and quota systems to reduce carbon dioxide emissions.
5. Financial support for developing countries: The financial system can help overcome the financial barriers for developing countries to implement sustainable measures. It can include international financial support, technology transfer and capacity building to facilitate the transition to sustainable development and reduce poverty.

It is important to note that the economic system can also be a source of obstacles and challenges for the transition to an ecologically sustainable society. Certain aspects of the current economic system, such as short-term profit maximization and overconsumption, may be incompatible with the principles of sustainability. Therefore, comprehensive reforms and policy measures are required to promote a transition to an economic system that is balanced, fair and ecologically sustainable.

#### **The economic system - obstacles in the transition?**

The economic system can also be an obstacle to the transition and the achievement of a world without poverty. Here are some ways in which the economic system can prevent progress:

1. Inequality: The economic system can contribute to inequality by concentrating resources and opportunities in a few, while the majority of the population has limited access to resources and opportunities. If the economic system is not designed in a way that promotes justice and a more equitable distribution of resources, it may be difficult to eradicate poverty.
2. Flaws of Capitalism: In a capitalist system, profit maximization is often the primary goal of business. This may mean that companies focus on generating profits rather than prioritizing social and environmental considerations. It can lead to the exploitation of labor and natural resources, which can make the fight against poverty more difficult.
3. Lack of economic growth: Reducing poverty requires sustainable economic growth, but economic crises, trade conflicts and lack of investment can affect the possibility of creating a balanced and fair global economy. If the economy does not grow in a sustainable way, it can be difficult to reduce poverty effectively.
4. Lack of inclusive economic opportunities: The economic system can limit access to economic opportunities for certain groups, such as women, ethnic minorities and people from socio-economically marginalized communities. If these groups do not have access to resources, education and financial opportunities, it will be difficult for them to break out of the cycle of poverty.
5. Lack of sustainability: If the economic system does not take into account environmental aspects and does not promote sustainable development, it can exacerbate poverty. Climate change and environmental impacts can affect people's livelihoods and access to important resources such as food and water, which can make the fight against poverty more difficult.

Overcoming these obstacles and promoting a transition towards a world without poverty requires reforms and improvements within the economic system. It includes

promoting a more equitable distribution of resources, promoting inclusive economic opportunities for all groups in society, prioritizing sustainability and environmental concerns, and investing in education and vocational training to increase people's ability to find employment and break out of the cycle of poverty. In addition, political commitment and cooperation at the international level is required to address the global challenges and create a fairer and more sustainable economy.

### **The growth**

In order for the world's economy to be able to grow without overexploiting the planet's resources, we need to adopt a sustainable development model that balances economic growth with the conservation and responsible use of nature's resources. Here are some strategies and principles that can help achieve this goal:

- Circular economy: Instead of following a linear model where products are manufactured, used and discarded, we should move to a circular economy. This means that products and materials are recycled, reused and restored as much as possible to minimize waste and resource extraction.
- Sustainable energy: Invest in and promote the use of renewable energy such as solar, wind, hydropower and geothermal energy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and reduce our dependence on non-renewable energy sources.
- Efficient use of resources: Develop and use technology and processes that increase the efficiency of resource use. This can include better energy efficiency, material recycling and reduced water use.
- Sustainable consumption and production: Promote products and services that are sustainable and have a low environmental impact. This may include reducing overconsumption, developing more environmentally friendly packaging and promoting the sharing economy.
- Organic agriculture and forestry: Using methods that preserve and restore ecosystems in agriculture and forestry. This can include organic farming, forestry with respect to biodiversity and tree replanting.
- Sustainable urban planning: Designing cities and communities that promote sustainability by reducing car dependency, improving public transport, promoting cycling and walking, and creating green spaces.
- Technological innovation: Invest in research and development of environmentally friendly technologies and innovations that can reduce our impact on the environment while supporting economic growth.

- Green economic policies: Implement economic incentives and regulations that support sustainability goals, such as carbon pricing, renewable energy subsidies, and environmentally friendly production methods.
- Education and Awareness: Raise awareness of sustainability issues and educate people on how to make more environmentally friendly choices in their lives and in their businesses.
- Global collaboration: Collaborate internationally to solve global environmental challenges, including climate change and the loss of biodiversity.

It is important to remember that the transition to a sustainable economy will not be easy or quick, but it is necessary to ensure the long-term survival of the planet and the well-being of all people. It requires the commitment and cooperation of governments, business, civil society and individuals worldwide.

#### Munken - new system in Amsterdam-

##### Munkekonomi



Donut Economics is a theory that proposes a change in the economic model as a response to humanity's great challenge of eradicating global poverty using the planet's limited natural resources.

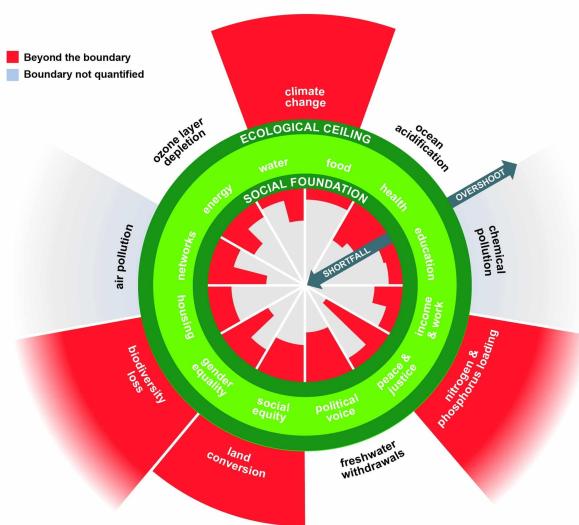
In a typical introductory economics class, you will learn that the definition of economics is the study of the allocation of scarce resources. Focusing on scarce resources has led many people to see infinite growth as a positive, or "more is better". But in reality, economic growth is measured only by an increasing GDP (Agenda 2030), completely ignoring the limited natural resources and the consequences of our actions. What would the economy look like when increased abundance of resources is no longer the solution to the problem of scarcity but creates its own intractable problems?

In today's world, over a billion people still lack the essentials of life; live daily with hunger,

illiteracy, insecurity and do not have the right to vote. At the same time, humanity's collective pressure on the planet has already exceeded at least four planetary boundaries – climate change, land conversion, fertilizers and biodiversity loss. The global economy is also deeply divided, riddled with acute gender and income disparities.

To ensure that no one suffers from a lack of the essentials of life, while ensuring that we do not collectively exceed our pressure on the Earth's life support system upon which we fundamentally depend, English economist Kate Raworth introduced the concept of Donut Economics in 2012, an economic model designed to fit in. In the 21st century.

Donut Economics is a new vision for an economic model. By rethinking our systems, the goal of national and global economies can change from simply increasing GDP to creating a society that can provide enough materials and services for all while using the Earth's resources in ways that do not threaten our future security and prosperity.



This model consists of a dashboard with indicators that define its limits. Imagine looking at a donut from the top down. You would see a healthy green region which is the circular donut. The outer edge represents the ecological roof, while the inner edge reflects the social foundation. The hole in the monk reveals the limit of when people have achieved the basic needs of life such as food, water, healthcare and freedom of expression. If we undercut or misuse our planetary resources, the model would indicate that we cannot ensure that the necessary social foundations are met among citizens. In real terms, this means people living without access to abundant food, clean water and essential health care. A large part of humanity's challenge is thus to get everyone out of that hole. At the same time, overexploitation of the planet's renewable resources would lead to catastrophic consequences such as freshwater shortage, ocean acidification, chemical pollution and ultimately climate change.

In our current systems, aspects such as the increase in healthcare costs are due to increasing air pollution "externalities" which are not included in the costs of production and consumption, whereas in an embedded economy which allows us to see the economy as embedded in larger social and ecological fabric, these costs are taken into account.

At its core, Donut Economics is based on an economy that is both renewable and dispersive by design. It has enormous implications for all groups negotiating the balance between economic growth and powerful social change. Nations can begin to adopt a zero-tolerance strategy with strong regulatory oversight that stops activities that harm our planet and undermine community health. Embracing tax policy and public spending can help address inequality by stimulating shifts away from wealth and resource extraction, and pushing it towards job creation and wealth redistribution. There could also be more collaboration between the public and private sectors, especially to bring about a sustainable model at the industrial scale required to create a circular and renewable economy. To date, over 150 countries have used the Donut Economics model. In fact, Amsterdam already implemented Donut Economics at the beginning of last April after the Netherlands had one of the world's highest mortality rates from the corona pandemic. The model was scaled down to provide an "urban portrait" that revealed not only areas where basic needs are not being met and planetary boundaries are being exceeded, but also how these issues are connected. Because of the model, issues were directly addressed, including carbon emissions from importing and exploiting West African labor. By formally adopting the theory, the city's government hoped to recover from the crisis and avoid future crises.

The model takes into account that human behavior can be cooperative and caring, just as it can be competitive and individualistic. It also recognizes that economies, societies and the rest of the living world are complex, interdependent systems best understood through systems thinking lenses. It requires that today's economies aim to provide enough materials and services for all while using the Earth's resources in ways that do not threaten our future security and prosperity.

The ultimate goal of this framework is to enable communities to make positive choices and live in balance to thrive economically, socially and environmentally. This new economic vision cannot be achieved by a single individual or organization. Rather, it requires intention, planning, cooperation and contributions from all stakeholders. What the monk offers is a metaphor that helps us visualize an economic system that could create a prosperous society today and preserve a habitable planet for all future generations.

#### **How Amsterdam uses the Donut Economics model to create a balanced strategy for both people and the environment**, Maria Cristina Florian 2 mars 2023.

In 2020, in the midst of the first wave of lockdowns due to the pandemic, the municipality of Amsterdam announced its strategy to recover from this crisis by embracing the concept of the "Doughnut Economy". The model is developed by a British economist Kate Raworth and popularized by her book, "Donut Economics: Seven Ways to Think Like a 21st Century Economist," released in 2017. Here she argues that the true purpose of economics need not equate to growth. Instead, the goal is to find a sweet spot, a way to balance the need to provide everyone with what they need to live a good life, a "social foundation" while limiting

our impact on the environment, "the environmental ceiling." With the help of Raworth, Amsterdam has scaled this approach down to the size of a city. The model is now used to inform city-wide strategies and developments in support of this overarching idea: to provide a good quality of life for all without putting further pressure on the planet. Other cities follow this example.

### **What is the Donut Economic Model?**

Raworth arrived at the "doughnut" image by describing two circles, one inside the other. The outer circle is inspired by a diagram she came across while working for the anti-poverty non-profit organization Oxfam. There was a group of scientists watching the earth system on the environmental conditions that make life on earth possible. They identified a set of "planetary boundaries", which, if crossed, would permanently damage the climate, land, oceans, biodiversity and consequently humanity's conditions for life. This outer ring relates to issues such as climate change, air pollution, loss of biodiversity, depletion of the ozone layer and ocean acidification.

While Raworth recognized the importance of striving to stay under this ecological ceiling, she also understood that this is only one side of the problem. If the outer ring described a maximum, she also produced an inner ring to represent the minimum conditions that everyone needs to live a good life. Arising from the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (Agenda 2030), the Inner Ring addresses pressing issues such as access to food and clean water, good quality housing, energy, health care, education, social justice, the right to a political voice, justice and opportunities for work and income.

The goal is to live in balance with these two sets of conditions, to achieve the desirable area between the monk's inner and outer ring, between the upper ecological ceiling and the basic social foundation. Raworth's theory is specific in describing the end result, but it does not prescribe a recipe for achieving it. Instead, it challenges stakeholders to look at the big picture and to understand the impact of their decisions on multiple factors and the city's actors.

### **Amsterdam pilot project?**

In April 2020, the municipality of Amsterdam approved the Amsterdam Circular "2020-2025 strategy", with a two-year initial period internship action plan. The strategy is modeled after an adapted version of Kate Raworth's *Monk Model*, making it the first municipality in the world to officially adopt the concept. Created in collaboration with Raworth, the scaled-down model is called *oneCity portrait*, a holistic snapshot of the city that aims to serve as the starting point for big thinking, co-creative innovation and systemic transformation, according to the released strategy. It also aims to be a stimulus for overall collaboration within the city, and involve a wide range of actors in the decision-making processes that shape the environment.

By conducting a study, authorities discovered that 20 percent of the city's tenants could not meet their basic needs after paying their rent. Meanwhile, only 12% of the approximately 60,000 people who applied for social housing online were successful. The first solution might be to create more housing, but the same model showed that Amsterdam has significantly increased its carbon dioxide emissions in recent years. Marieke used to Doorninck, Amsterdam's deputy mayor, concludes that the city must continue to invest in the construction sector, but that the city must also regulate these initiatives to ensure that builders use sustainable materials as often as possible.

One of the construction projects in Amsterdam is Strandeland (Beach Island), part of IJburg, an archipelago of six new islands of reclaimed land from the water on the southeast side of the city. Throughout the construction process, a number of decisions were made to reduce the impact of the development. The material was transported by boats running on low-emission fuels, and the foundation was laid using processes that do not harm local wildlife while protecting citizens from rising sea levels.

Time reports statements from Lianne Hulselbosch, the project's sustainability advisor: "It's not that every day-to-day urban project has to start with the donut, but the model is certainly part of our DNA not". You notice it in the conversations we have with colleagues. We do things that we wouldn't have done 10 years ago because we value things differently."

### **Can the model meet expectations?**

While Amsterdam is the first municipality to officially adopt the strategy, it is not the only city interested in this model. According to Time magazine, in 2019 C40, a network of cities focused on climate action, worked with Kate Raworth to create reports on Amsterdam, Philadelphia, and Portland, showing them where they stand in relation to the monk. Amsterdam ended up adopting the principle through its city-wide strategy.

In June 2022, Copenhagen also decided to follow Amsterdam's example. Brussels, the Belgian capital, is also testing the theory on different scales. One of their initiatives is the renovation of an abandoned Ministry of Finance mint with the goal of "minimizing environmental impact and maximizing social impact." Another initiative was a housing project in Molenbeek, which allowed residents to design and build the structure according to their needs and comply with code while minimizing their footprint by using passive thermal regulation systems.

In late 2022, the small city of Dunedin in New Zealand joined the project, as did Nanaimo, in British Columbia. Texas, plans to initiate their own versions of the concept. While all of these strategies are inspired by *ink models* they interpret the concept of manners adapted to their specific needs and capabilities.

Donut is not a prescriptive model. It offers no road map. Instead, it presents an optimistic end result to strive for: to ensure a good quality of life for all without overburdening the environment. The path to achieving this may look different for each region: wealthier cities or

countries may find that their main challenges are related to the monk's outer ring, reducing their footprint to fit within the planet's boundaries. At the same time, low or middle income regions fight more to get everyone out of the monk's center and into its inner ring, ensuring equal access to basic needs such as food, education and opportunities to grow.

## Chapter 20

### ***The reality in 2022***

Now we have seen first-hand how the Paris Agreement and Agenda 2030 could have created a positive future for all forms of life.

We have also reviewed the obstacles that are primarily found within structures and systems that we ourselves have created. They are so long-standing and interfere with most of life's activities, that it takes more than will and determination on the part of politicians to break them down.

Agenda 2030 came in 2015 and now half the time for the transition has passed (2022) and it is time to review how far we have come (the average is shown in the diagram, at the national level you can find it in the report).

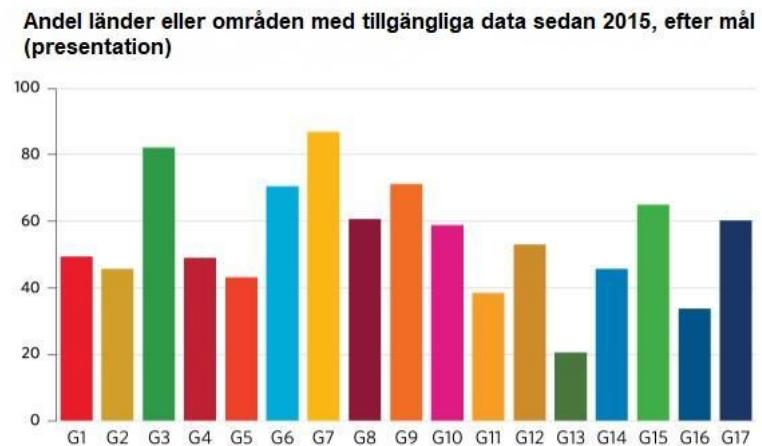
### ***The Report on Sustainable Development Goals 2022, FN***

"We must rise to save the Sustainable Development Goals – and stay true to our promise of a world of peace, dignity and prosperity on a healthy planet."

*António Guterres*

*Secretary-General, United Nations*

*(The goals in Agenda 2030 are described with G in the diagram)*



***Here it appears that G13, Combating climate change, is a neglected area.***

#### ***Description goal by goal***

##### ***Goal 1***

***First covid-19, and now the Ukraine crisis, is derailing progress to end extreme poverty***

Between 2015 and 2018, global poverty continued its historic decline, with extreme poverty falling from 10.1 percent to 8.6 percent. This means that the number of people living on less than \$1.90 per day fell from 740 million to 656 million during this period. Covid-19 has made serious dents in that development. In 2020, the figure was 9.2 percent, the first increase in extreme poverty since 1998 and the largest since 1990.

***In 2020, the proportion of workers living in extreme poverty increased for the first time in two decades***

In 2020, for the first time in two decades, the share of the world's workers living in extreme poverty increased, rising from 6.7 percent in 2019 to 7.2 percent, pushing an additional 8 million workers into poverty.

Over half of the unemployed in high-income countries receive cash benefits compared to 1 percent in low-income countries

##### ***Goal 2***

***Conflict, covid-19, climate change and growing inequality are converging to undermine food security worldwide***

Climate variability and extremes, conflict, economic shocks and growing inequality are keeping the world off track in achieving zero hunger by 2030. Since 2014, the number of people going hungry and suffering from food insecurity has increased. The Covid-19 pandemic aggravated an already worsening situation, with about 150 million more people facing hunger in 2021 than in 2019. In other words, an estimated 1 in 10 people worldwide suffer from hunger

The low labor productivity of small-scale food producers remains a concern

Small-scale farmers are the backbone of agriculture. Despite their importance in fighting hunger, small-scale food producers are often among the most vulnerable groups in rural areas and in the agri-food system.

Already slow progress on child malnutrition is likely to be further set back by the pandemic and growing food insecurity

Good nutrition sets children on a path to survive and thrive. The full impact of the pandemic on children's nutrition may take years to show.

***The proportion of countries affected by high food prices increased sharply in 2020***

***Goal 3***

***Covid-19 directly and indirectly led to the death of almost 15 million people in the first two years of the pandemic***

COVID-19 is now a leading cause of death. The latest estimates suggest that 14.9 million people died as a direct result of covid-19 or the impact of the pandemic on health systems and society in 2020 and 2021. This estimate is almost triple the 5.4 million officially reported covid-19 deaths during the same period.

***Progress has been made in maternal and child health, but the large regional disparities need to be addressed***

Competent qualified birth control is the key to reducing mothers' and neonatal morbidity and mortality. Globally, 2015–2021, an estimated 84 percent of births was assisted by skilled healthcare professionals, including doctors, nurses and midwives. That was an increase from 77 percent in 2008–2014. Yet coverage in sub-Saharan Africa was 20 percentage points below the global average.

***The health and economic impacts of covid-19 are likely to have exacerbated uneven progress towards universal health coverage***

***Goal 4***

***Prolonged school interruptions have increased the risk of children not returning to school***

Covid-related school closures threaten to reverse years of progress aimed at keeping children in school. Before the pandemic, 17 percent of children and youth globally were out of primary and secondary school, compared to 26 percent in 2000. From March 2020 to February 2022, schools worldwide were partially or fully closed for an average of 41 weeks. Latin America and the Caribbean experienced the longest school closures - more than 60 weeks in the past two years.

***COVID-19 has cast a shadow over an already dire picture of learning outcomes***

The COVID-19 pandemic came at a time when the world was already struggling with a learning crisis: too many children lacked the basics of reading and numeracy.

***Fundamental inequities in education have only worsened during the pandemic***

***Goal 5***

***Violence against women and girls occurs in all countries and affects women of all ages.***

Globally, 26 percent of all women aged 15 and over (641 million) have been subjected to physical and/or sexual violence by a man or an intimate partner at least once in their life. Limited evidence points to an intensification of violence against women during the pandemic.

***Child marriage and female genital mutilation are persistent human rights violations that hold back progress for girls and women***

In 2021, almost one in five young women married before the age of 18. The highest rates of child marriage are found in sub-Saharan Africa and southern Asia, where 35 percent and 28 percent of young women were married in childhood, respectively.

***In many countries, women still lack the legal right to autonomy over their own bodies***

The protection of women's land and property rights still has a long way to go

***Goal 6***

***Meeting the drinking water, sanitation and hygiene targets by 2030 will require a fourfold increase in the rate of progress***

The proportion of the world's population using safely managed drinking water services increased from 70 percent in 2015 to 74 percent in 2020. Still, 2 billion people were without such services that year, including 1.2 billion people who lacked even a basic level of service. Eight out of 10 people without even basic drinking water service live in rural areas, and about half of them live in the least developed countries. At current progress, the world will reach 81 percent coverage by 2030, missing the target and leaving 1.6 billion people without safely managed drinking water supplies.

***The world's wetlands are being lost at an alarming rate; it is time to protect and restore them on a large scale***

Wetlands are considered to be the most biologically diverse of all ecosystems and are breeding grounds for 40 percent of the world's plant and animal species.

***Early remediation of water pollution will require active monitoring, which is largely lacking in the poorest countries***

Improving water quality is critical to protecting human and ecosystem health.

***The stress on water resources in northern Africa and western Asia is already at dangerous levels***

Water stress occurs when the ratio of freshwater withdrawals to total renewable freshwater resources exceeds the 25 percent threshold.

## **Goal 7**

***Progress in electrification has slowed, with the challenge of reaching the hardest to reach***

Global access to electricity increased from 83 percent in 2010 to 91 percent in 2020. But the pace of progress has slowed in recent years, due to COVID-19 and the increasing complexity of reaching the hardest-to-reach. During 2018–2020, the availability of electricity increased by an average of 0.5 percentage points annually.

***Intensified efforts are needed in LDCs to jump-start access to clean cooking fuels and technologies***

Between 2010 and 2020, the proportion of people with access to clean cooking fuels and techniques increased by 12 percentage points, reaching 69 percent.

**International public financing of renewable energy had already declined before the pandemic, despite the growing urgency of climate change**

#### **Goal 8**

**Various shocks, including the war in Ukraine, continue to impede a robust economic recovery**

The global economy is slowly improving, although the recovery remains fragile and uneven. Before the Ukraine crisis, global real GDP per capita was projected to increase by 3.0 percent in 2022 and 2.5 percent in 2023. The war in that country is now likely to reduce growth to 2.1 percent in 2022.

**The pandemic has resulted in volatile changes in labor productivity, affecting small businesses and the poorest countries the most**

The impact of covid-19 has resulted in unprecedented and volatile changes in global labor productivity.

**The recovery in the labor market remains shaky**

Global unemployment is projected to remain above the 2019 level of 5.4 percent, at least through 2023. In 2021, unemployment fell slightly to 6.2 percent, which still means 28 million more unemployed in 2021 than in 2019.

**Increasing poverty and pandemic-related disruptions are forcing millions of children into child labour**

#### **Goal 9**

**Manufacturing in more developed countries has recovered, leaving the least developed countries behind**

After falling 1.3 percent in 2020, global manufacturing output rose 7.2 percent in 2021, surpassing pre-pandemic levels. However, the recovery is still uneven between countries.

**The lack of credit or other support has given many small scale industries a death blow**

High-tech industries prove to be much more resilient in crises than their lower-tech counterparts

#### **Goal 10**

***The war in Ukraine is already increasing a record number of refugees worldwide***

By mid-2021, the number of people forced to flee their countries due to war, conflict, persecution, human rights abuses and events seriously disturbing public order had grown to 24.5 million, the highest absolute number ever.

***Covid-19 increased relative poverty in many countries, but others bucked the trend***

***The pandemic has caused a rise in income inequality, jeopardizing two decades of steady progress***

***Discrimination remains widespread, with women and people with disabilities at increased risk***

***Goal 11***

***Leaving no one behind will require an intensified focus on urban slums – home to 1 billion people***

In 2020, about one in four city dwellers lived in slums or informal settlements. This leads to more than 1 billion people, of which the highest proportion living in slums is in sub-Saharan Africa, where more than half of the urban population lives in slums.

***Air quality is now monitored in a record number of cities, but it is still substandard worldwide***

Air pollution poses a significant threat to human health worldwide.

***Only about half of the world's urban dwellers have convenient access to public transportation***

Between 2015 and 2030, global annual passenger traffic is projected to increase by 50 percent, and the number of cars on the road is likely to double.

***As cities continue to grow, the longstanding problem of municipal solid waste continues to increase***

***Goal 12***

***A growing dependence on natural resources has set the earth on an unsustainable course***

Domestic material consumption (DMC) measures the total amount of materials directly used by an economy to meet demand for goods and services from within and outside a country. From 2000 to 2019, total DMC increased by more than 65 percent.

***Too much food is lost or wasted – in every country every day***

As the world faces increasing food insecurity, too much food continues to be lost or wasted. In 2020 was appreciated 13.3 percent of the world's food to be lost after harvest and before reaching retail.

***The vast majority of the world electronic waste is not handled in a safe manner***

***Renewable energy is gaining momentum in developing countries overall, but the poorest and most disadvantaged countries are lagging behind***

***Fossil fuel subsidies remain alarmingly high, despite a temporary reduction in 2020***

***Goal 13***

***Rising global greenhouse gas emissions are leading to record temperatures and more extreme weather***

In 2020, global greenhouse gas concentrations reached new highs, and real-time data points to continued increases. As these concentrations rise, so does the Earth's temperature. With rising temperatures, the world is experiencing more and more extreme weather events. This leads to melting ice sheets and glaciers, intense heat and precipitation, as well as sea level rise and other potentially catastrophic events, with negative social and economic consequences. Such extremes could be seen on every continent in 2021: record high temperatures in Canada, deadly floods in Europe and Asia, and drought in parts of Africa and South America. The global average annual temperature is projected to rise by more than 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels in at least one of the next five years, coming sharply closer to the Paris Agreement's lower targets.

***Fossil fuel emissions rebound to record highs in 2021, erasing pandemic-related declines***

In 2020, social and economic disruptions caused by covid-19 reduced energy demand around the world.

***Goal 14***

***Increasing acidification limits the ocean's ability to mitigate climate change***

The ocean absorbs around a quarter of the world's annual carbon dioxide emissions (CO<sub>2</sub>) and thus mitigates climate change and mitigates its effects. However, this critical service comes at a price: it alters the carbonate system and increases ocean acidity. Ocean acidification threatens organisms and ecosystem services, endangers fisheries and aquaculture, and affects coastal protection by weakening coral reefs. Further increases in acidification are expected to accelerate in the coming decades. As acidification worsens, the ocean's ability to absorb CO<sub>2</sub> from the atmosphere will decrease, limiting its role in mitigating climate change.

***The spread of plastic, runoff of nutrients and other forms of waste kills marine life***

The main sources of marine pollution are land-based, leading to a seemingly unstoppable flow of litter, waste and runoff into the ocean.

***Global fish stocks are still under threat, although the path to sustainability is clear and passable***

Global fish stocks are increasingly threatened by overfishing and from illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing. More than a third (35.4 percent) of global stocks were overfished in 2019,

***Accelerated measures are needed to support small-scale fishermen, whose livelihoods collapsed during the pandemic***

***Goal 15***

***The world's forest area continues to shrink, mainly due to the expansion of agriculture***

The world's forest area continues to decrease, but at a somewhat slower rate than in previous decades. Agricultural expansion drives nearly 90 percent of global deforestation, including 49.6 percent from expansion for cropland and 38.5 percent for livestock grazing.

Changes in forest area vary greatly from region to region. Asia, Europe and North America showed an overall increase in forest area from 2000 to 2020 due to afforestation, landscape restoration and the natural expansion of forests. In contrast, significant losses were observed in Latin America and sub-Saharan Africa, mainly due to the conversion of forests to agricultural land.

Deforestation continues and thus the risk of species extinction at a rate never seen before in human history. Large variations exist between regions in both the overall occurrence of extinction risk and the rate of decline.

The main drivers behind these declines are the unsustainability of agriculture and the overharvesting of wild species. Human activities such as logging and agriculture

encroach on habitats and put about 20 percent of reptiles at risk, for example.

#### **Goal 16**

##### ***Civilians continue to bear the brunt of violent conflict, with record numbers of forcibly displaced people***

The UN recorded at least 13,842 deaths related to armed conflict in 2021. Although unacceptably high, the number of civilian conflict-related deaths decreased by 17 percent compared to 2020 and by 69 percent compared to 2015. Many of these conflict situations are fragile, with a growing risk for escalation and associated violations of international human rights and international humanitarian law.

As of May 2022, the number of people forced to flee conflict, violence, human rights abuses and persecution has exceeded 100 million. An estimated 41 percent of those forcibly displaced worldwide were children.

##### ***About a third of the world's population – mostly women – say they feel unsafe walking alone in their local neighborhoods at night***

Feeling unsafe in public can fundamentally erode one's sense of well-being and reduce trust and community involvement, becoming an obstacle to development. On average, around 69 percent of the world's population say they feel safe walking alone at night in the area where they live – a percentage that has remained stable from 2016 to 2021.

##### ***Streamlined and transparent business processes can help curb corruption, which exists in all regions***

#### **Goal 17**

##### ***Official development assistance has reached a new high, largely due to covid-related aid, but still falls short of the target***

In 2021, net flows from member countries to the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Development Assistance Committee (DAC) amounted to \$177.6 billion. This level represented 0.33 percent of donors' combined gross national income (GNI), reaching a new peak.

##### ***Internet use has increased, prompted by the pandemic, although poorer regions are still lagging behind***

Since the onset of covid-19, the internet has become essential for working, learning, accessing basic services and staying connected. The latest data shows that Internet uptake has accelerated during the pandemic. The number of users was 4.9 billion people in 2021, or 63 percent of the world's population. In 2021, growth returned to a

more modest 5.8 percent, in line with the pre-crisis rate.

### ***Global FDI rebounded strongly in 2021, but flows to the poorest countries showed only modest growth***

Global FDI flows rebounded strongly in 2021, reaching \$1.58 trillion, up 64 percent from 2020. However, the recovery was highly uneven across regions.

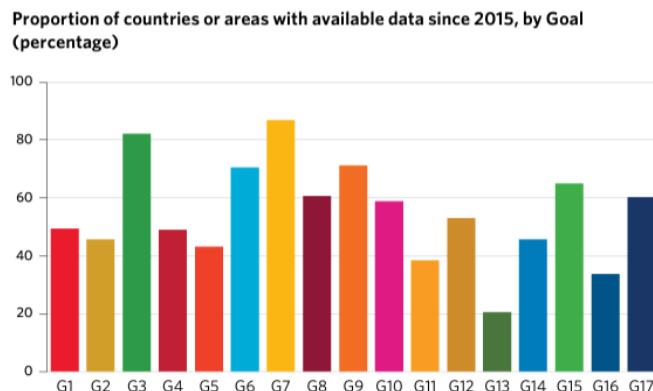
## ***Chapter 21***

### ***Move forward the positions from 2022, but how far will we go?***

Since the pandemic and the war in Ukraine have had a major impact on the pace of change, the world will not be able to reach Agenda 2030 goals.

By 2030, the world will continue to face challenges and complex problems affecting various aspects of sustainable development. Half the time for the changeover has now passed.

Now it looks like this:



In the diagram, the letter G (goal) is used to denote Objective

Goal 1: Extreme poverty and global crises.

Due to a combination of the covid-19 pandemic and the Ukraine crisis, progress in reducing extreme poverty has been delayed. Despite previous positive trends, the global poverty rate has increased from 8.6 percent to 9.2 percent. This means that the number of people living in extreme poverty has increased, and efforts to reduce this will require increased coordination and a focus on vulnerable populations.

Objective 2: Food security and global challenges.

Climate change, conflicts and inequalities have negatively affected food security.

Increasing hunger and food insecurity continue to be a major obstacle to development. Efforts to improve agricultural productivity and promote sustainable use of natural resources are more important than ever to meet this goal.

Objective 3: Health and pandemic challenges.

Covid-19 continues to be a serious health crisis, causing direct and indirect loss of life. Challenges in managing the pandemic and strengthening health systems remain, and global efforts to prevent and combat future outbreaks are critical.

Goal 4: Reduction of school activities and school interruptions.

Prolonged school closures due to the pandemic have increased the risk of children not returning to school. Continued efforts to promote access to quality education and reduce school dropouts will be important to ensure children's right to education.

Goal 5: Equality and violence against women.

Increased awareness of violence against older women has led to increased attention to this problem. Continued efforts to combat gender-based violence and discrimination are crucial to creating a more equal world.

Goal 6: Clean water and sanitation.

Despite some progress, access to clean drinking water and sanitation remains a challenge for many people around the world. Increasing investment in water and sanitation infrastructure will be necessary to achieve the goal of sustainable water management.

Goal 7: Sustainable energy and electrification.

Challenges with increasing access to sustainable and clean energy remain. Efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and promote the transition to renewable energy are increasingly necessary.

Goal 8: Economic recovery and labor market.

Global economic recovery continues. Promoting a fair and inclusive economic recovery becomes important.

Goal 9: Industry, innovation and sustainability.

The manufacturing industry continues to develop, but challenges in ensuring sustainable production and consumption remain. Efforts to promote innovation and sustainable industrial growth will be necessary to achieve this goal.

**Goal 10: Inequalities and migration.**

Crises such as the Ukraine conflict have increased the number of refugees and displaced people globally. Reducing inequalities and creating a fairer world is essential to addressing these challenges.

**Goal 11: Sustainable cities and urban planning.**

Improving the quality of life in cities and focusing on reducing the number and extent of slums will be necessary to ensure sustainable urban development.

**Goal 12: Sustainable consumption and production.**

Dependence on natural resources continues to be a challenge. Efforts to promote sustainable consumption and production will be crucial to reduce negative impact on the environment.

**Goal 13: Climate change and environmental threats.**

Climate change and extreme weather events continue to affect the world. Reducing greenhouse gas emissions and taking measures to adapt to climate change will be crucial for a sustainable future.

**Goal 14: Ocean acidification and marine protection.**

Addressing ocean acidification and protecting marine ecosystems is becoming increasingly important to preserving the ocean's biodiversity and its role in regulating the climate.

**Goal 15: Biodiversity and forest protection.**

The loss of forest area continues to be a worrying trend. Reducing deforestation and protecting biodiversity will be crucial to preserving ecosystems and the global balance.

**Goal 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions.**

Conflict and violence continue to be an obstacle to peace and development. Strengthened institutions and focused efforts to promote peace and justice will be critical to achieving this goal.

**Goal 17: Partnerships and global cooperation.**

Continued cooperation and partnership between countries and organizations will be important to achieve the global goals for sustainable development. Internet use and access to information will play an increasingly important role in enabling this collaboration.

In four of the goals, Consumption and production (12), Combating climate change (13), Oceans and marine resources (14) and Ecosystems and biological diversity (15), it is described that the actions taken will be decisive for the future of all life forms

In conclusion, the year 2030 will be a time of continued challenges and progress towards sustainable development. Global cooperation, innovative solutions and decisive action will be essential to address these complex problems and create a more sustainable and just world.

## Chapter 22

### Prioritize the most important things to achieve the goals

In the diagram below, there is no doubt about what must be prioritized in the first place.

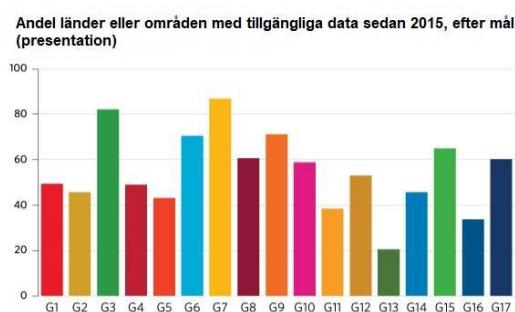
The climate, Goal 13, is the only goal that is described in critical terms in the material.  
This theme is highlighted as urgent to solve..

Ecosystems and biological diversity, Goal 15, has an unexpected positive development but is described as, together with Fight Climate Change, Goal 13, as crucial for our future.

Sustainable energy for all, Goal 7, has so far been able to develop the most.

At the same time, we must be aware of how the goals are connected to each other.

### You can read all the goals' connections to others in each chapter



To stop climate change and the extinction of Biodiversity is of crucial importance not only for the survival of all life forms but also for human well-being and future possibilities. Here are some key reasons why this is so important:

1. Ecological balance and sustainability: Biodiversity is the basis for the functioning and balance of ecosystems. All species are in different ways intertwined and contribute to maintaining nutrient cycles, pollination, clean air and water, and stabilization of the climate. If species become extinct or ecosystems are destroyed, these entire systems are at risk of collapse, which can lead to irreversible damage and loss of life-sustaining services.
2. Food supply and agriculture: The diversity of plants and animals is essential for food production and agriculture. The diversity of crops and animal species is a resource for the development of more resilient and productive agricultural practices that can cope with climate change and severe weather conditions.
3. Medical research and medicines: Many medicines and medical treatments have their roots in nature. Biodiversity provides an inexhaustible source of potential cures and treatments for diseases and health problems that we have yet to discover.
4. Climate regulation: Plants and oceans play a crucial role in absorbing carbon dioxide and regulating the climate. The destruction of forests and the loss of biodiversity contribute to increased greenhouse gas emissions and exacerbate climate change.
5. Ecotourism and economy: Many economies depend on ecotourism and scenic areas. Biodiversity attracts visitors and generates income, while promoting the conservation of natural areas.
6. Quality of life and cultural significance: Biodiversity has profound cultural and spiritual significance for many societies around the world. It affects people's quality of life and contributes to their identity and well-being.
7. Future security: Preserving biological diversity and addressing climate change is about ensuring a sustainable and secure future for future generations. It is about leaving a world rich in natural resources and life for our children and grandchildren to enjoy and benefit from.

In conclusion, stopping climate change and the extinction of biodiversity is a fundamental effort to protect life on the planet and ensure a sustainable future for all

living things, including humans. It requires global cooperation, decisive measures and a change to more sustainable and resource-efficient ways of living and working.

***Conclusions show that politicians' lack of will and commitment is a major reason why 9 of Agenda 2030's 17 global sustainability goals cannot be met.***

***The political system was created for the social conditions of the 19th century.***

**Now it is up to the people to show their will and commitment and it must be done by shaking off the old thinking.**

***In elections in Western democracies, it can look like this;***

A group of voters wants lower taxes,  
another major investment in healthcare,  
a third stronger defense,  
a fourth more resources against violence and crime,  
a fifth higher pensions and  
a sixth more green energy.

Is it possible to get something done about the environmental and climate threats based on this wish list?

No, no and again no. Politicians can only mend and patch up old systems when you get such a sprawling wish list from the voters.

Now is the time for world citizens to think in two steps;

- 1 What is best for the planet and living conditions?
- 2 What is best for my group and me?

If you let all issues be decided in national parliaments according to the democratic system we have, then the borderless issues cannot be resolved.

As long as voters do not give politicians clearly defined tasks, it will be far too little done in matters of our destiny.

The politicians' task in relation to the voters must be;  
"You must work with all possible efforts and maximum effort to solve the environmental and climate threats during the coming term of office.....""

This is a clearly defined task that we expect the politicians to solve to the best of their ability, that is, in collaboration with researchers, other experts and independent representatives of the people both in drafting and in the decision-making process.

***Do you want to be part of creating a people's movement that works to create a united public opinion on the most important issues; environment and climate (this includes everything that deals with the living conditions for all forms of life). It is enough that you support such a movement***

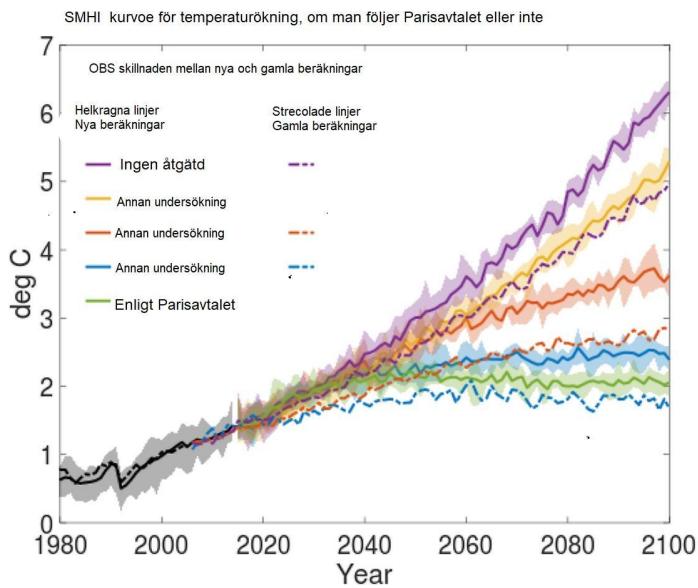
***or***

***Do you prefer to be passive until what is called "deadly heat" reaches the whole world? (constant +39°C)***

***+4° increase in global average temperature may cost several hundred million human lives per year.***

***The economic loss of income globally is expected to be 23 trillion dollars annually, and become sums that are 3–4 times greater than the global financial crisis of 2008.***

***The world must be handed over to future generations!***



## Chapter 23

### Ambiguities seek answers

What is the impact of failure to stop climate change on the future?

If the climate issues are not resolved, the future may be strongly affected by climate change with serious consequences for humanity and other forms of life. Here are some of the potential scenarios that could occur if no action is taken to tackle climate change:

- Increased global warming: If greenhouse gas emissions continue at the same rate as today, the Earth's average temperature will continue to rise. It can lead to increased heat waves, droughts and extreme weather events.
- Sea level rise: Melting glaciers and polar ice caps due to the rising temperatures could result in rapid sea level rise. This can mean flooding of coastal cities and the devastation of ecosystems that depend on the sea.
- Loss of biodiversity: Many species can be adversely affected by climate change, either through the direct impact of changing climate conditions or through habitat loss. This can lead to the extinction of many species and interfere with ecosystem function.
- Food insecurity: Changing climate patterns could negatively affect agriculture, which could result in reduced food production and higher food prices. This in turn can

lead to food insecurity and conflicts over access to resources.

- Health problems: Rising temperatures and changing climate conditions can affect human health by increasing the risk of heat-related illnesses, spreading infectious diseases and worsening air quality.
- Migration and conflict: Climate change may force people to flee their homes due to extreme weather events, sea level rise and food insecurity. This can lead to increased migration and increased risk of conflicts over resources and territory.
- Economic instability: The economic consequences of climate change can be significant, with costs associated with adaptation and rebuilding after extreme weather events. It can also affect financial stability on a global level.

It is important to note that these scenarios are not definitive and that people and communities around the world are actively working to reduce emissions and adapt to the changes. Through international cooperation and joint efforts, we can potentially avoid the worst consequences of adverse climate change.

### **How can wages, costs and profits be managed in an ecologically just sustainable world?**

In an ecologically just sustainable world, the management of wages, costs and profits would need to take into account principles that promote ecological sustainability, social justice and economic stability. Here are some basic principles that can guide the management of these factors:

**Wages: Fair wages:** All workers should receive fair wages commensurate with their work effort and contribution to society. Wage levels should be determined taking into account working conditions, education, skills and responsibilities.

**Equal pay:** Regardless of gender, ethnicity or background, there should be equal pay for equal work to ensure equality.

**Ecologically responsible companies:** Companies working to achieve sustainability through ecological and social justice initiatives should be rewarded by offering competitive wages to attract and retain qualified staff.

**Costs: Internalize external costs:** Companies and society as a whole should internalize the actual costs of environmental and social impacts. This means that

companies must take responsibility for their emissions and environmental impact and include these costs in their operations and pricing.

**Subsidies and incentives:** The state and other actors should provide incentives and subsidies to sustainable companies and initiatives to support the transition to a more sustainable economy.

**Profits: Reinvest in sustainability:** Companies should use part of their profits to invest in research and development of environmentally friendly technologies, improve working conditions and support social projects in society.

**Social responsibility:** Companies should take into account the social and environmental consequences of their operations and work to reduce the negative impact on society. This includes being transparent and accountable for one's actions.

#### **Purchasing power is based on the earth's resources**

In an economy where purchasing power is based on the earth's resources, financial decisions and transactions would be shaped by the limits of what the planet can sustainably produce and regenerate. It would be an economy that strives to stay within ecological limits to avoid overexploitation of resources and destruction of ecosystems.

Here are some basic principles and functions of such an economy:

**Sustainability Limits:** Instead of only pursuing economic growth as the primary goal, the economy would establish sustainability limits based on scientific guidelines. These limits would include factors such as climate change, loss of biodiversity, water consumption and use of non-renewable resources.

**Resource-constrained consumption:** The consumption of goods and services would be balanced with the earth's capacity to produce and restore resources. Overconsumption and waste would be actively countered through incentives for sustainable consumption and use of resources.

**Circular economy:** A transition to a circular economy would be central to this model. Products and materials would be designed to be recyclable, and waste would be turned into resources to reduce the pressure on new raw materials.

**Green technology and innovation:** Research and development would be directed

towards green and sustainable technologies to improve production methods and reduce environmental impact.

Energy and transport: Priority would be on renewable energy and sustainable transport options to reduce carbon dioxide emissions and dependence on non-renewable energy sources.

Fair distribution: A central aspect of this economy would be to ensure fair distribution of resources, so that basic needs are met for all people while minimizing environmental impact.

Ecological reporting: Companies and organizations would be required to report their ecological footprint and sustainability performance to ensure transparency and accountability.

Education and awareness: A sustainable economy would require a well-informed and aware population that understands the importance of living within the planet's resource limitations and takes responsibility for its consumption choices.

An economy where purchasing power is based on the earth's resources would mean a transition to a more sustainable and responsible economic model that balances human needs with the planet's capacity. It would require the commitment of all sectors of society, including governments, business and civil society, to work together towards a shared and sustainable future.

In an economy where purchasing power is adapted to the earth's resources, this would probably mean a significant adjustment for society and its inhabitants. For the most vulnerable people, it would be a complex and challenging situation to manage. Here are some ways they could possibly cope:

- Basic resource distribution: Society would probably need to introduce a more fair and equal distribution of basic resources such as food, water, housing and health care. This would help reduce the gaps between different socio-economic groups and ensure that the most vulnerable have access to what they need for survival.
- Increased education and skills development: Investing in education and skills development would be important to enable the most vulnerable people to adapt to the new conditions in the labor market. It would help them acquire knowledge and skills relevant to sustainable production and consumption.
- Local production and self-sufficiency: In an economy where resources are limited, people would possibly be more inclined to trust and focus on local production and self-sufficiency. This can include growing food, repairing goods instead of buying

new, and other methods of reducing the need for consumption.

- Support for vulnerable groups: Society would need to implement social safety nets and support programs to help the most vulnerable citizens, including the elderly, the disabled and others who find it difficult to fend for themselves. These programs would ensure that their basic needs are met.
- Sustainability awareness and the sharing economy: In a resource-constrained economy, people would likely be more aware of sustainability and resource efficiency. This can lead to an increased tendency to share resources and cooperate within society to achieve common goals.
- Alternative economic systems: It is possible that new economic systems would develop to better deal with resource constraints. These can include ideas such as the sharing or circular economy, where products and materials are reused and recycled to reduce waste and consumption.

It is important to note that the transition to an economy adapted to the earth's resources would be a complex process that requires cooperation at a global level and a restructuring of the entire social structure. It would be necessary to integrate social, economic and environmental aspects to ensure a sustainable and just transition for all members of society, especially the most vulnerable.

## ***Chapter 24***

### ***Contradictions (illustrated with different stories)***

Part of the difficulties we have in achieving the desired society is due to the reasons found in the systems we have created, but to a large extent also to what we as humans carry with us partly in the form of characteristics and partly as personality.

Characteristics are impossible to change unless you go into the cellular level of the brain,

Our personality is almost as difficult to change, except in behaviors that are less significant. Here, however, there are possibilities through "manipulation" or special training.

What kind of leaders does the world need in order to achieve an ecologically sustainable society?

### **Locked political mode**

It was once a country where the personalities of various rulers played a decisive role in the implementation of Agenda 2030's sustainability goals. These personalities had different characteristics, values and approaches that affected how well the goals could be achieved.

In this country, there were people in power who were visionary and strongly committed to sustainability issues. Their leadership and passion for environmental protection, social justice and economic sustainability inspired an ambitious agenda to achieve the sustainability goals set out in Agenda 2030. Their commitment rubbed off on citizens and created a wider awareness and enthusiasm for working towards sustainable development.

On the other hand, there were also those in power who were more skeptical of the sustainability goals and had a short-term view of politics and economics. Their focus was primarily on short-term profit opportunities and economic growth, often at the expense of the environment and social justice. Their lack of commitment to the sustainability agenda and their reluctance to take the necessary actions prevented progress on the 2030 Agenda.

Personalities of those in power also influenced political decisions and priorities. Some people in power had a more strategic and analytical approach to sustainability issues. They used evidence-based decision-making models and collaborated with researchers and experts to justify their decisions. Their ability to analyze complex problems and make informed decisions was crucial in promoting the implementation of the sustainability goals.

At the same time, there were also those in power who were more inclined to let their personal interests and political agenda influence their decision-making. Their actions were often influenced by partisan political considerations or financial interests, which hindered the implementation of sustainability measures. Their lack of cooperation and openness to new ideas limited the possibilities for progress in the 2030 Agenda.

The story of the role of personality in the implementation of Agenda 2030's sustainability goals reminds us of the importance of choosing and supporting leaders who have a strong foundation in sustainability issues. By having committed and visionary leaders, we can create a positive change and tackle the challenges posed by the sustainability goals. It is also important to foster a culture of evidence-based decision-making and collaboration to ensure that the sustainability agenda is

prioritized over personal interests and short-term profit opportunities. In this way, we can work towards a more sustainable and fair future for all of us.

### **Global rulers**

There was once a world where the personalities of global power-holders played a decisive role in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda's sustainability goals. These power holders had different characteristics and styles in their leadership that affected how well the sustainability goals could be achieved on a global scale.

In this world there were global leaders who were charismatic and inspirational. Their personalities had an ability to engage and mobilize people around the world. These leaders used their influence and authority to advance the sustainability agenda and bring countries and stakeholders together to work together. Through their conviction and communication skills, they managed to create a strong global movement to achieve the sustainability goals.

On the other hand, there were global leaders who had a more self-centered or short-term approach. Their personalities were marked by egocentrism and an unwillingness to make sacrifices to promote sustainable development. These leaders could be reluctant to cooperate or support international agreements and measures that would benefit the environment and society. Their lack of commitment to the sustainability goals could slow down progress and create obstacles to reaching the set goals.

Personalities of global power holders also influenced the political agenda and priorities at the global level. Some leaders had a more progressive and forward-looking view of sustainability issues. They were prepared to make difficult decisions and drive change through political reform and international cooperation. Their determination and persistence in promoting sustainable development helped drive the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

At the same time, there were also global leaders who were more likely to prioritize short-term economic interests and political benefits over sustainability goals. Their personalities were marked by a competitive attitude and an unwillingness to make the necessary sacrifices to achieve a sustainable future. Their decisions and actions could slow progress and create tensions between countries and regions.

The story of the role of personality in the implementation of Agenda 2030's sustainability goals reminds us that global power holders have a decisive influence on the world's sustainability efforts. By selecting and supporting leaders with a strong foundation in sustainability issues and an ability to mobilize and collaborate, we can promote positive change on a global level. It is also important to encourage and support leaders to work towards the SDGs by creating incentives, promoting education and awareness, and creating a strong global movement for sustainable development. In this way, we can work together towards a more sustainable and fair world for everyone.

#### **Human personality and the future of the planet's life forms.**

The characteristics and personality of decision makers play a decisive role in the transition to a sustainable society according to the Agenda 2030 sustainability goals. Here are some ways in which these factors can affect the transition:

- Awareness and Education: People's knowledge and awareness of issues of sustainability is critical to driving change. Education and information campaigns can help raise awareness of the 2030 Agenda goals and the importance of taking sustainable action. By understanding the consequences of our actions, we can make informed choices and make decisions that promote sustainable development.
- Values and attitudes: People's values and attitudes can influence their behavior and consumption patterns. If we value sustainability and prioritize environmental and social considerations, we may be more inclined to adopt lifestyles that are in line with sustainability goals. Cultivating values such as solidarity, equality and respect for nature can inspire us to act in a way that supports a sustainable transition.
- Innovative thinking and problem solving: Human creativity and innovativeness can play an important role in finding solutions to sustainability challenges. By being open to new ideas and ways of thinking, we can develop innovative technologies, business models and political strategies that promote sustainability. Promoting entrepreneurship and supporting research and development can stimulate this innovative thinking and accelerate the transition to a sustainable society.
- Commitment and cooperation: The individual's commitment and cooperation are crucial to achieving the sustainable goals. It is required that people, both on an individual level and as part of various social groups and organizations, work together towards a common vision. This can mean getting involved in voluntary work, participating in environmental initiatives, organizing campaigns or participating in community discussions. Through collaboration, we can combine our forces and

resources to tackle the challenges that the sustainability goals face.

- Responsibility and action: Finally, for the transition to a sustainable society to be successful, people must take personal responsibility for their actions. It's about making conscious choices in everyday life, reducing your climate impact, reducing resource consumption, promoting justice and inclusion, and supporting sustainable initiatives. By acting as individuals, we can create a culture of sustainability and influence others to do the same.

In summary, human characteristics and characteristics can influence the transition to a sustainable society through awareness, values, innovative thinking, commitment, responsibility and action. By utilizing these characteristics in a positive way, we can work together to achieve the Agenda 2030 sustainability goals and create a more sustainable and fair world.

### **Willingness and commitment of politicians**

When there is a lack of political will and commitment in the transition work according to Agenda 2030, several problems can arise and obstacles can arise on the way to achieving the sustainability goals that have been established. Here are some of the possible consequences:

- Insufficient resources: If politicians do not prioritize the transition work according to Agenda 2030, it may be difficult to get sufficient resources and funding to implement the necessary measures. It can be both financial resources and personnel resources that are needed to drive change processes.
- Weak policy measures: Political will and commitment are essential to design and implement strong policy measures and legislation. Without this, it can be difficult to get through reforms and regulations that promote sustainable development and reduce negative environmental and social consequences.
- Shortcomings in implementation: The implementation of Agenda 2030 requires cooperation across different policy areas and actors. Without political will and commitment, coordination can be deficient, which can lead to many initiatives falling through the cracks and implementation becoming fragmented and ineffective.
- Widening gap between goals and action: Agenda 2030 aims to address complex global challenges such as poverty, inequality, climate change and ecological destruction. Without political will and commitment, these problems risk remaining unsolved and the gap between the ambitious goals and actual action remains wide.

In summary, a lack of political will and commitment to the transition work according to Agenda 2030 can result in stagnation, insufficient resources, weak political measures, problems with implementation and an increased gap between goals and action. Political leadership and action are crucial to drive change and achieve the sustainability goals set out in Agenda 2030.

### **Financial interests and adjustment**

In the small town of Oakville, there were two prominent figures, James and Maya, who represented opposite sides of the debate on the implementation of the Agenda 2030 sustainability goals. James was a successful businessman and owner of a large energy company. He was well known for his financial success and recognized that changes were needed to protect the environment, but was skeptical about sacrificing financial interests for the transition.

Maya, on the other hand, was a passionate environmentalist and scientist. She had dedicated her life to fighting climate change and advocated for a rapid transition to renewable energy sources and sustainable practices. She was convinced that the transition was necessary and that financial interests would not hinder the implementation of the sustainability goals.

Their paths crossed for the first time at a conference on Agenda 2030 in the city. Both were invited speakers and were immediately drawn to each other's strong personalities and passion for their respective positions. They quickly became rivals and often ended up in lively debates and discussions about how best to implement the sustainability goals.

But despite their differences, they had a deep respect for each other and realized that they needed to get along to achieve real change. Over time, they began to develop a friendly rivalry and realized that they had a lot to learn from each other.

James began to understand that the transition to renewable energy sources could create new economic opportunities and benefits for his company. He began to reevaluate his business models and looked for sustainable innovations that could reduce the company's carbon footprint while generating profit.

Maya, for her part, recognized the importance of taking into account financial interests and business needs to ensure that the transition was sustainable in the long term. She began working to build bridges between the environmental movement and business and promote dialogue and cooperation to find joint solutions.

Over time, James and Maya became role models for cooperation and compromise. They traveled around the country and gave speeches together, emphasizing the importance of reconciling economic interests and the need for change to implement the sustainability goals. Their unique partnership and ability to find common solutions inspired people around the world to overcome contradictions and work together for a sustainable future.

With their joint efforts and conviction, Oakville was able to become a forerunner for sustainability and a model city for the implementation of Agenda 2030 sustainability goals. James and Maya showed that even the most different personalities and positions can unite and contribute to a better world if they are open to dialogue and cooperation.

### **Research and policy connections**

It was once a country where the relationship between politics and research played a decisive role in the implementation of Agenda 2030's sustainability goals. In this country, science and research were recognized as important tools for participating in political decision-making processes and promoting sustainable development.

The politicians in the country realized that in order to achieve the ambitious goals of Agenda 2030, they needed to rely on evidence-based decisions. They understood that research could contribute knowledge and solutions to address the complex challenges of sustainability, including poverty, climate change and inequality.

The politicians and the researchers established a close collaboration and cooperation. Policy makers actively sought scientific expertise to strengthen their decisions and design strategies to implement the sustainability goals. Researchers, for their part, ensured that their work was relevant to societal challenges and communicated their findings in a way that was understandable and useful to policymakers.

This collaboration between politics and research led to several positive effects. First, politicians could make decisions based on scientific knowledge and the best available evidence. They could avoid ideological or partisan influences and instead focus on designing effective and expedient policy measures.

The researchers' expertise also helped identify priority areas and potential solutions. By analyzing data and conducting research, they were able to offer insights into the

most effective strategies to reduce carbon emissions, promote sustainable economic growth and promote social inclusion.

The close link between policy and research also helped foster a culture of transparency and accountability. Political decisions were well founded and could be traced back to scientific sources and research reports. This increased public confidence in politics and created a sense of participation among citizens.

However, there were also challenges in the relationship between policy and research. Sometimes political interests influence the research agenda or the interpretation of research results. It was important to maintain scientific integrity and independence to ensure that the research was impartial and objective.

Despite these challenges, the overall result of the collaboration between politics and research was positive for the implementation of Agenda 2030's sustainability goals. Policy decisions became more evidence-based and effective, and research could inform and support the implementation of sustainability strategies.

This story reminds us of the importance of building bridges between politics and research to create a sustainable future. By fostering collaboration and using scientific insights, we can effectively address the challenges presented by Agenda 2030 and work towards a more sustainable and just world for future generations.

### **Economic interests and the global goals**

There was once a country that strived to achieve sustainability in accordance with the UN Agenda 2030 and its sustainability goals. The country was rich in natural resources and had a thriving economy based on traditional industries such as mining and manufacturing. At the same time, the country had a strong commitment to preserving the environment and ensuring a sustainable future for its citizens.

But the country faced a major challenge: the conflict between economic interests and the need for change to achieve the sustainability goals. The traditional industries were strongly anchored in the country's economy and created jobs and economic growth. But these industries were also known to have a negative impact on the environment and contribute to climate change.

The government in the country realized that it was necessary to balance economic interests with the need for adjustment. They started conversations and negotiations

with both business and civil society to find solutions that could promote both economic development and sustainability.

It became clear that there was a strong resistance from certain parts of business life to changes. Companies and industries dependent on fossil fuels and unsustainable production methods were concerned that their profitability would be adversely affected if they were forced to make changes.

At the same time, there was a strong public opinion in society to prioritize sustainability and protect the environment for future generations. Environmental organizations and activists called for measures to reduce carbon dioxide emissions, preserve biodiversity and promote renewable energy sources.

The government faced a difficult challenge to balance these conflicting interests. They recognized that a rapid transition to sustainable industries could create economic hardship and unemployment for some sectors. On the other hand, they understood that if they did not take measures to reduce the environmental impact and promote sustainability, they would not be able to achieve the sustainability goals and risk an uncertain future for the country's citizens.

The government prepared a comprehensive plan to promote a gradual transition to a sustainable economy. They offered financial incentives and support to companies that implemented sustainability initiatives, such as investing in renewable energy, reducing emissions and promoting a circular economy. At the same time, they also implemented stricter regulations and environmental standards to reduce the negative impact of unsustainable industries.

It was a difficult and protracted process to navigate between financial interests and adjustment needs. Some companies and industries were reluctant to change and fought the government's actions. But over time, more and more companies began to realize the importance of sustainability and the financial opportunities that came with the transition to a sustainable economy.

Through a combination of economic incentives, regulations and education, the country gradually succeeded in reducing its environmental impact and promoting sustainability. While some traditional industries were downsizing, new green jobs were being created and sustainable businesses were emerging.

The implementation of the Agenda 2030 sustainability goals was a challenging journey for the country, marked by contradictions between financial interests and the need for adjustment. But with a strong political will, cooperation between different

stakeholders and the awareness of the importance of sustainability for the future, the country managed to find a balance and start moving towards a more sustainable future.

### **Rich and poor in the transition**

There was once a world where the gap between rich and poor was deep and wide. Some people swam in abundance while others struggled to survive. In this world, the UN had adopted Agenda 2030, an ambitious plan to promote sustainability and eradicate poverty. But this plan faced major challenges due to the unequal distribution of resources and power.

In a big city lived two young women, Emma and Sara, who were born and grew up in different worlds. Emma belonged to the wealthy upper class and had everything she could wish for. She had access to high-quality education and health services, and her family owned several successful businesses. On the other hand, Sara's family struggled to make ends meet every day. They lived in cramped quarters and spent long hours in the fields to earn a living.

Emma and Sara met for the first time at a conference on Agenda 2030. There they both became aware of the crucial role that inequality played in achieving the sustainable goals. Emma realized that she had privileges that allowed her to affect change, while Sara struggled to even have her basic needs met.

Despite coming from different worlds, Emma and Sara realized that they had a common vision. They both wanted to see a world where opportunities and resources are distributed more fairly. Together they decided to work to reduce the gap between rich and poor and promote sustainable development.

Emma used her position and resources to start social programs and initiatives that would give poor people access to education and health care. She partnered with companies to create sustainable jobs and invest in renewable energy and technologies that would reduce climate impact.

On the other hand, Sara shared her experiences and insights about the challenges poor people faced in their everyday lives. She worked to empower poor communities and promote financial inclusion through microcredit and entrepreneurship programs. She also fought to raise awareness of the Agenda 2030 goals among those with power and influence.

Through their collaboration and commitment, Emma and Sara succeeded in mobilizing other people and organizations to work together towards a more sustainable future. They realized that it was necessary to change the system that maintained the gap between rich and poor. They fought to introduce fair tax systems, reduce corruption and promote social responsibility among businesses and governments.

It wasn't an easy journey, but Emma and Sara saw how their efforts began to pay off. More people gained access to education and better living conditions. Many poor communities prospered and became self-sufficient. The gap between rich and poor gradually narrowed, and more people became aware of the importance of sustainability.

Emma and Sara showed that by bridging the contradiction between rich and poor, the Agenda 2030 goals for sustainable development could be achieved. By collaborating and sharing resources, they were able to create a more just and sustainable world for all.

### **Me as poor**

I wake up every morning in a cramped and shabby apartment. It is easy to see how poverty surrounds me on all sides. There is no electricity, no running water and no convenience that most people take for granted. Every day is a struggle for survival, and the basic needs are always in focus.

My stomach is constantly growling with hunger. It is difficult to find food that is nutritious and sufficient to satisfy hunger. Sometimes I have to choose between buying food or paying for other basic needs, like rent or medical care. Poverty limits my choices and means that I always have to prioritize the most urgent.

Job opportunities are few and low-paid. I am forced to work in precarious and exploitative conditions just to get a small income that is barely enough to cover my daily needs. There is no opportunity for career development or to create a better future for myself or my family.

It is hard to see my children suffer because of poverty. They cannot afford to go to school and their future looks uncertain. I dream of giving them better opportunities and the chance for an education that can open doors for them. But poverty holds me back and I feel powerless in front of their situation.

Poverty extends beyond the material. It affects my self-confidence and my sense of self-worth. I feel shame and stigma for being poor, as if it were my fault that I ended up in this situation. It is a feeling of inadequacy that constantly gnaws at my heart.

Despite all the difficulties, I fight every day to survive and hope for a better future. I look for opportunities and take advantage of the small progress I can make. I dream of a time when poverty will no longer define my life, when I can give my children a better future and create a positive change for myself and my community.

Poverty in the first person is a story of struggle, survival and hope. It is a reminder that no one deserves to live in these circumstances and that we as a society must work together to create a more just and equal world where poverty is no longer a reality for so many people.

## **Chapter 25**

### **Concrete reality in 2023**

Now we have seen first-hand how the Paris Agreement and Agenda 2030 could have created a positive future for all forms of life and the obstacles that must be overcome.

We have also gained insight into how different target areas work together and are dependent on each other, as well as the obstacles that exist within structures and systems that we ourselves have created.

These obstacles are so long-standing and interfere with most of society's activities, that it takes more than willingness and commitment on the part of decision-makers to break them down.

Finally, we have been able to read several stories about what life in 2030 could look like when we have fulfilled all the objectives in Agenda 2030 and what obstacles we would have had to overcome in that case.

Now we are back in the reality we have in 2023 and trying to scout for the reality that can be discovered. We want to know how today's situation fits into the transition.



At the turn of July/August, a report came from the UN; 2023: "Another year of extreme danger for those struggling to provide for their families." The cause keeps a distance from us in Sweden, we only have a weaker influence on our crops and our water now. In 2018, harvests fell by 30%, groundwater ran out in southern Sweden and food prices rose. In 2023, harvests are expected to fall by 15%, the groundwater shortage is just as great, and we will see food price increases.

At the same time, a report was released that the camping industry in Sweden had a strong increase in 2022 and that it will increase further in 2023. We are currently a favored country and more and more people are discovering it and moving here. Right now as a vacationer, but in the future? As climate refugees?

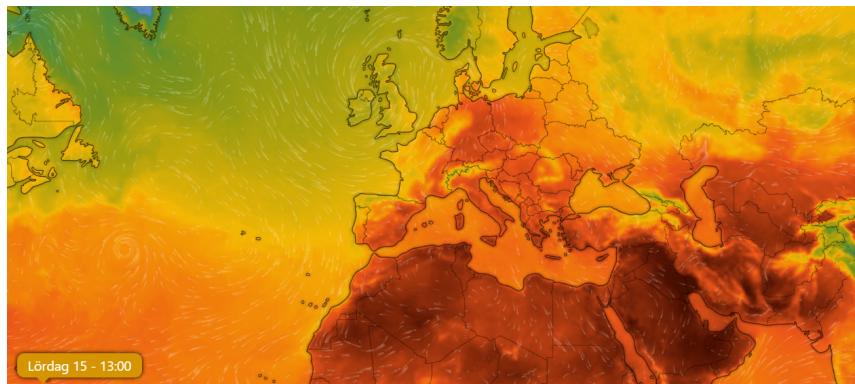
Here below we see the reason spelled GLOBAL WARMING and worse and worse it gets faster and faster.

It was just as bad in southern Europe in 2022. Outside the picture, we have Southeast Asia, parts of northern China, Canada, the eastern United States and parts of South America which have very difficult conditions.

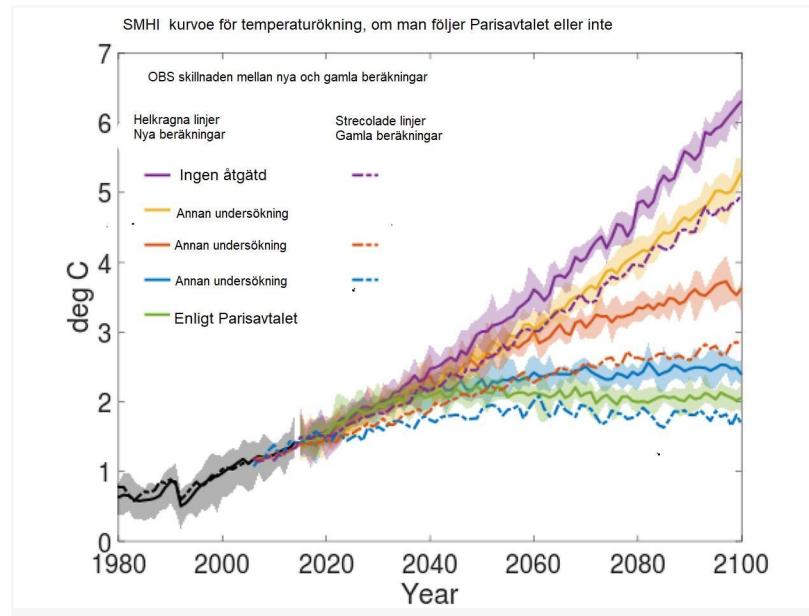
The map image shows the situation in Europe in the last months of 2023 with some variations.

In Sweden, we had a heat peak for ten days at the end of June. This autumn we have had unusually intense and long-lasting rains that have caused severe flooding locally but also filled the reservoirs with groundwater.

*We are among the lucky ones! How much longer?*



This was the situation around the entire globe in areas north of the equator for an extremely long time. In Southern Europe, the record heat started as early as May and lasted until mid-September.



**Note and act on that we can reach 2° temperature increase as early as 2040**

## Chapter 26

### The future

#### *Five stories - different models.*

Once upon a time there was a country called Harmonia, which was well known for its democracy and ambitious goals for sustainable development. The country had engaged citizens and a strong political will to achieve Agenda 2030's sustainability goals.

The 2030 Agenda was a global agreement adopted by countries around the world to address the most pressing challenges to sustainable development. In Harmonia, the government had worked hard to integrate the goals into their policies and strategies, and they had achieved some success by promoting renewable energy, organic farming and social inclusion.

Despite their efforts, Harmonia faced challenges that threatened to hinder the implementation of Agenda 2030 goals. One of these challenges was the right of veto, a right that gave any member of Harmonia's parliament the ability to block or change decisions concerning policy measures and reforms.

There were politicians in parliament who were skeptical about some of the measures required to achieve the sustainability goals. They considered that certain measures could be financially costly or contrary to certain interests, especially in the industrial sector. These politicians used the veto power to stop or weaken proposals that promoted sustainable development, which created a political struggle in Harmonia.

Many citizens of Harmonia became frustrated with this obstacle and demanded change. They organized into NGOs and carried out protests and campaigns to draw attention to the importance of sustainable development and the need to overcome political blockade. They succeeded in creating awareness and increasing pressure on politicians to act.

Slowly but surely, the politicians in Harmonia began to realize that the right of veto could be a hindrance to the country's progress towards the sustainability goals. It held back change and prevented the implementation of necessary political reforms. Therefore, the government began a discussion on reconsidering the use of the veto right and exploring possibilities for change.

After extensive debates and consultations with citizens, Harmonia's parliament decided to limit the right of veto on specific issues that directly affected the country's progress towards Agenda 2030 goals. They established a process involving public consultation, evaluation of the use of the veto, and a qualified majority to avoid political blocking. By doing this could the country take decisive steps forward to achieve the sustainability goals and ensure a better future for its citizens and the environment.

The story of Harmonia and its obstruction through the right of veto shows the importance of balancing democratic principles with the need to act for a sustainable future. Finding ways to overcome political gridlock and promote collaboration and change is critical to achieving the 2030 Agenda's goals and creating a more sustainable and just world for all.

**This is how the future can be described, or something like this**

The year is 2030, and we find ourselves in a world where political will and commitment have reached an alarming low. People around the world have become apathetic and disillusioned with the inability of politics to solve the global challenges that threaten humanity. Trust in politicians and the established political institutions has been eroded to the point that many choose to distance themselves from politics altogether.

In this dystopian world, societal problems have escalated. Climate change has led to increased extreme weather, sea levels have risen and natural disasters have become more common. Economic divides have deepened, with many living in extreme poverty while a small elite controls the majority of the world's wealth. Advances in technology have created new opportunities, but they have also resulted in increased unemployment and social polarization.

The political system has turned into a corrupt and bureaucratic machine where politicians prioritize their own interests and party politics over the common good. Corruption and abuse of power are common, and politicians are seen by many as incompetent and untrustworthy.

Citizens have given up hope that their voices and opinions will make a difference. Many choose not to vote in the elections and do not participate in political discussions. Political participation is minimal, and society feels increasingly divided and apathetic.

But despite the dystopian picture, there are also signs of hope and change. In the underground network of activists, volunteers and technology pioneers, something has begun to sprout. They have realized that they can no longer rely on the established politicians to save the world. Instead, they have begun to take matters into their own hands and work together to find solutions to society's problems.

Grassroots movements and non-profit organizations have become more important than ever before. They work to solve local and global challenges through innovative projects and collaborations. Through the power of social media and technology, they have managed to create a community of people who share their vision of a better future.

At the same time, artificial intelligence and automation have enabled people to let go of some of their daily tasks and focus on more meaningful activities. This has given room for more people to get involved in social issues and politics in different ways.

Citizen participation has taken on a new meaning when technology enables citizens to directly influence decision-making through digital platforms. Political decisions have become more transparent and accessible to the public, which increases accountability from politicians.

In this world, political will and commitment may have bottomed out, but there is a bud of hope that is beginning to sprout. People have realized that if they want change,

they have to be the driving force behind it. They have learned that collective action and cooperation can overcome apathy and powerlessness.

Over time, these seeds of change grow and spread throughout the world. It is becoming clear that it is no longer sustainable to let politics and society be controlled by an unreliable and corrupt elite. People are once again beginning to believe in the power of their own voices and their ability to create a more just and sustainable future.

So, albeit slowly, the world is once again moving towards a time of change, where citizens take responsibility for their society and politics reflect their needs and wants.

The year 2030 can be a turning point, where we realize that it is joint commitment and collective action that will shape our future. There is still hope for a better world, but it is up to us to make it a reality.

**-The future is a consequence of what we do today or what we don't do.**

**The future is made by our actions or our inability to act.**

**The consequences of what we do or don't do thus determine what the future will look like.**

**We thereby have an extremely large responsibility for the future.**

In a world where today's choices shape tomorrow's reality, I find myself walking through a living lesson in responsibility and influence. Every step I take, every choice I make, is like a brushstroke on it unpainted the canvas of tomorrow. I am constantly reminded that the future is not a distant dream, but rather a reflection of my actions and my omissions.

It's a time when I can no longer close my eyes to my choices, when I realize that every plastic bottle I neglect to recycle is like a lost key to an uncertain future. As I look at the narrow stream that was once a roaring river, I understand that my water use habits can either dry up or conserve the precious resources that our society so desperately needs.

In this world, no choice is too small, no contribution too insignificant. I see how my choices to support sustainable energy sources are like a seed planted to create a greener future, while my indifference to renewable energy is like a brake holding back progressive change.

But it's not just my positive actions that play a role; that's also what I don't do. Every time I remain silent and ashamed of injustice, every time I avoid acting when I see someone who needs help, I cast a shadow over tomorrow. I realize that my voice, my

compassion and my ability to stand up for what is right are crucial to shaping a future that is dignified for all.

It is a lesson that cannot be understated. The future is not just an abstract idea that floats beyond our reach; it is a constant reminder of our power and responsibility. Every decision I make is like a domino effect that creates a chain reaction of consequences. I realize now that I am not just a spectator of tomorrow. I am its architect.

So as I stand here, surrounded by opportunities and challenges, I understand that the future is not something foreign or distant. It is a manifestation of my choices, my beliefs and my actions. I carry with me a sense of responsibility that drives me to act wisely, to think about the consequences and to be aware that every step I take today shapes the world that the following generations will inherit when their time comes.

Another view of the future:

**-The future belongs to the unborn,  
because they will be many times more than those alive today.**

**The future will exist even if man does not exist.  
Is the future determined without our participation?**

In the shadow of today's sunset, as the last ray of daylight fades away, I look ahead and imagine a future still shrouded in obscurity. It is a gift we shape with every breath and every decision. I think of the generations to come, those who have not yet breathed our air or tasted our tastes. Their future paths are yet unexplored, their stories yet unwritten, and yet, we have already left marks on their maps.

It is a paradox that we who live today bear part of the responsibility for those who have not yet seen the light of day. They will outnumber us, a multitude that stretches beyond the horizon. I feel a wave of humility and concern when I think about it. We have decided their life situation before they have even had the chance to express their dreams and desires.

I ask myself the question: What right do we have to shape their tomorrow without hearing their voices? Is it not our duty to give them a platform, a voice, a chance to co-create their own destinies? We have built bridges between generations, but have we built them strong enough to carry the thoughts and dreams of the yet unborn?

It is a reminder that our power extends beyond our own timeline. We are united not only with those who have gone before us, but also with those who come after. I think of the stars that have yet to light up in the sky and wonder what direction they will take. Our responsibility spans the boundaries of time, and our role as forerunners becomes to create a platform for them to stand on, to give them the tools to build their own future fairy tales.

So when I look into the darkness and think of the unborn, I feel a deep desire to shape a future that is just, inclusive and sustainable. To let their voices be heard and their dreams become realized. Because the future belongs to them, and it is our job to ensure that it is a place where they can thrive and flourish, just as we have had the chance to do.

and one more option

**-The future is an opportunity and the important questions to ask then are,  
opportunity for what and for whom?**

**The future can be democratized to achieve the society we want to live in.**

**If we don't ask the questions, we consider the goal to be a given  
and we assume everyone benefits from it.**

**This is how new technology is often presented as the solution to everything.**

The future is hopeful because we can fill it with desirable things. Many people find it difficult to influence the future more than from a small-scale perspective. It is an area that expertise takes care of.

In the shadow of today's events and changing times, I ponder the upcoming chapters that await in our shared history. The future rises like an open book, beckoning with possibilities and adventures yet to be written. There are dreams that have not yet been formed, innovations that have not yet been shaped and a social structure that we can shape for the better.

But in this garden of the future, where flowers of change are waiting to bloom, ordinary people face a unique challenge. Our hands are like small seeds in this large field, and our ability to influence the future can feel limited to small-scale efforts. But does that mean that our dreams of a bright future are doomed to remain dreams?

This is where we meet the guidance and power of expertise. They are like tree roots, deeply rooted in knowledge and experience, and they reach out across the landscape to support the emergence of a future that is both sustainable and desirable. With their guidance, we can find the paths that lead to progress and development, and they can help us avoid dangers and pitfalls that we might not even have foreseen.

The expertise is like a guide that helps us navigate through the unknown terrain and make informed decisions. They can transform our small-scale efforts into powerful actions that affect society at large. They take the complex challenges and make them understandable and manageable for all of us.

So while ordinary people may not have the direct power to shape the entire future, we still have an important role to play. We still can sow seeds of change in our own lives and communities, and we can contribute to a collective effort towards a desirable future. Expertise and ordinary people can work together as a powerful alliance, where vision and knowledge unite to create a better tomorrow.

When I think about the future, I feel a glimmer of hope and anticipation. I know that while our hands may feel small, our collective influence is greater than we may imagine. By working together with the expertise, we can reshape what is possible and create a future that is bright, exciting and desirable for all of us.

### **The awakening**

The UN held a conference week on how the Agenda's goals have been met. It will be a decisive week, September 18 - 22, 2023, because it was then that the world leaders fully accepted the extremely serious situation that our planet and all life forms were in. The decisions taken during this meeting saved the future.

The year was 2030, and I remember it like it was yesterday. It was a time of joy and hope for humanity when we had finally met all the Agenda 2030 goals. I want to share my personal story about the future we reached when we worked together for a better world.

I woke up to a sunny morning in my home, which is now powered entirely by renewable energy. Solar panels covered the roofs of the houses all around, and the wind swirled quietly on the horizon. Green energy was available to everyone, and we had managed to reduce our carbon footprint significantly.

Looking out the window, I saw the neighbors gathering in a nearby meeting room. It was a Monday, and it was time for our weekly fellowship meeting. Everyone was welcome to participate and contribute their thoughts and ideas about how we can make our city even better.

On the way to the meeting, I passed a busy city park. It was full of people enjoying the clean air and that lush verdant landscape. Children ran around and played in the playgrounds, while adults took part in yoga classes and meditation exercises held under the shady trees.

When I arrived at the meeting, I was warmly welcomed by friends and neighbors. During the meeting, we shared experiences about how our lives had changed since reaching the Agenda 2030 goals. We talked about how access to clean water and sanitation improved our health and increased our quality of life. No one in our community had to worry about lack of food or water anymore.

We also talked about education and gender equality. All children now had access to high-quality education, regardless of background or economic status. Women and men shared responsibilities at home and in the workplace more fairly. We celebrated the progress we had made towards achieving the goals of eradicating poverty and hunger.

After the meeting, I went to work at a local technology company. The company was committed to developing innovative solutions to combat climate change and promote a sustainable lifestyle. Our efforts have led to a cleaner environment and more green job opportunities for our community.

In the evening I had dinner with my family, and we discussed the events of the day. Our children were happy to live in a world where nature was respected and where their future was secured. We reflected on how far we had come since 2023, when we first set out the Agenda 2030 goals.

In the future I experienced, it was peaceful and sustainable. Humanity has worked together to solve global challenges and create a better world for all. We had fulfilled our commitment to the planet and were on our way to a brighter future for generations to come. It was a future filled with hope, cooperation and opportunity.

**Human characteristics and personality  
also hinders the transition to an ecologically sustainable society.**



We have painted future scenarios of what the future could look like, examined obstacles to this, gained insight into how different target areas interact and are dependent on each other as well as the obstacles that exist within structures and systems that we ourselves have created.

These obstacles are so long-standing and interfere with most of society's activities, that it takes more than willingness and commitment on the part of decision-makers to break them down.

Now we come to the key question, what role does or has man played in all that we have described?

Man is behind everything and has only in recent years understood the resistance that has long been signaled against his progress.

To understand how we've just driven on without stopping for all the red lights along the way, we need to examine what drives us. The brain of course! But can't we control the brain?

We begin with a story about how we humans function in reality, regardless of what level we are in society.

### **An approach to society**

There was once a society that strove after making a transition to an ecologically sustainable society. Many people were engaged and inspired to contribute to a

cleaner and more sustainable environment. But unfortunately, they faced an obstacle that threatened their quest

Corruption was widespread at various levels of society. There were politicians and officials who used their positions for personal gain instead of acting in the public interest. When applied the transition to an ecologically sustainable society was a serious obstacle to corruption.

One of the most prominent effects of corruption was that financial resources and investments were not directed towards sustainable initiatives and environmentally friendly projects. Money that would have been used to develop and implement green technology and infrastructure instead ended up in the pockets of corrupt actors. This led to a lack of financial support for projects and initiatives that could have promoted the transition to an ecologically sustainable society.

Another consequence of corruption was that rules and laws were not applied consistently or fairly. Environmental protection laws and regulations could be circumvented through bribery and abuse of power. Companies and industries that caused large environmental impacts could escape responsibility and avoid taking steps to reduce their emissions or improve their sustainability practices. This led to continued destruction of the environment and the transition to a sustainable society became significantly more difficult to achieve.

Another aspect of corruption that hindered the transition was that decisions in politics and planning were influenced by corrupt interests. Politicians and decision-makers could be influenced by bribery and lobbying by companies that had a financial interest in continuing with unsustainable practices and activities. This resulted in political decisions and strategies not favoring sustainable solutions and instead favoring short-term economic gain.

Corruption also undermined the trust and commitment of people who wanted to contribute to the transition to an ecologically sustainable society. As corruption flourished and injustice prevailed at the societal level, people felt dejected and hesitant to participate in the process of change. It created a culture of mistrust and lack of cooperation that made it difficult to implement sustainable initiatives.

To overcome this obstacle, it was crucial to fight corruption at various levels. Strong political will and measures were required to strengthen the legal system, improve transparency and accountability, and promote ethical norms and values. In addition, active citizen participation was needed to monitor and report corruption and to promote a culture of integrity and honesty.

Over time and through hard work, society managed to deal with corruption. By fighting corruption, a fair and equal playing field was created where financial resources and investments could be directed towards sustainable initiatives. Environmental protection laws and regulations were strictly enforced, leading to a reduction in environmental impact. Political decisions and strategies became more focused on sustainable solutions and people regained their trust and commitment to work towards an ecologically sustainable society.

The story of society clearly shows how corruption can be an obstacle to a transition to an ecologically sustainable society. By fighting corruption and promoting integrity, we can pave the way to achieve a cleaner and more sustainable world where the environment and society's best interests come first.

### **Two human brakes**

We humans have many good qualities and if these are allowed to work together we can achieve an ecologically sustainable world, but then we must ensure that the qualities that create corruption are not allowed to run wild.

Our main internal opponents are narcissism and schizophrenia and we cannot choose them ourselves. Everyone must realize that these qualities can have disastrous consequences in those in power if they are strongly developed. People who are in this state cannot be allowed to have much influence on decisive decision-making processes.

Therefore, we citizens should not let these people have access to power on a larger scale.

We have to weed out people with these characteristics through various methods.

Psychopathy and narcissism are two different personality traits or disorders that share some similarities but also have their own characteristics. They can occur individually or in combination in a person. Let's explore how these two concepts relate to each other:

### **Overlapping properties:**

Lack of Empathy: Both psychopaths and narcissists often have difficulty empathizing with other people. They may be indifferent to the feelings or needs of others.

Self-centeredness: Both psychopaths and narcissists are often self-centered and focused on their own needs and wants.

Manipulative behavior: Both psychopaths and narcissists can be skilled manipulators and use other people for their own ends.

Lack of Conscience: Both groups often have difficulty feeling guilt or remorse for their actions, even if they harm others.

#### **Differences:**

Psychopathy: Psychopathy is a broader term that describes a personality disorder in which the individual exhibits a lack of conscience, impulsivity, a lack of sense of responsibility, and tendencies toward antisocial behavior. Psychopaths can be manipulative and deceive others, but their goals are often more focused on achieving their own desires, and they may be willing to break laws and norms to that end.

Narcissism: Narcissism is a personality disorder characterized by an excessive self-absorption, need for admiration, and a lack of empathy. Narcissists are fixated on their own self-image and want constant validation and admiration from others. They can be manipulative to gain attention and admiration rather than breaking laws or being antisocial.

It is important to note that not all people with narcissistic or psychopathic traits are dangerous or criminal. Many can live productive lives and function within society without being a harmful force. It is also important to understand that these two concepts are not mutually exclusive, and there are cases where a person can exhibit traits of both psychopathy and narcissism.

#### **In summary**

Psychopathy and narcissism are two different personality traits with some overlapping characteristics but also some important differences. Their impact on the individual's behavior and interactions with other people can vary depending on the degree of expression of these traits and other factors in the individual's life and personality.

## **Psychopathy**

is a personality disorder that can have significant consequences in terms of political leadership and decisions related to the transition towards an ecologically sustainable society. Here are some ways in which psychopathy can affect political leadership and the will to change, both negatively and positively:

### **Negative impact:**

- Lack of Empathy and Consideration: Psychopaths are characterized by a significant lack of empathy and sense of responsibility towards others. This can mean a lack of concern for the environment and the well-being of future generations, which can result in political decisions that favor short-term economic gain at the expense of the environment.
- Manipulative Behavior: Psychopaths are skilled manipulators and can use their charm and persuasiveness to win support for policies that do not really favor ecological sustainability. They can trick the public or other decision-makers into thinking that their actions are best for the environment and climate, when in fact they are not.
- The risk of corruption: Psychopaths may be inclined to violate laws and norms for personal gain. This can increase the risk of corruption in politics, which can lead to decisions being influenced by personal interests rather than the good of society and the well-being of the environment.

### **Potentially positive impact**

- Self-Interest in Conserving Resources: Psychopaths are often highly self-centered and may be anxious to preserve resources and financial stability if it benefits their own interests. If they see ecological sustainability as a path to personal gain, they may actually support actions that promote the environment.
- Decisiveness and risk-taking: Psychopaths are sometimes inclined to take great risks and be decisive in their actions. If they see an opportunity to be successful or gain recognition by pushing an ecologically sustainable political agenda, they may be willing to push through difficult reforms that others may not dare to undertake.

It is important to remember that psychopathy is a complex personality disorder and not all psychopaths act in the same way. Political leadership is also influenced by a variety of other factors, including political ideologies, voter pressure, and international influence. Although psychopathy may have a negative impact on political leadership and sustainability decisions, it is far from the only factor at play. Society's ability to

implement ecologically sustainable reforms requires a broader understanding of political, economic and social forces.

### **Narcissism**

can influence political leadership and the will to transition towards an ecologically sustainable society in several ways, both positive and negative. Here are some possible effects:

#### **Negative impact**

- Short-term gain: Narcissistic leaders may be more likely to make decisions that benefit them personally or provide quick results to increase their own popularity and admiration. It can lead to a preference for short-term financial gains over long-term sustainability.
- Lack of Empathy: Narcissistic individuals often have difficulty understanding and empathizing with others, including future generations and ecosystems. This can make it difficult for them to prioritize environmental issues and consider the long-term consequences of their decisions.
- Denial and self-image: Narcissistic leaders may be inclined to deny or ignore scientific facts and evidence that contradict their own views or self-image. If they do not see themselves as environmentalists or if they believe that environmental problems threaten their prestige, they may oppose ecological sustainability.

#### **Positive impact (potential):**

- The desire for admiration and success: Narcissistic leaders may also be anxious to be admired and successful, and if a sustainable environment becomes a trend or important to the public, they may resort to this to fulfill their needs. They can push policies that promote environmentally friendly projects and initiatives if it is beneficial to their image.
- Strong communication skills: Narcissistic individuals often have an ability to communicate and market themselves effectively. If they use their skills to convince the public of the importance of ecological sustainability, they can play a positive role by raising awareness and support for environmental issues.

It is important to remember that not all narcissistic leaders act the same way or have the same priorities. Political leadership is influenced by a variety of factors, including political climate, public opinion, and economic circumstances. Transition towards an ecologically sustainable society depends not only on the personality of the leader, but

also on the structures of politics, the commitment of citizens and the wider political environment. Understanding how narcissism can affect political leadership is part of the complex analysis of political decisions and their consequences for sustainability.

***“We want decisions that save humanity and all life forms.”***

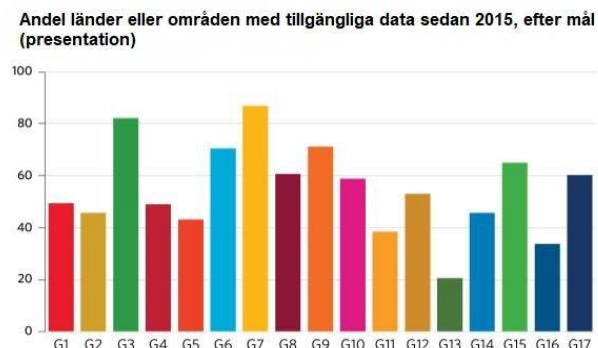
***Can we get these decisions with those in power who have too strong narcissism or psychopathy?***

## Chapter 28

### The old or the visions - what should be our guiding light?

How do we succeed in the visions that the world leaders have decided that we must achieve by the year 2030

(The goals in Agenda 2030 are described with G in the diagram)



Here it appears that G13 in particular.  
Fighting the climate is an urgent and neglected area.

**This is how our struggle to achieve the visions in 2030 looks like.**

The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2022 FN.  
(The Report on Sustainable Development Goals 2022)

***"We must rise to save the Sustainable Development Goals – and stay true to our promise of a world of peace, dignity and prosperity on a healthy planet."***

***António Guterres***

***Secretary-General, United Nations***

How far have we come after halfway through the transition period?

Measure 13 22%,  
measure 16 37%.  
objectives 1,2, 4, 5, 11 and 14 between 42 and 48%,  
goals 8, 10, and 12 between 52 and 60%,  
objectives 6, 9, 15 and 17 between 61 and 75% and finally  
objectives 3 and 7 between 82 and 86%.

***How far will we be able to reach?***

We have a lack of political will and commitment, an economic system that needs to be fundamentally reformed, the right of veto and the sovereignty of countries as obstacles, personal freedom in relation to the freedom of states, the incapacity of the democratic system, the war in Ukraine and a result halfway through the transition period that is not encouraging .

***Personal perspective on future hopes***

Let me take you on a personal journey through the complex challenges and opportunities of Agenda 2030. My name is Mia and I am a young activist passionate about sustainable development and a better world. I have always believed in the power of people's collective efforts to create change, but I have also realized that the road ahead is full of obstacles and compromises.

When I first heard about Agenda 2030, I felt a wave of hope and optimism. That world leaders had agreed on 17 ambitious goals to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure peace and justice seemed like a real opportunity to make a difference. But soon I was faced with the reality of political gamesmanship and lack of commitment.

I attended meetings and demonstrations where I met people from all over the world who shared my passion. We talked about the challenges we faced: the lack of political will and commitment, the volatility of the existing economic system, and the

fact that the veto power of a few countries could block progress for everyone else. It was a struggle to balance the sovereignty of different nations with the global goal of creating a better future.

When half the conversion time had passed, we had to look back and reflect on the results achieved. I remembered the various goals and their percentages of progress.

Goal 13, on climate action, had reached 22%, and while not enough to stop climate change completely, it was a start.

Goal 16, to promote peaceful and inclusive societies, was at 37%. It filled me with hope to see the increase, but I knew we needed more to change the world's conflict landscape.

The goals that dealt with education, gender equality, sustainable urban development and marine protection were between 42 and 48%. It was as if the world had begun to understand the importance of these areas, but we still had a long way to go.

Goals 8, 10 and 12, which dealt with decent working conditions, reduced inequality and sustainable consumption, had reached between 50 and 55%. I felt a mixture of hope and frustration when I thought about the small progress, while also being aware that financial interests still stood in the way of real change.

Goals 6, 9, 15 and 17, which revolved around clean water and sanitation, sustainable industry, ecosystem protection and global partnership, had reached between 61 and 75%. These numbers showed that when we worked together we could make progress, but we were still stuck in a system that favored short-term gain over long-term sustainability.

Finally, goals 3 and 7, which dealt with health and sustainable energy, reached between 82 and 86%. These numbers filled me with hope for what could be achieved when political will and global cooperation really came together.

My personal journey within Agenda 2030 had been both challenging and uplifting. I realized that change was possible, but it required constant work, commitment and struggle to overcome political obstacles, economic interests and national sovereignty issues. The war in Ukraine reminded me of the real consequences of global conflicts and how they could affect our aspirations.

My hope for the future was that the small advances would accumulate into larger changes. I continued to fight for the 2030 Agenda and was determined to affect change through my actions and commitment. Because even though the road was

difficult and long, I saw the light in the possibility of shaping a more sustainable and fair world for all of us.

### **Reaction to changes. What are people thinking?**

#### **What does the report mean for the continuation of the transition?**

When people are informed about the obstacles that exist and how far we have come after half the transition period, the reactions are multifaceted and vary according to their perspectives, experiences and hopes. Here are some possible reactions:

- Frustration and Anger: Many people can feel frustration and anger at the obstacles that slow progress. The lack of political will, economic interests and geopolitical conflicts can act as a wall standing in the way of a better world. Those who have fought for change may feel overwhelmed by the challenges.
- Disappointment and Discouragement: Hearing that half the turnaround time has passed and still reaching relatively low percentages of progress can lead to disappointment and discouragement. Some may feel that their efforts have not yielded sufficient results and that the future may be uncertain.
- Hope and motivation: Despite the obstacles, some people can respond with increased hope and motivation. They see the small advances as signs that change is possible and that more work and commitment is needed to overcome the complex problems. They see the report as an opportunity to mobilize greater efforts.
- Reflection and collaboration: The report can also make people reflect on their own responsibility and what they can do to influence change. It can inspire cooperation and unity to overcome the obstacles that impede progress.
- Realism and pragmatism: Some may react with realism and pragmatism. They understand that complex global challenges cannot be solved overnight. They see the report as a reminder that change takes time and that long-term strategies and collaborations are required.

Going forward, the report means that there is a clear understanding of where the strengths and weaknesses of our efforts lie. Having an objective assessment of where we are halfway through the transition period provides guidance for the next steps:

- Mobilization and pressure: The report can act as fuel to increase awareness and mobilization. Individuals and groups committed to sustainability issues can use the report to demand more action from their governments and international

institutions.

- Dialogue and collaboration: The report can stimulate open dialogue between different actors, including governments, civil society, business and academics. Understanding the obstacles and progress can be a platform to identify common solutions and collaborate to overcome the challenges.
- Adaptation and re-evaluation: The report can serve as a reason to re-evaluate strategies and tactics. If some areas have made more progress than others, it may be wise to examine what is working and apply these insights into areas that are lagging behind.
- Challenging Norms: The report can act as a catalyst to challenge norms and assumptions that impede progress. It can highlight how economic and political systems need to be transformed to better support sustainable development.

In summary, the report serves as a guide and a call to action. It can inspire to overcome obstacles and push to achieve the goals of the 2030 Agenda, even if it means overcoming political, economic and social challenges along the way.

#### **The UN's ambitions**

The United Nations (UN) is an international organization that aims to promote peace, security, cooperation and sustainable development between countries and people around the world. The organization faces many global challenges and works actively to find solutions to succeed in the transition towards a more sustainable and peaceful world. Below are some of the strategies and solutions that the UN has focused on:

- Agenda 2030 and the global goals for sustainable development: The UN has adopted Agenda 2030, which includes the 17 global goals for sustainable development (Global Goals). These goals aim to address a range of challenges, including poverty, inequality, climate change, peace and justice. By engaging member states and stakeholders, the UN works to achieve these goals through cooperation, policy action and resource allocation.
- Climate action and the Paris Agreement: The UN has played a central role in driving global climate action. By bringing countries together around common goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to climate change, the UN works to combat climate change and preserve the health of the planet.
- Peacekeeping and Conflict Resolution: The UN plays a critical role in promoting peace and security through peacekeeping operations and diplomacy. By facilitating dialogue, mediation and conflict resolution, the UN seeks to prevent

conflict and promote sustainable peace around the world.

- Humanitarian work: The UN is committed to helping people in need through humanitarian work. By coordinating the efforts of various organizations and governments, the UN works to offer help to people affected by natural disasters, conflicts and other crises.
- Education and health: The UN strives to improve education and health for everyone worldwide. Through programs such as UNICEF and the World Health Organization (WHO), the UN works to ensure access to education, health care and basic needs for people of all ages.
- Improved international cooperation: The UN acts as a platform for international cooperation and dialogue. By promoting diplomatic communication and multilateral cooperation, the UN works to solve global problems that cannot be dealt with by individual countries alone.

In summary, the UN works through a combination of political, diplomatic, humanitarian and development measures to meet global challenges and promote a sustainable and peaceful transition. The organization's goal is to bring together countries and stakeholders to jointly find solutions that can benefit all of humanity.

It is important to note that the UN is a complex international organization involving 193 member states with different interests, priorities and political agendas. Although the UN has achieved some progress and implemented important initiatives, there are several factors that may explain why the organization may not have succeeded in all areas or fulfilled its vision to the degree desired:

- Political and national interests: The member countries of the UN often have different political agendas and priorities. The interests of different countries can sometimes conflict with each other, which can make it difficult to agree and cooperate on certain global issues. Political conflicts and rivalries can prevent a common front to achieve certain goals.
- Lack of resources: The implementation of the UN's visions and initiatives requires significant financial, technical and human resources. Sometimes there may be a lack of funding and capacity to fully implement planned programs and projects.
- Bureaucracy and inertia: The UN is a large and complex organization with various bodies, agencies and departments. Decision-making and processes can be time-consuming and bureaucratic, which can delay the implementation of projects and hinder rapid action.

- Lack of trust: There may be a lack of trust between member states and UN organizations, which may affect cooperation and the implementation of initiative. Countries that feel forgotten or marginalized may be less inclined to support and participate in UN programmes.
- Complexity of global problems: The challenges facing the UN, such as poverty, climate change, conflict and health, are complex and often dependent on many factors. Finding effective solutions to these problems can be difficult and often requires a long-term and holistic approach.
- Security challenges and geopolitical factors: Conflicts and insecurity in different parts of the world can make it difficult for the UN to act and implement programs effectively. Geopolitical tensions and conflicts can affect both decision-making and implementation of UN initiatives.
- Lack of respect for international law: Some countries may not comply with international law or UN decisions and resolutions, which may undermine the implementation of measures and efforts aimed at maintaining peace and security.

In conclusion, the UN is a complex and challenging organization that faces a variety of obstacles in implementing its visions and goals. These barriers can be political, economic, structural and geopolitical, and they can vary according to the specific issue or situation. Achieving consensus and progress in such a multifaceted environment is an ongoing challenge.

#### Time is running out

In a world where time is short and traditional practices are changing, a group of committed individuals found themselves in the middle of a struggle for change. They faced overwhelming challenges and closed doors, but they refused to give up. Instead, they decided to combine and adapt different strategies in a creative and focused way to achieve their peaceful objective.

Prioritize and focus. With a lack of time, the group realized that they could not direct their efforts in all directions. They chose instead to identify the most urgent issues that required change and concentrated their efforts on these. By establishing a clear path forward, they were able to avoid getting lost in the complexity.

Digital rapid mobilization. Social media became their megaphone to the world. Using viral campaigns and shareable posts, their message spread like wildfire. Hashtags

that unite people all over the world became a powerful tool to rally support and spread awareness on a global scale.

Creative actions. To capture the attention of a wide audience, the group planned creative and unexpected reactions. They staged spectacular flash mobs and artistic installations that not only attracted media attention but also touched people's emotions and commitment.

Fast lobbying and influence work. Through their existing networks and contacts, they were able to quickly communicate with decision makers. They created articulate messages highlighting the problem and demanding change. Their persuasive arguments and strategic approach accelerated policy decisions.

Create local solidarity. The group's focus on the local level was a key to success. By collaborating with their immediate surroundings, they managed to create a strong local movement. This movement had a snowball effect that spread to the national and even international level.

Become a source of information. With time in short supply, the group prepared short videos, infographics and quick facts that were shared across a variety of channels. This rapidly generated source of information helped spread awareness of the issue and prompt people to act.

Gather broad support. By partnering with other like-minded organizations and groups, the group strengthened its voice and accelerated mobilization. A united front proved to be more powerful and effective in effecting change.

Mobilize internationally. Through its international contacts, the group was able to quickly reach beyond the borders. They appealed for support from other countries and organizations, and their message spread like a wave across continents.

Engage influencers and opinion leaders. By involving people with influence in society and on social media, the group was able to spread its message to wider target groups and at the same time mobilize support from unexpected quarters.

Create greater awareness. By utilizing various communication methods, from street art to social media, the group was able to quickly reach a wide audience and raise awareness of the problem and its solutions.

In a situation where time was of the essence, these committed individuals showed that by being quick, flexible and creative in their approach, they could influence in a peaceful way. By combining technology, collaboration and engagement in a strategic way, they were able to overcome obstacles and have a significant impact on

development. Their story became an inspiring example of how people, when they fight together, can create change even when the challenges seem insurmountable.

### **Concrete events change the view of the future**

In recent years, the world has been hit by difficult events. The pandemic and the war in Ukraine have affected the entire world's population. These events have required large investments and resources that have shaken the plans for transition towards the Agenda 2030 sustainability goals and also reduced our hope for a good future.

Now imagine if a new unknown threat appears so that fewer and fewer children are born and that it is established that many high-ranking life forms have become sterile. A "pollution" has hit the earth. Can sperm and egg banks contribute to life forms restarting? How does the view of the future change?

In a time of increasing extreme events and change, our view of the future is shaped by a collective journey from concern to responsibility, from self-preservation to compassion and cooperation. Our world has changed, and with it our view of the future has become both a challenge and an opportunity to create a more sustainable and interconnected world.

In a world marked by environmental and climate change, where 2023 stands as a dark record year of extreme events that shake all corners of the earth, a complex story is woven about humanity's experiences and view of the future. Those living in the hardest hit areas struggle daily against increasing threats and overwhelming challenges. Their view of the future is a mixture of strong determination and a disturbing fragility, defying fate and fighting for survival with a force fueled by necessity and hope for change.

At the same time, the areas that are not immediately affected by the extreme events are also affected. For them, prospects face a complex mosaic of insight, awareness, and moral obligation. They watch from a distance as others suffer and are forced to face the ethical and practical questions surrounding their own role in shaping a more sustainable future. Although they do not experience the same immediate threats, they are nonetheless creating a new vision of the future—one that emphasizes the importance of collaboration, innovation, and taking responsibility for the planet's well-being.

This collision of perspectives creates a story of human resilience (the ability to resist and cope with a change) and cohesion. It is a reminder that we all share the same planet and are connected by its destinies. With 2023 a relentless reminder of nature's power and our vulnerability, the story extends far beyond this year, challenging us to redefine our view of the future, act collectively and shape a better world for generations to come.

#### Sweden's Prime Minister on holiday



At dawn, the first rays of the sun broke through the mysterious mist that swept over the surrounding lakes and forests at the small cabin in Yellowknife, Canada. A magical feeling was in the air, but the idyllic mood was abruptly broken by a disturbing message from the authorities, which reached Ulf Kristersson and his wife Birgitta. They realized that they had found themselves in the middle of a natural disaster that shook the entire area and threatened their own safety. The 20,000 inhabitants of the city now received evacuation orders. By noon the following day, everyone would have left the city. The city management could not take responsibility for those who refused.

Evacuation plans were in full swing, but the airports could not handle everyone. Those most in need of help, such as women with small children and the elderly who were not fully healthy, were prioritized for evacuation by plane. Ulf and his wife realized they had no choice. They would have to get to the nearest evacuation center and settlement, which was over 1,000 kilometers away, by car. Before departure, everyone leaving the city passed a registration center where they were told to bring a teenager and her grandmother on the trip.

During the journey, it became increasingly clear how nature had been affected by merciless fires and smoke along the only road between the city and the evacuation center. The threat was tangible and the risk was high. The grueling journey required 36 hours of endurance and several stops due to the thick smoke that hung in the air.

On arrival at the evacuation center, Ulf was met by people who had been forced to break up and who now faced an uncertain future. The eyes of those affected told stories of loss and hope. Their stories were full of despair. This experience reinforced the realization that climate change was not a distant danger, but an ongoing crisis that affects everyone, regardless of social position.

Ulf's meeting with the affected and the stressful journey through the fog of the forest fires changed his perspective on climate change. He realized that decisive action and sustainable solutions were of the utmost importance. Listening to experts and investing in adaptation technologies became essential to meet this challenge. This experience became a key to reshaping his view of leadership and strengthening his determination to lead the country towards a more sustainable future.

When the prime minister returned to Sweden, he brought with him a deep-rooted change in how he saw his role as a leader. The climate issue was no longer something that could be postponed to the future. With his eyes open to the seriousness of climate change, he was determined to act to make a positive difference. The challenging 1,000 km journey from Yellowknife to the evacuation center was a turning point in his life, and he was determined to use his position to make real change through his leadership for both his country and the entire planet.

People have the ability to transform knowledge they already have through concrete, strong experiences where the parts of the brain that touch emotional life are also active. Research has known this for a long time. Should we put all the world leaders in a conference venue that has the same situation as Yellowknife in Canada?

***Then maybe we would get completely different priorities in politics than those that exist today?***

***But***

***It is we voters who decide how politicians should prioritize in democracies.***

**Chapter 29**

**Ecological footprint**



Ecological footprint calculations are not based on actual footprints in nature, but use consumption and production statistics to estimate how much of the planet's renewable capacity is needed to produce everything we consume and absorb the waste that is produced. In the Living Planet Report, WWF regularly reports how the footprint of humanity and the various countries is developing, while showing the effects on biodiversity. If everyone lived like we do in Sweden, about 4 planets would be needed.

### Live within 1.0 footprint?

One day you wake up in beautiful Sweden and feel a strong calling to live in harmony with nature. Your goal is simple but deeply rooted in ecological sustainability. You open your window and breathe in the fresh air, knowing that every breath is connected to the health of the planet. Today it will happen after two weeks of preparation.

To meet this goal of ecological sustainability, start your day by making conscious choices. Instead of quickly throwing on clothes from the latest fast fashion collection you carefully select garments that are made of sustainable materials and produced with minimal environmental impact. You realize that every choice you make regarding clothing has a direct connection to the global textile industry's impact on the environment.

Your breakfast is a composition of local and organic foods. You take the time to explore the local producers to support locally produced food and reduce the impact of transport. Every bite is a conscious act to reduce the ecological footprint.

Transport is another important factor in your quest for sustainability. You choose the bicycle over the car and public transport whenever possible. Every trip becomes an opportunity to reduce carbon dioxide emissions and promote a more sustainable lifestyle.

Your home is also a place where you take responsibility. Solar panels adorn the roof, and you've invested in energy-efficient appliances. The awareness that every kilowatt you use directly affects the planet's resources drives you to be frugal and efficient.

After a day of conscious choices, you settle down to relax. You choose to lose yourself in a book instead of devouring hours in front of a TV or computer. Less energy consumption and less electronic waste are part of your quest for ecological sustainability.

When you reflect on the day, you feel a sense of satisfaction. You realize that through your actions, step by step, you are on your way to reducing your ecological footprint. If everyone in Sweden lived like you, we would be approaching a sustainable way of existing on this planet. Living in harmony with nature is not just a goal, it's your lifestyle.

### **35,000 SEK to consume per month.**

Meet Erik, a man with a newfound commitment to reducing his ecological footprint. With SEK 35,000 in consumption space per month, he faces the challenge of reshaping his lifestyle 1.0 ecological footprint. A journey that requires creativity, awareness and some sacrifices.

First of all, Erik takes a closer look at his housing situation. He is considering the possibility of moving closer to his work to reduce the impact of the commute. By changing to a smaller home, perhaps even considering shared accommodation, he can both reduce his housing costs and reduce energy consumption.

Erik's next step is to think about his food. He decides to cut back on his meat intake and instead focus on a plant-based diet. Shopping locally and growing your own vegetables becomes a priority. By reducing his dependence on foods with a high carbon dioxide impact, Erik can significantly reduce his ecological footprint.

Transport is another aspect of Erik's life that needs change. He is considering selling his car and instead rely on cycling, public transport and shared transport. Every trip becomes not only an adventure but also a step towards reducing carbon dioxide emissions.

When it comes to clothes, Erik realizes that he doesn't need to constantly follow the latest trends. Instead of buying clothes impulsively, he chooses to invest in durable, high-quality garments that last longer. He also explores second-hand shops and swaps clothes with friends to reduce his footprint in the fashion industry.

Erik also makes changes in his home. By installing solar panels, using energy-efficient appliances and being careful to turn off the lights when they are not needed, he significantly reduces his energy consumption.

Finally, to balance his lifestyle transformation, Erik is looking for community and support. He participates in local environmental groups and engages in community projects that promote sustainability. By inspiring and being inspired by others, he realizes that every individual action has a collective impact.

Erik discovers that change is not only about sacrifices, but also about creating a richer and more meaningful lifestyle. With SEK 35,000 as financial space and a will to make a difference, he is on his way to living in harmony with the planet.

### **60,000 SEK per month at 1.0 footprint**

The Larsson family, consisting of two adults and their two children, faces the challenge of reshaping their consumption habits to achieve a 1.0 ecological footprint with a monthly budget of SEK 60,000. Aware of the need for sustainability and inspired by a desire to leave

a healthy planet to their children, they are making concerted efforts to make significant changes in their lifestyles.

First, the family looks at their accommodation. They are considering the possibility of downsizing their home to a smaller, more energy-efficient version. By investing in energy-efficient appliances and improving insulation, they reduce their energy consumption.

Eating habits are the next area for change. The family switches to a mainly plant-based diet and reduces their meat intake. They are starting to shop more local and organic, and are even planting some vegetables in the garden to further reduce their footprint. It will not only be a fun project for the children, but also a learning experience about sustainability.

Transportation becomes a key aspect for the family. They are considering replacing their car with an electric car or using public transport and cycling more often. Weekend trips become opportunities to explore the local area instead of taking long car journeys.

For clothes, it will be a combination of second-hand shopping and investing in sustainable clothing brands. By changing and reusing clothes, as well as being aware of material choices, the family reduces its footprint in the fashion industry.

In the home, they install solar panels to take advantage of renewable energy and replace traditional light bulbs with energy-efficient LED lights. The children are involved in turning off unnecessary electronic devices and lights to learn about energy efficiency.

The Larsson family is also reviewing their leisure activities. Instead of buying new toys or gadgets, they explore nature together, attend local events, and invest in experiences over material possessions.

At the same time, they get involved in local sustainability projects and participate in local community efforts to reduce their collective footprint. It becomes an opportunity to build community and inspire others to make similar changes.

By making these adjustments and being aware of their choices, the Larsson family creates an environmentally friendly lifestyle. With a budget of SEK 60,000, they show that sustainable choices are not only possible, but also accessible and enriching for the whole family.

### **The lifestyle with 60,000 for consumption**

The Larsson family had long lived a comfortable and well-ordered lifestyle. Raised in a time of economic growth and abundance, they had gradually adapted to the surrounding consumer culture without carefully reflecting on the consequences of their choices.

It all started with their home. The dream of the bigger house in the exclusive area became a matter of course as careers flourished and incomes increased. Without hesitation, they invested in the spacious home with all modern conveniences, from an extra room for each family member to the large, well-tended garden that invited luxurious garden parties.

Food became a taste experience and a status symbol for the Larsson family. They enjoyed international cuisine, exotic ingredients and restaurant visits became a regular part of their lives.

Shopping quickly and conveniently became a priority, and they felt that price was not an issue when it came to quality and convenience.

The family's lifestyle was also reflected in their travel habits. Exotic holidays, weekend trips and adventure excursions became part of their DNA. Exploring the world was a matter of course, and they flew first class to maximize comfort during their travels.

Fashion was another aspect where the Larsson family kept pace with the trends. They bought clothes from high-profile brands and followed the latest trends. The clothes were not only garments, but also expressions of their social status and individual taste.

The car was obviously of the latest model and was used extensively for all kinds of errands, from quick grocery shopping to long car journeys. The thought of reducing the number of vehicles or considering alternative modes of transport was not something that had crossed their minds.

This high level of consumption had become the norm for the Larsson family, a lifestyle they lived in without question. It was only when they began to reflect on the health of the planet and the effects of their lifestyle on the environment that they realized the need for a change. With insight and a desire to contribute to a more sustainable future, they began to evaluate and adjust their consumption habits to reduce their ecological footprint. It became a journey towards a more conscious and responsible lifestyle for the Larsson family.

### **Embracing a lifestyle**

The change in the Larsson family's lifestyle began as a silent walk, a creeping pressure from the society around them that slowly but surely began to guide them towards a more sustainable future. It was as if a collective consciousness had crept into their everyday life and questioned the conventions they had followed for so long.

It was the neighbors who started exchanging experiences on sustainability, discussing the advantages of solar panels and exchanging tips on growing their own vegetables. The Larssons felt a new kind of community, one that wasn't just about sharing fences and lawns, but about sharing a desire to make a difference.

At school, the children began to be taught about environmental issues and sustainability. They came home with enthusiasm and a curiosity that rubbed off on the parents. Suddenly it became natural to talk about climate change at the dinner table and to explore what they could do as a family to reduce their ecological footprint.

Social media became a platform where the Larsson family saw not only friends and acquaintances' updates on their lifestyle, but also a stream of information about sustainable initiatives, simple lifestyle changes and inspiring stories from people around the world who were taking small steps towards a greener future.

It was as if sustainability had become a trend, a trend that was not about consumption and abundance, but about conscious choices and community. Influencers shared their own journeys towards sustainability and inspired others to do the same. The Larssons saw these stories as small sparks of change that, when collected, could ignite a new way of life.

In their local community group, they heard about projects and events that promoted sustainability. Neighbors organized joint efforts to recycle and reduce waste, and suddenly the Larsson family was

part of a movement. They began to realize that their choices not only affected themselves but also contributed to a larger positive change.

It was as if society had given them a subtle mission, a call to be part of the solution rather than the problem. The Larsson family, drawn by the spirit of the community and the growing commitment around them, embraced with joy and enthusiasm the opportunity to reshape their lifestyle to make it more sustainable. It was not just a change for them, but a collective response to the overall mission of caring for the planet for future generations.

### **The politicians about consuming more**

Storytelling is like a game where the politicians are the masters and the citizens are their opponents. In this game, the message is a powerful piece that moves across the board and controls people's thoughts and actions.

Imagine that politicians have a magic wand that they wave and whisper in people's ears: "Consume more, my friend". "It is the key to happiness and success." This charming formula begins to seep into people's minds like an enticing melody that they cannot resist.

Soon people begin to measure their own worth by the things they own. The more gadgets, the more successful and satisfied you feel. The politicians' message becomes like an inner voice whispering, "You need this new, shiny object to be happy." And so begins the pursuit of happiness through consumption.

It is as if society dances to the tune of the politicians. Department stores and shopping malls become temples where people sacrifice their money to satisfy the ever-growing hunger created by the politicians. It's like a never-ending circle of desire, where the politicians' message is the conductor and the people are the orchestra.

But beneath the surface, a conflict is bubbling. People begin to ask themselves if they are truly free or if they are just following an invisible conductor. They feel trapped in one consumption trap, but the politicians' message is so embedded in their consciousness that it is difficult to break free.

It becomes like a battle between two forces: on the one hand the politicians' seductive message of abundance and on the other the common sense of people whispering, "Do I really need this to be happy?"

So, the story of how people are affected by politicians' constant message to consume more becomes like a dramatic journey through the soul of society, where each individual struggles to find the balance between their own well-being and the alluring call of the politicians' wand.

### **The task and role of the media to change trends and lifestyles**

Public service has an important task and role when it comes to influencing trends and lifestyles. By acting as a platform for information, education and cultural influence, public service can play a key role in promoting sustainable lifestyles and conscious consumption.

First, it is through news reporting and documentaries that public service has the opportunity to highlight global environmental challenges and promote awareness of sustainability. By reporting on the consequences of overconsumption, climate change and other environmental issues, they can inspire viewers to reflect on their own habits.

In the form of educational programs and information campaigns, public service can provide viewers with the tools and knowledge needed to make sustainable choices. It can be anything from explaining the benefits of renewable energy sources to showing how you can reduce your ecological footprint through small everyday changes.

By integrating sustainability into entertainment programs and series, public service can also influence cultural norms and trends. Characters who live sustainably, dialogues that discuss environmental issues, and positive representations of sustainable choices can all contribute to making sustainability part of the cultural identity.

Public service also has the opportunity to collaborate with other sectors, such as business and educational institutions, to create a holistic view of sustainability. By promoting collaboration and dialogue, they can contribute to creating a culture where sustainability is prioritized throughout society.

In addition, the public service can use its own internal processes and resources to reduce its own impact on the environment and act as an example for others. By demonstrating concrete measures, such as reducing energy consumption and using resources efficiently, they can inspire others to follow suit.

In summary, public service has an important role in shaping and influencing society's trends and lifestyles. By using their channels for information, education and cultural influence, they can contribute to creating an awareness of sustainability and promote positive changes in society.

## **80 countries raised living standards to footprint 1.0**

In a future where the health of the planet is a global concern, some 80 countries made a collective decision to strive towards a sustainable standard of living within Ecological Footprint 1.0. It was an epoch-making agreement in which these nations realized that raising the standard of living did not have to be at the expense of the planet, but rather in harmony with it.

In this global consensus, technological innovations and knowledge exchange became fundamental tools. Countries started investing in green technology and renewable energy sources to meet their energy needs without overusing the planet's resources. Parks with solar panels dotted the landscape, wind turbines danced on the horizon and hydroelectric plants became a source of clean energy.

Education and awareness became an important part of this journey. In schools and communities, children and adults learned about the principles of sustainability, and the citizens themselves became active agents of change. Community projects and community initiatives for self-sufficiency flourished, and people shared their knowledge of living more sustainably.

The 80 countries prioritize local production and consumption to reduce the impact of transport and promote business within its borders. Local markets became hubs of economic activity, and small-scale agriculture flourished to meet the needs of a growing population without impoverishing Earth's resources.

A change in consumption habits was central to this transition. People began to value quality over quantity and bought consciously and sustainably. Sharing economy and reuse became the norm, and products were designed to be durable and easy to repair.

Urban planning underwent a transformation. Public transport and cycling were prioritized, green areas were created to preserve biodiversity and buildings were designed for energy efficiency. Cities came alive as an example of a sustainable future, where people could live and work without harming the environment.

In this global collaboration, the countries' economies were transformed from being dependent on non-renewable resources to being drivers of innovation and sustainability. Investments in research and development led to breakthroughs in green technologies, and entrepreneurship flourished in sectors that supported sustainable solutions.

This journey towards a standard of living within Footprint 1.0 was a collective achievement that not only gave people a higher quality of life but also preserved the planet's resources for future generations. It became an example for the rest of the world to follow, an inspiring story of how national borders could be overcome to create a common and sustainable future.

### **Same footprint for countries**

In a world where equality and sustainability were in focus, rich countries decided to rethink their consumption habits and resource utilization to make room for global justice. At the same time, they recognized the need to support poor countries in their efforts to raise living standards and fulfill basic human rights.

Meet Anna, a conscious citizen of one of the rich countries. She realized that her lifestyle, with an abundance of consumption and a high ecological footprint, had consequences for both the planet and people in other parts of the world. With a desire to change and support global justice, Anna began to reshape her way of life.

Anna started by reducing her personal ecological footprint. She switched to a plant-based diet, reduced her travel and invested in sustainable products. It was not only a change in her lifestyle but also a conscious choice to reduce the impact on global resources.

At the same time, the government of the rich country opened up to support sustainable initiatives. Taxes stimulated green investment, and incentives were given to companies that adopted environmentally friendly practices. It became clear that economic decisions could have a positive impact on both the planet and people's lives.

The rich countries also began to actively share technological expertise and research to help poorer countries develop sustainably. Through international cooperation projects, knowledge about renewable energy sources, agricultural techniques and water purification technology was shared to strengthen the poor countries' ability to meet their basic needs themselves.

In a fictional situation, the governments of rich countries decided to set aside part of their budgets to support global sustainability projects. This financial assistance was directed not only at infrastructure but also at education and capacity building, creating long-term and sustainable change in poor countries.

Poor countries, which now had access to sustainable technologies and resources, could begin to raise their living standards. Better water supply, education and access to clean energy became a reality for people who previously fought for their basic human rights.

Anna and people like her in rich countries realized that sustainability and global justice were intertwined. By reducing the ecological footprint in the rich countries and at the same time supporting sustainable development in poorer countries, it became possible to create a balance that benefits all of humanity and the planet. It was a story about cooperation, responsibility and the pursuit of a more just world.

### **Consciousness and knowledge about the impact of environmental and climate change on our lifestyle**

In a small town called Gröndal, there lived a group of people who were busy with their everyday lives. It was a place where the street sweeper shared the sidewalk with the lawyer and where the cafe owner knew every resident by name. But despite the idyllic surface, there was an uneasiness in the air, an uneasiness just waiting to be brought to life.

One day a young woman named Emma came to "Gröndal". She carried a backpack filled with facts, inspiration and a burning desire to make a change. Emma knew that the people in Gröndal didn't have time to sit down and read thick reports about climate change. So instead, she decided to tell their story in a way that would make them think and act.

She started by organizing a large open-air cinema in the city's park. The residents were curious and gathered on the lawn under the stars. Emma had created a film that told the story of Gröndal and how environmental changes affected their lifestyle, from the changing seasons to the increasing price of locally grown vegetables.

After the film, Emma surprised them by inviting local environmental experts and farmers to share their experiences. They talked about simple ways to reduce the carbon footprint, such as growing your own vegetables, reducing meat consumption and using renewable energy. Emma showed that small changes in everyday life could actually make a big difference.

But Emma didn't stop there. She organized "Green Tuesdays", where businesses and local shops offered discounts on environmentally friendly products every week. The city became a mecca for recycling and cycling, and soon green initiatives were flourishing everywhere.

People began to understand that their actions, even the small ones, had a direct impact on the environment and the climate. Gröndal gradually transformed into a city where conscious choices were a natural part of everyday life.

It all started with a young woman with a backpack and a story that touched the heart. It showed that change doesn't have to be difficult or boring. Sometimes it's enough to arouse curiosity and inspire people to act, and that's exactly what Emma did in little Gröndal.

Emma's initiative in Gröndal grew like a green seed and spread across the country like a wave of change. The news of the small town changing its lifestyle to save the environment quickly caught the attention of the media and the public. Here is the story of how Gröndal's green movement became a national inspiration:

#### **Media coverage and social media:**

Local and national media were captivated by the inspiring story of Gröndal. Reporters wrote articles, conducted interviews and created reports about the small town that made big changes. Images and videos spread like wildfire on social media, and people across the country began sharing their own ideas and initiatives.

#### **National campaign and collaboration:**

Inspired by Gröndal, environmental organizations and companies started national campaigns to encourage other cities to follow their example. They created collaborations with celebrities and influencers to raise awareness and engage a wider audience. Gröndal's green progress became a symbol of a sustainable lifestyle.

#### **Political support and legislation:**

Politicians and decision-makers in different parts of the country took Gröndal's initiative as a model for promoting environmentally friendly behaviour. This led to several cities and municipalities adopting similar measures and creating incentives for citizens to live longer and sustainably. National laws and guidelines also began to take shape to support an overall climate-friendly strategy.

#### **Education and Awareness:**

Schools and universities integrated Gröndal's history into their curricula to teach about environmentally friendly choices and their impact on society. Educational programs and workshops were created to spread knowledge about sustainability, and lecturers traveled around the country to share Gröndal's success story.

#### **Local involvement:**

Grassroots movements and local organizations were started across the country to promote environmental awareness and sustainable behaviours. People were inspired to get involved in their own communities and affect change at a local level. It became a popular movement where every individual felt involved in the greater goal of saving the planet.

Gröndal eventually became not just a city but a symbol of the whole of Sweden's quest for a sustainable future. What began as a local story of change became an inspiring national anthem for a greener and more conscious nation.

### **Feelings when you are forced to leave your lifestyle**

Leaving your established lifestyle can be like throwing yourself into the unknown, like

abandoning a safe harbor for an uncertain sea. It can evoke a variety of emotions, and each individual reacts to change in their own way. Here are some of the feelings that people may experience when they are forced to leave their current lifestyle:

**Uncertainty:** Change often means uncertainty, and leaving your established lifestyle can feel like losing ground under your feet. The uncertainty about the future and how the new elections will affect can create a feeling of insecurity.

**Grief:** Leaving something behind, be it a habit, a place or a lifestyle, can trigger feelings of grief. It's like saying goodbye to an old friend and giving thanks for the familiar routines.

**Resistance:** People can feel resistance to change, even if they know it is for the better. It can be difficult to break away from established patterns and comforts, and the internal battle between the old and the new can be stressful.

**Excitement:** On the other hand, change can also evoke feelings of excitement and adventure. The opportunity to explore something new and discover unexpected sides of life can be a powerful driving force.

**Guilt:** If the change is linked to reducing the impact on the environment or improving society, people may feel guilty for their past behavior. This can be a double challenge when struggling to accept both change and dealing with feelings of guilt.

**Hope:** Despite the challenges and emotional roller coaster that change can bring, it can also create a sense of hope. Hope about that makes a difference, hope for a better future and hope to create meaningful changes in one's own life and in the world.

Leaving your lifestyle can be a complex journey filled with conflicting emotions, but it is also an opportunity for personal growth and a positive impact on the world around you.

### Change lifestyle reactions

Changing lifestyle can trigger different reactions and actions depending on a person's attitude and perspective. Here are some possible scenarios based on different attitudes:

**Enthusiastic customization:**

- **Actions:** The person embraces the change with enthusiasm and actively engages in adapting their lifestyle. They may start growing their own vegetables, buy environmentally friendly products and become advocates of sustainable behaviour.
- **Effects:** This attitude can lead to a positive impact on the person's own health and the environment. In addition, enthusiasm can be contagious and inspire others to make similar changes.

#### Resistance and belittling:

- *Actions:* The person resists change and downplays the need to adapt their lifestyle. They continue to live as usual and dismiss environmentally friendly measures as excessive or unnecessary.
- *Effects:* The resistance can lead to a continued burden on the environment and perhaps even the person's health. It can also contribute to delaying joint efforts to solve environmental challenges.

#### Confusion and uncertainty:

- *Actions:* The person feels overwhelmed by the information about lifestyle changes. They may be taking small steps in the direction of sustainability but are unsure of which measures will really make a difference.
- *Effects:* The changes may be gradual and small, and the person may experience an increased awareness of their choices. However, the confusion may remain and prevent them from making more significant changes.

#### Anxiety and guilt:

- *Actions:* The person feels strong anxiety and guilt about their previous lifestyle. They may overcompensate by making drastic changes, such as completely eliminating certain products from their lives or overexerting themselves.
- *Effects:* Despite good intentions, excessive measures can be difficult to sustain and lead to emotional burnout. It is important for the person to find a balance between responsibility and well-being.

#### Gradual and conscious adaptation:

- *Actions:* People are taking small, gradual steps towards a more sustainable lifestyle. They make changes at their own pace, perhaps by making conscious purchases, reducing waste and using more environmentally friendly modes of transport.
- *Effects:* This method can be sustainable in the long term and integrate smoothly into the person's life. It can create a stable foundation for long-term changes and contribute to a positive impact on the environment.

Each person's journey towards adapting their lifestyle is unique, and the outcome depends on the individual's attitudes, motivation and ability to cope with change.

## The divining ball



United Nations General Assembly, World Leaders Conference in New York,  
18-22 september 2023

### Main results

European Council President Charles Michel spoke on behalf of the EU at the 78th session of the General Assembly on 21 September 2023.

#### International opportunities and the UN Charter

The EU is fully engaged in a world that cooperates and moves forward towards democracy and human rights, but with lack of trust in global organizations and international agreements. But in the face of several global crises such as Russia's war on Ukraine, the climate crisis and the fight against global poverty and inequality, Michel emphasized in his speech to the General Assembly that the global system is stuck in a rut and believes it is moving forward even though it is being eroded.

The UN governance system has become dysfunctional. The system needs to be reformed to make it fairer and more inclusive.

To address the most pressing issues and get international influence back on track, President Michel called for repairing the UN system and reforming the UN Charter by:

- change the right of veto in the UN Security Council
- improve the representativeness of the UN Security Council by including regional organizations and countries from underrepresented regions

**By and large, world leaders failed to speed up the pace of change towards the Agenda 2030 sustainability goals.**

**The next major international gathering will be The UN's climate meeting, COP 28, 30 November to 12 December in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. There, the countries of the world will negotiate the global climate agreement.**

If there is as little progress as in Egypt in 2022, the future will be bleak. Without the concrete decisions that absolutely must be made, the self-regulating forces within the environment and climate will leave us with no chance. Billions of people will be forced to give up everything and become climate refugees towards an unsafe and temporary place of residence where the climate and environment still allow us to live.

### ***Life in Spain at +2°***

In that case, the future outlook will be this already in 2040 at +2° higher average temperature in the worst affected parts of Spain. In a time marked by the climate crisis, Spain, which already has a warm climate, would face serious challenges and changes in both the environment and people's lifestyles.

**Environmental impact:** The already dry areas of Spain would dry out even more, increasing the spread of the desert. The land would become dry and infertile, which would negatively affect agriculture and lead to reduced food production.

**Forests:** High temperature and drought would increase the risk of forest fires. Large areas of forest would turn into fire areas, threatening biodiversity and endangering wildlife and ecosystems.

**Water scarcity:** Reduced rainfall amounts and higher evaporation would lead to water scarcity. Rivers and groundwater resources would decrease, affecting agriculture, industries and drinking water supplies.

**Sea level rise:** Spain's coastal areas would be particularly vulnerable to sea level rise. Cities along the coast would be at risk of flooding and erosion, leading to loss of property and infrastructure.

### ***Impact on humans:***

**Health problems:** The high temperatures would make everyday life more difficult. People would be more prone to heatstroke and other heat-related illnesses. Air pollution, especially in the cities, would worsen the health problems.

**Loss of livelihood:** Agriculture, which is an important industry in Spain, would be hit hard. Reduced harvests and water shortages would lead to unemployment and economic insecurity for farmers and workers in the agricultural sector.

**Migration flows:** The least affected areas could see an increase in climate refugees. People from areas that have been affected by even more severe climate change may seek shelter in Spain, which would put pressure on the existing social structure and the country's resources.

Increased economic uncertainty: Economic sectors dependent on natural resources, such as fishing and tourism, would also be adversely affected. Tourism would decrease due to the extreme weather and the changing environment.

In conclusion, a temperature increase of +2 degrees Celsius in the worst affected parts of Spain would result in a serious crisis affecting both the environment and people's quality of life. Actions to adapt to climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions would be essential to mitigate these negative effects and prevent the situation from becoming even worse.

### **A very personal story**

I remember a time when Spain was a land of beauty and abundance. Our green landscapes were a constant reminder of nature's generosity, and my little community lived in harmony with the beautiful surroundings. But then came the merciless climate change, and everything we loved began to disappear.

Desert Spread: My homeland, once lush and filled with green hills, had now become a desert. Farming, which my family had been doing for generations, was struggling to survive. My parents' farm, where I had learned to farm and care for the soil, was now devastated by a drought we had never experienced before. The harvest was miserable, and the food began to run out. Our crops died in the scorching sun, and I couldn't help but think of the old stories of the lush soil that was once ours.

Forest fire risk: The forests I had once loved to explore were now a constant time bomb. The heat and drought made forest fires a constant danger. Every summer we held our breath and prayed not to see the smoke in the distance. The fear of losing our homes and possessions was overwhelming, and we were always ready to evacuate if the fire got closer.

Water shortage: Having access to clean water was a luxury we could no longer take for granted. The nearby rivers, which had once supplied us with fresh water, had dried up into small streams. We needed to prioritize water use and save every drop. Sometimes we had to walk long distances to collect water from the few springs that were still available. It was a reminder of how vulnerable we were to the forces of nature.

Sea Level Rise: My relatives and friends who lived near the coast experienced flooding that threatened their homes. They fought to protect their properties, but sea level rise was relentless. Many were forced to abandon their homes and flee to safer places, which was painful to see.

Health problems: Summers were a pain with constant heat waves. Being outdoors without shelter was dangerous, and many suffered from heatstroke and other heat-related illnesses. Air pollution from fires and industry made breathing difficult, and our hospitals were overflowing with people fighting the health problems caused by climate change.

Loss of livelihood: My family and neighbors struggled to survive financially. Our income from farming dropped dramatically, and it became increasingly difficult to support our families and

pay the bills. Many of us considered leaving our beloved country in search of better opportunities.

Migration flows: Our surroundings saw an increase in climate refugees from other affected areas. It was a reminder of how global climate change was affecting even remote communities. We tried to help them as best we could, but our resources were scarce.

Increased economic uncertainty: Businesses and businesses in our nearest town were struggling to survive. Many closed down due to the extreme climate conditions and increased costs for energy and water. Unemployment was high, and our financial future was uncertain.

In this dystopian reality, it was hard to see any hope. But in the midst of all this misery, we struggled to survive and tried to find solutions to the problems that the climate crisis had created. We knew there was no easy way out of this dark future, but we refused to give up hope of saving what was left of our world. We supported each other and collaborated to find ways to adapt to the changing conditions and hopefully one day contribute to slowing climate change.

### ***Life in Italy at +3°***

In a time marked by the climate crisis, where Italy had been hit hard by a temperature increase of +3 degrees Celsius, I found myself in a dystopian reality that I could never have imagined. I was a farmer in one of the worst affected areas of Italy, and my life had changed in ways I could never have predicted.

The environment around me had undergone a drastic change. The green hills that once graced the landscape were now brown and dry, as if nature itself had lost hope. The forests had turned into fire areas, and the diversity of plant life had declined dramatically. There was a sad silence in the air, and many of the animals that had once been part of our ecosystem were no more.

Climate change was a constant reminder of our vulnerability. The summers were a torment with constant heat waves where the thermometer often exceeded 40° Celsius. It was dangerous to stay outdoors without protection, and many suffered from heatstroke and other heat-related illnesses. The spring and fall were marred by intense rains and floods that forced people to flee their homes and lose property.

Poverty and ill health had become our everyday life. Our harvests were miserable due to drought and extreme weather conditions, and food prices skyrocketed. Queuing for hours to access clean water was a constant problem, and hospitals were overcrowded with people suffering from climate-related illnesses. Climate refugees from areas that had been hit even harder than us poured into our already overcrowded cities, and resources were scarce.

The water shortage was acute. The nearby rivers had dried up, and groundwater levels were dropping rapidly. What water remained was often contaminated, and we struggled to find safe sources. Washing, hygiene and sanitation that worked had become luxuries that were no longer self-evident.

The air was stifling and polluted. Smog covered the cities like a gray blanket, and we had to wear protective masks to breathe. Lung diseases and other health problems caused by air pollution were becoming more common, and the health care system was overburdened.

The economy was in ruins. Unemployment was high, and many businesses had gone bankrupt due to the extreme climatic conditions and the increased costs of energy and water. Our income was low, and it was a daily struggle to make ends meet.

In this dark future it was hard to see any hope. The harmony of nature had been broken, and man was forced to pay the price for his actions. We had lost a lot, both in terms of our environment and our health, and it seemed like we were in an inexorable downward spiral. But in the midst of all this misery, there were some of us who were struggling to survive and trying to find solutions to the problems that the climate crisis had created. We knew there was no easy way out of this dark future, but we refused to give up hope of saving what was left of our world.

In this time of climate crisis, I found myself as one of those who faced a difficult decision: to remain in the dystopian landscape that Italy had become at +3° Celsius temperature increase, or to leave and seek a better future elsewhere .

I had a close friend, Marco, who had come to the same point in life. He and I had farmed our lands together for many years, and we had shared both successes and setbacks. Now, as the world around us collapsed, we had different opinions on how to handle the situation.

Marco was determined to stay. He argued that our bond with our country and our roots were irreplaceable. He did not want to abandon the markers that had been in his family's possession for generations, even if they had turned into a dry and desolate place. He argued that we as farmers had a duty to try to restore our lands and fight for our community, despite the terrible conditions.

On the other hand, I was convinced that there was no longer any future for us here. I had seen our crops fail year after year and our water sources theirs drastically. Our children no longer had the opportunity for a good education or a secure future in this desolate landscape. I tried to convince Marco that we had to leave, look for a life elsewhere where the conditions were more favorable.

We had our heated discussions, sometimes with tears in our eyes, and sometimes in total silence when we realized that we would not be able to convince each other. Marco didn't want to abandon his home, and I didn't want to sacrifice my family's future. So in the end we came to the painful conclusion that we must go our separate ways.

I decided to seek refuge for my family and myself. I had heard of countries where they had invested in sustainable solutions and where the climate crisis had been dealt with more effectively. I was prepared to struggle and work hard to build a new life in a foreign place.

Marco, on the other hand, chose to stay behind and continue fighting in his homeland. He said goodbye to me with a hug and wished me luck. We had different views on the future, but we had always respected each other's decisions.

It was a painful separation, but we both realized that we had made the decisions we thought were best for ourselves and our families. In a world where the climate crisis had upended everything we knew, there were no longer any easy answers or right or wrong decisions. We just had to follow our own hearts and hope that we would find what we were looking for, wherever and in our own way

When my family and I decided to leave Italy and seek a better future elsewhere, we were aware of the challenges that awaited us. While we had previously struggled against the devastating effects of the climate crisis, now our new homeland, Sweden, would become our sanctuary and our beginning of a new life.

We were not alone in our determination to leave our homeland. Climate refugees from all over the world poured into Sweden, where the authorities had tried to deal with the large numbers of people seeking protection and a better future. The situation was complex, and Sweden faced a huge challenge when it came to integrating and providing support to those who came.

For us, as farmers from Italy, it was not obvious to find work and housing right away. We had a dream to continue farming, but it would take time and adaptation to the Swedish conditions. The authorities in Sweden had a program set up to support climate refugees with education and professional development in areas that had a positive impact on the environment. This gave us hope that we could rebuild our lives and contribute to the sustainability of our new society.

It was not easy to adapt to the Swedish culture and climate, but we felt welcome and supported by our new neighbors and society. The integration was a challenge, but we realized that we had made the right decision for our children's future. We were convinced that Sweden, with its resources and focus on the environment and sustainability, was the right place for us to build a new life.

While we continued our fight against the climate crisis and the challenges it brought, we felt that we had taken the first step towards a better future. We had come to Sweden hoping to give our children a safer and more sustainable future, and we were prepared to do whatever it took to make that possible.

It was not an easy journey, and we knew we would face difficulties along the way. But our determination and hope to build a better future for ourselves and our children was stronger

than ever. We had left our dystopian reality in Italy behind and bet on a new beginning in Sweden, and we hoped that this decision would turn out to be the right one in the long run.

## Summation

Now we have turned over all the stones to try to understand how we can get a world as close to the one that the visions describe. We have been given fantastic descriptions and stories about the world, but we have also been given too difficult and insurmountable obstacles described. Some obstacles can be overcome.

Unfortunately, we cannot reach the goals/visions through the main gift that humans have when solving contradictions - language - because that resource is not enough and rarely has been enough throughout history.

In addition, we have another gift that is unique to us, to be able to study the past, gain experience from it and apply the knowledge when planning the future. However, this requires the participation of experts and researchers all the way to the finish line in the decision-making processes.

The world leaders now have another opportunity to slow down the warming of the earth at a climate meeting in November 2023. If it is still not recognized that the world is in the middle of a time period where the conditions of all life forms are strongly threatened, then the chances for a manageable future are significantly reduced.

If you also avoid agreeing on necessary decisions at this two-week long meeting, the citizens of the world's democracies cannot continue to passively sit still and watch while the bus loaded with all life forms on earth slowly heads towards "purgatory".

**What is the reason why the world's rulers do not take their responsibility even though the UN chief calls their lack of action criminal?**

**Economic system** does not take into account anything other than the Western world's need for increased growth. This model could not drive development forward for the good of the planet and life forms. The largest study on the impact of the economy on society shows that ever since the 18th century, economic decisions have increased inequality in the world (taking into account the needs of nature was a utopia until 2010). Planetary limits and the needs of all people for established basic needs such as food, water, health care, energy and a fair distribution - to fulfill human rights must be accommodated in the goals of an economic program.

In fact, the West's excessive consumption of resources is the biggest source of stress on the planet. Today, the richest 10 percent of the world's population, and the

production patterns of the companies that produce the goods and services that are purchased, are a very serious problem. By 2030, the global demand for water is expected to increase by 30 percent and the demand for both food and energy by 50 percent.

**The democratic system** has locked decision-making into structures that hinder development towards an ecologically sustainable society.

At the UN conference in September 2023, it was stated that the **veto system** must be changed.

In addition, the sovereignty **of countries** is tied to clear commitments with reprisals.

**The various functions of the democratic system** must be reviewed.

**The political systems** decision-making bases cannot continue to rest on ideas from the 19th century.

**The elected politicians** must undergo a health and fitness test.

**The free market conditions** must be reconsidered.

**Kapitalism** must be regulated in a significant way.

**Freedom of the individual** must be coordinated with the rights and freedoms of the state.

In addition, the analysis shows a **lack of political will and commitment** has great significance for how weakly the goals in Agenda 2030 have been met so far.

Finally, here is an example that shows that it is possible to stop an ongoing change that will lead to a disaster if the right measures are not put in place;

### **The ozone hole ... how we saved the world**

The ozone layer had begun to weaken. In the early 1990s, the average thickness of the ozone layer had decreased by just over 2 percent. Much now indicates that the ozone layer is no longer decreasing and that a recovery is on the way thanks to international agreements to stop producing and using ozone-depleting substances.

## A timely summary of developments

In the 1920s, a scientist made a ground-breaking discovery that threatened life on Earth, even if he only succeeded in making our lives better. He developed Freons that were used as refrigerants in that refrigerator and in advertising was presented as

- Better things for better lives.... with Chemistry

Then came air conditioning and the use of freons which drive gas in all spray cans. The use increased at a record pace and was regarded as - the miracle chemical of the 20th century.

In the 1960s, large protests were held in the United States about, among other things, stronger civil rights legislation, the Vietnam War and environmental issues.

A book on agricultural pesticides, Silent Spring, by Rachel Carson was published and sold more than 500,000 copies and outraged the public and led to the creation of Earth Day. 20,000,000 Americans said; - We don't want to live where we get sick

In 1973, scientists became interested in where these very "long-lived" CFCs went and found them in the atmosphere all over the globe.

In June 1974, the scientists published their conclusions that CFCs destroyed ozone, but no one cared. It was about something invisible and any demonstrable damage to people and the environment could not be demonstrated

Soon, however, came reports that shocked the researchers that worked in this field about the improbably rapid depletion of the ozone layer. It was realized that this development could not continue. After all, it was known that no life arose on Earth until the ozone layer had formed.

After further studies, the researchers decided on a method that went against the tradition and ethics of research; To speak up.

The message was; - If a disaster is to be avoided, we cannot increase the use of chemicals that destroy the ozone layer. Instead, we must reduce the amounts released into the atmosphere.

It was incredible that a scientist, Jerry Rawlings, told politicians what had to be done. He suggested that spray bottles with Freon as a propellant be banned immediately. The major chemical companies produced approximately 100,000,000 tons of CFCs per year.

As usual, the industry fought back -It can lead to the destruction of a good product without scientific support. How dare you scare people? You are destroying America's economy and industry, was, among other things, the industry's argument. The same argument is also used today when it comes to intervening against chemicals or processes that are devastating to life and health.

In February 1975, the issue of CFCs was raised in one of the USA's most famous TV series - All in the Family, and this is considered to be the end of the debate about CFCs in the USA. Oregon was the first state to ban CFCs.

Subsequently, the US government banned CFCs, but only in spray cans. The freons soon continued to increase again

In 1980, Reagan was elected president and environmental work became very weak in the White House and even research was opposed. Eventually, he supported the researcher's conclusions about the harmful effects of CFCs on the ozone layer.

In the early 1980s, scientists were shocked by the report that a hole had formed over Antarctica in the ozone layer that protects the earth from the sun's ultraviolet rays.

For a number of years, Nasa had also researched the ozone layer and documented the changes. The evidence of the harmful effects of CFCs grew more and more and in March 1985 there was international agreement and roughly 50 nations gathered and signed the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer but they did not understand a decision to ban freon. The clock continued to tick.

In 1986, the theory of why the ozone layer was broken down was published, and in the same year, scientists made an expedition to Antarctica. After extensive studies from the ground and also at an altitude of 20 km, the researchers determined that it was freons that, through an unknown chemical process and under special circumstances, destroyed the ozone layer just above Antarctica. There they found the final evidence that the theories were correct

What would be done to save the ozone layer?

In 1987, scientists, politicians from around fifty countries and industry representatives met in Montreal and signed a UN convention to reduce the use of CFCs, the Montreal Protocol.

The EU initially opposed the US proposals for a ban, but eventually accepted the Montreal Protocol in which countries committed to cutting the use of CFCs within 12 years. They signed the Montreal Protocol, the world's first agreement to halt environmental change.

The Montreal Protocol was formulated in 1987 to ban CFCs. Margaret Thatcher managed to convince world leaders of the seriousness of the situation based on scientific grounds. She was a chemist by profession and could give clear and coherent explanations, she showed a peculiar political will and a great commitment to this issue. No other politician would probably have been able to push through a unanimous political decision on prohibition.

In 1987, a few weeks after the Montreal meeting, a NASA plane full of scientific equipment and researchers flew into the ozone hole. There, a low level of ozone and a high level of chlorine were measured, and thereby decisive evidence was obtained.

Thanks to Margaret Thatcher, the Montreal Protocol received financial support and all countries signed it.

The research managers of one of America's largest chemical companies believed that a total shutdown of production would be required, and the company declared that the scientific evidence was clear and that it would phase out CFCs. Then Accepted man the scientific evidence after fighting a ban for 14 years. They even said they would end production but did not say when.

In 1995, three researchers, Mario Molina, F. Sherwood Rowland and Paul Crutzen, who were active in Sweden, won the Nobel Prize in Chemistry for his work with freons and the ozone layer.

How would the world cope without freons? The Environmental Protection Agency in the USA was tasked with finding replacements for freons.

After the ban on freons, new gases "so-called soft freons" were researched, which do not damage the ozone layer, but now it has been established that they drive the greenhouse effect and are in that respect 1000 times stronger than carbon dioxide and have become a strong contributor to climate change.

In 2016, the countries of the world decided that the production of "soft CFCs" would begin to be phased out at a follow-up meeting to the Montreal Protocol.

For ten years now, researchers have urged the countries of the world to stop using the "soft freons". The researchers have discovered that even "soft freons" have a negative impact on the atmosphere.

Final words from people who had different roles in the fight against CFCs and today's fight to counteract the warming of the planet.

If it could be done to save the ozone layer, it can also be done for the climate, oceans, species and ecosystems.

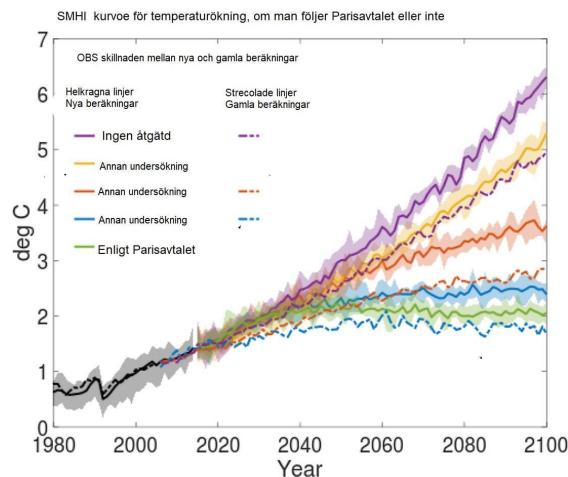
It requires leaders who can draw conclusions, understand the consequences of decisions and be leaders.

The precautionary principle means that you must intervene against what is about to happen in good time.

Once complete security is achieved, it is in most cases too late.

**What is the difference between the "ozone crisis" and "climate crisis"?**

The ozone zone spread on earth could be measured in km/year from the polar regions towards the equator,  
the environmental and climate changes can only be linked to  $+^{\circ}\text{C}$  and the spread is erratic



**The ozone crisis was solved**

by researchers raising the tone and making demands,

by creating political will and commitment,

since it was a relatively narrow part of the industry that was affected,

by having important representatives of the industry join the research,

without the need for a large popular movement on that particular issue (a large movement had existed in USA in the 70s against chemicals with a visible effect on the earth),

even though the consequences were not fully understood until late in the process, (the changes were linear and 60% of the Earth's surface would be uninhabitable by 2050 if ozone depletion had not been stopped).

### **The climate crisis must be resolved**

by creating a global people's movement and a single issue is the people's mission to the politicians;

"All efforts must be invested in stopping or delaying the warming of the planet",

thanks to the fact that there is a collective science (with very few exceptions) behind the knowledge presented,

in that the consequences are described and understandable,

in that the people have the knowledge and insight needed to force the politicians to act.

despite the lack of political will and commitment,

despite the fact that current economic, political and democratic systems discourage change,

despite the fact that the people must force them to face reality and take action

### ***Is popular initiative - last chance***

Throughout the book we have been constantly told that it is primary systems and structures that are very heavy opponents for those who understand that a change is absolutely necessary. In addition, there are other obstacles in the form of conflicts of interest and personal characteristics and behaviors that also resist necessary

changes. Nor can we expect national decision-makers to lead the transition. Nor are the other strong actors such as the G 7, the EU or other international communities to be reckoned with, and therefore there is only one power factor left,

There is only one peaceful method left and that is for us citizens to use our power by coming together and giving those in power a limitless mission in a common message.

We, the citizens of country X, give our rulers a mission that you must have carried out as soon as possible during the next mandate;

"Our top decision-makers must, during the next term of office, have carried out the task of making the necessary decisions in the best possible way using all resources to delay or stop the increase in the global average temperature that threatens to change the habitats of most life forms on the planet. In this work and decision-making, experts, researchers and independent representatives of the people must participate."

Legislation that prevents necessary action can be overridden by, for example, declaring a state of emergency, if necessary. Linked to the assignment there are also responsibilities that will be adequately examined in a special responsibility committee linked to the assignment. This committee must be continuously provided with information on the development of the mission and pass it on to the public.

### ***Citizens of all countries.***

***We have no one else to turn to if we want to preserve Earth as a tolerable place for all life forms, as was once the function of the planet.***

***Shall we allow ourselves to be annihilated?***

***Right and left are only there to divide us.***

***The only thing that counts now is that we have one, only one, well-defined mission for our politicians.***

***The peoples must become one, under the collective name humanity, speak in a voice that can be heard without background noise and the only message must be:***

***"We want decisions that save humanity and all life forms."***

**Scientists and politicians have once saved the earth from ozone depletion, and now all good forces must once again save it.**

**The difference is that politicians now show neither the will nor commitment.**

**This time it is the people who must take the lead in close collaboration with scientists.**

**The peoples must become one, under the collective name humanity, speak in a voice that can be heard without background noise and the only message must be:**

**"We want decisions that save humanity and all life forms."**

The only hope of stopping the increasingly rapid increase in temperature is for the world's citizens to force suitable politicians (that group has both created the visions and driven the development to the current level) to turn the visions into reality together with the people, scientists and other experts.

**or**

**Do you think that you can be passive and that the so-called "death heat" does not reach the whole world? Constant +39° C**

**+4° increase in the global average temperature certainly costs several million human lives/year.**

**The economic loss of income globally is expected to be 23 trillion dollars annually, and become sums that are 3–4 times greater than the global financial crisis of 2008.**

***Is that the world that we are to hand over  
to future generations?***

Your action can consist of you supporting the civil rights movement, spreading the information to as many people as possible and encouraging that the people of the world will unite and show their will and their commitment that Agenda 2030 goals must be fulfilled with priority on the environment and climate.

We have a rapidly accelerating doomsday.

*The peoples must become one, under the collective name humanity, speak in a voice that can be heard without background noise and the only message to decision makers must be:*

*“We want to see decisions that save humanity and all life forms.”*

*We must ensure that hope for a sustainable future does not end during the climate summit, which begins on 30 November 2023.*

*We must concentrate on that task worldwide for six months.*

*If we prevent nearby problems during the “power gathering”, we will be able to limit the increase in temperature.*

*We who have must help those who have not during that time through solidarity when someone shows that they have it too hard to make the sacrifice.*

*Standing up for those in need during the global fight to slow global warming is a very important part of the fight. Everyone must “afford to” participate.*

*It is absolutely necessary.*

*Now or never!*



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