



UNIVERSITY OF
GOTHENBURG

A GLOBAL GOAL: SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH AND DECENT WORK FOR ALL

Selection of Research, Education and Research to Policy Initiatives

A Global Collaboration Project:

The University of Gothenburg, Sweden, is lead university for Sustainable Development Goal 8 together with eight satellite universities globally, as part of the International Association of Universities (IAU) Cluster on Higher Education and Research for Sustainable Development (HESD).

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



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1. SDG 8

The purpose of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 8 is to promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all. Innovation, consumption, sustainable tourism, and forced labour are some of the many key aspects of the goal.

SDG 8

SDG 8 comprises 12 targets and 17 indicators, covering a wide range of topics, such as per capita GDP growth, new policies for economic development and labour market, improved resource efficiency, the protection of migrant workers, the situation of youth in the labour market and the eradication of child labour. In other words, it contains a wide set of challenges. At its core is the great challenge of how to achieve economic growth without compromising the environment and while ensuring respect for human rights in general, and labour rights in particular.

Economic growth should be a positive force for the whole planet. This is why we must make sure that financial progress creates decent and fulfilling jobs while not harming the environment. We must protect labour rights and once and for all put a stop to modern slavery and child labour. If we promote job creation with expanded access to banking and financial services, we can make sure that everybody gets the benefits of entrepreneurship and innovation.¹

Key facts about the challenge

- An estimated 600 million new jobs are needed globally by 2030 to cover for those unemployed today along with the growing working age population.²
- A majority of the 3.3 billion people employed globally in 2018 had inadequate economic security, material well-being and equality of opportunity.³
- A full 700 million people are living in extreme or moderate poverty despite having employment.⁴ The informal economy comprises more than half of the global labour force and more than 90% of Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) worldwide.⁵ The pay gap between men and women is still 20%.⁶
- A total of 152 million children are in child labour globally, accounting for almost one in ten of all children worldwide.⁷ 25 million people are victims of forced labour.⁸

Sustainable Development Goals

SDG 8 is strongly connected to many (maybe all) of the other SDGs, in particular SDG 1 (No Poverty), SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 5 (Gender Equality), SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), SDG 14 (Life Below Water), SDG 15 (Life on Land), and SDG 16 (Peace and Justice and Strong Institutions).



¹ <https://www.globalgoals.org/8-decent-work-and-economic-growth>

² www.ilo.org/global/topics/sdg-2030/lang--en/index.htm

³ https://www.ilo.org/global/research/global-reports/weso/2019/WCMS_670542/lang--en/index.htm

⁴ https://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/newsroom/news/WCMS_670171/lang--en/index.htm

⁵ <https://www.ilo.org/employment/units/emp-invest/informal-economy/lang--en/index.htm>

⁶ <https://www.ilo.org/global/research/global-reports/global-wage-report/2018/lang--en/index.htm>

⁷ Global Estimates of Child Labour, https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/@dgreports/@dcomm/documents/publication/wcms_575541.pdf

⁸ Global Estimates of Modern Slavery, https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---dcomm/documents/publication/wcms_575479.pdf

TARGET 8-A 8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



INCREASE AID FOR TRADE SUPPORT

TARGET 8-B 8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



DEVELOP A GLOBAL YOUTH EMPLOYMENT STRATEGY

TARGET 8-1 8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH

TARGET 8-2 8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



DIVERSIFY, INNOVATE AND UPGRADE FOR ECONOMIC PRODUCTIVITY

TARGET 8-3 8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



PROMOTE POLICIES TO SUPPORT JOB CREATION AND GROWING ENTERPRISES

TARGET 8-4 8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



IMPROVE RESOURCE EFFICIENCY IN CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

TARGET 8-5 8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH




FULL EMPLOYMENT AND DECENT WORK WITH EQUAL PAY

TARGET 8-6 8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



PROMOTE YOUTH EMPLOYMENT, EDUCATION AND TRAINING

TARGET 8-7 8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



END MODERN SLAVERY, TRAFFICKING AND CHILD LABOUR

TARGET 8-8 8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



PROTECT LABOUR RIGHTS AND PROMOTE SAFE WORKING ENVIRONMENTS

TARGET 8-9 8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



PROMOTE BENEFICIAL AND SUSTAINABLE TOURISM

TARGET 8-10 8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO BANKING, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

2. STRATEGIC GOAL AND AMBITION

The University of Gothenburg, as part of the International Association of Universities (IAU) and its Higher Education and Research for Sustainable Development (HESD) Cluster, has been asked to take a lead specifically on goal 8. Every goal has its lead university, resulting in a global network of universities coordinating different goals (please find further information in the section About the IAU-HESD cluster).

The SDG 8 team

The University of Gothenburg has initiated a “SDG 8 Team” including different parts and persons from the university. The SDG 8 Team also includes participation from eight Satellite universities. The strategic goal of the SDG 8 team is to engage and support a global community of researchers and practitioners to promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment and decent work for all. This is done by trans-disciplinary, applied action research and policy interaction that focus on solutions to growth and work related challenges through collaboration among researchers and practitioners in local and global contexts. The ambition is to mobilize academic work and policy interaction in support of sustainable economic growth with good conditions for employees.

Implementation strategy

The implementation strategy for the SDG 8 team is divided into three phases focusing on:

(i) Synthesising research in support of the implementation of the SDG 8 targets.

(ii) Critically scrutinise the goal, targets and indicators of SDG 8 in order to reveal inherent biases, contradictions and links to other SDGs.
(iii) Engaging researchers and policy makers in dialogue and following-up on selected indicators for inclusion in Voluntary National Reviews to the UN HLPF⁹.

(i) Synthesising research

The starting point for our work is to identify how the SDG 8 team can apply scholarly work to the SDG 8 discourse. A natural first step is therefore to conduct systematic literature reviews on the subject matter of SDG 8. This particular SDG is wide and spans a multitude of issues related to economic growth, and resource efficiency but also working conditions, youth employment and even tourism. The twelve SDG 8 targets will therefore be bundled and prioritised to facilitate analysis by designated writing teams. The University of Gothenburg library will support the systematic reviews and the syntheses will be commissioned in the team.

⁹ <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/vnrs/>

(ii) Critical analysis and links to other SDGs

IAU has the ambition to make the HESD holistic. We will therefore insist that the writing teams include a critical analysis of links (both synergies and contradictions) between SDG 8 and other SDGs. This is where we expect that the magic of academic interaction will come to play with drafts of the papers being discussed in seminars both within each university and between universities in the team to ensure that we get a rich dialogue with multiple perspectives reflected.

(iii) Policy dialogues and interaction with the UN system

The finalised discussion papers will then be used for policy dialogues by each of the satellite universities. Particular focus will be given to discussions regarding the use and meaning of the proposed indicators. Are they relevant, credible and actually used? This will enable each participant university to contribute to their own government's Voluntary National Reviews for presentation at future UN High Level Political Forum (HLPF) in New York. It will also enable IAU to organise side-events at the HLPF that shed light on the SDG 8 implementation.

book. The book, and other relevant research will hopefully be presented at an international SDG 8 conference organised at the University of Gothenburg.

The EfD experience is relevant to the SDG 8 initiative since EfD is designed to support academic collaboration in the Global South that enables a stronger interface between applied research and policy formulation and implementation. With the generous support of the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, EfD is investing in institutional development in the Global South that supports such research – policy dialogues. These institutions are then linked to each other in collaborative programs. This program enables South – South collaboration and learning. Currently, EfD is running collaborative programs on Ecosystem Services Accounting; Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture Management & Marine Pollution; Sustainable Energy Transition; and Devolved Forest Management. The national EfD centers have also developed excellent contacts and modalities with relevant policy stakeholders, in some case even as dedicated policy advisory committees. All in all, there will be many positive synergies between the EfD centers and the implementation of the SDG 8 initiative.

Team modalities – building on the EfD experience

The Environment for Development Initiative (EfD)¹⁰, that is coordinated from the University of Gothenburg and that consists of a global network of academic institutions committed to research – policy interaction for improved sustainability and reduced poverty has developed modalities for international academic collaboration relevant for this initiative. These modalities include close interaction within the team with regular virtual meetings and recurrent IRL meetings. Since all the satellite universities have EfD centers, the team can draw on the infrastructure that EfD has invested in. These centers will also host the mentioned seminars to scrutinise each SDG 8 target. Together with the systematic reviews this will lead to a series of discussion papers. These papers will then be pulled together into an edited SDG 8

¹⁰ <https://efdinitiative.org/>

3. SATELLITE UNIVERSITIES

International collaboration is crucial. Eight universities – in Chile, Colombia, Ethiopia, Kenya, Nigeria, Tanzania, Uganda and Vietnam – have joined the SDG 8 Team as satellite universities, providing opportunities for dynamic research collaboration by addressing the challenges of SDG 8 from the various geographical and methodological perspectives represented by the various universities.

Satellite universities

University	Country	Contact person
Makerere University	Uganda	Professor Barnabas Winsange, Vice-Chancellor <u>Contact persons:</u> Assoc. Professor Edward Bbaale Dr. Jim Ayorekire
Addis Ababa University	Ethiopia	Professor Tassew Woldehanna, President <u>Contact person:</u> Assoc. Professor Alemu Mekonnen
University of Nigeria, Nsukka	Nigeria	Professor Benjamin C. Ozumba, Vice-Chancellor. <u>Contact person:</u> Professor Nnaemeka Chukwuone
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University of Nairobi	Kenya	<u>Contact Person:</u> Dr. Richard Mulwa
University of Gothenburg	Sweden	Eddi Omrcen & Sustainability Officer Gunnar Köhlin Associate Professor & Director Efd

WE WELCOME OTHER UNIVERSITIES AND RESEARCH INSTITUTES...

...to connect for possible collaborations. Similarly, we would also very much welcome interaction with non-academic organisations, non-governmental, public as well as private, to advance our understanding of issues and conflicts where research may be able to contribute to solutions and new paths forward.

4. SELECTION OF RESEARCH, EDUCATION AND RESEARCH TO POLICY INITIATIVES

In this report, we will introduce a number of initiatives, at the University of Gothenburg and some examples from the satellite universities, linked to targets of SDG 8. It is our hope and ambition to spark new ideas and academic initiatives along with broad collaboration across borders, to amplify sustainable economic growth and decent work for all.

4.1

CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE PROSPECTS FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH: HOW EXTREME WEATHER EVENTS AFFECT REGIME STABILITY

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In recent decades, the number of people affected by extreme weather has been unprecedented. The IPCC reports that heavy rain, floods, violent winds and droughts can destroy progress built up over many years, and thus threaten to undermine the continuing efforts to reduce poverty (IPCC 2014). Of particular importance in this project is the potential impact climate change may have on regime stability, and hence on the prospects for economic growth. Regime stability has been shown to affect economic growth by reducing uncertainty and stimulating economic exchange but is at the same time potentially being threatened by climate change. While some studies indicate that climate change severely affects regime stability and the prospects of economic growth, others suggest that it in fact can constitute a window of opportunity and be a vehicle of positive political changes such as democratization and increased political stability. Our findings contribute to this gap in knowledge and explicitly focuses on increasing our understanding of how climate change affects the prospects for economic growth.

As climate change is predicted to increase the likelihood of extreme weather events and resource scarcity, there is increasing concern about the effects on political stability. One of the most prominent scholars within the field of environment and security, Thomas Homer-Dixon (1994; 2001), has argued that environmental scarcity contributes causally to conflicts and political upheavals and that resource scarcities are likely to produce conflict, instability, population movements, aggravated social tensions, and weakened political institutions. However, other researchers question this proposition (see Buhaug 2010).

For example, Theisen et al. (2011) argue that quantitative cross-national empirical research has still not converged on a systematic and robust connection between general resource scarcity and political instability. In addition, while natural disasters come with terrible social costs, they can in fact also induce spirals of positive change (Pelling 2003). While extreme weather events might be closely associated with increased regime instability and turmoil, such external shocks to a political system may in fact also bring about processes of democratic reforms increasing regime stability (Brückner and Ciccone 2011; Ahlerup 2013a, 2013b; Quiros-Flores and Smith 2013; Eriksson 2014). Adding to this, in an article published in *Nature*, Agrawal (2011) argues that disasters “can alter the social trajectory of a hard-hit community”. In a similar vein, the Proceedings of the National Academy of Science (PNAS) published an article by McSweeney and Coones (2011) arguing that climate-related disasters tends to open a window of opportunity for the rural poor. However, current research is still in an infant stage and the question what to expect politically from future increasingly extreme weather is in need of both further theoretical development and rigorous empirical analysis. Hence, there are still considerable gaps in our knowledge as regards our understanding of how climate change affects regime stability – and hence the prospects for economic growth.

The overall objective of this project is to investigate how the prospects for economic growth are affected by climate change. While the set of mechanisms through which climate change may influence economic performance is extremely large and difficult to assess comprehensively (see

Dell, Jones and Olken 2008), this particular project focuses on the effects of climate change on a factor said to be crucial for the economic growth of a country, namely regime stability. Regime stability – defined as the absence of irregular and unconstitutional transfers of government – has been shown to affect economic growth by reducing uncertainty and stimulating economic exchange (Aron 2000; Jong-a-Pin 2009; Aisen and Veiga 2013). On the contrary, political systems characterized by irregular and unconstitutional transfers of government instill a great amount of uncertainty into the marketplace, slowing, and even reversing, economic growth (Feng 2003). As such, regime stability is generally considered to be one of the fundamental prerequisites for economic growth (see Barro 1991; Alesina and Perotti 1994; Alesina et al. 1996). However, given ongoing and future climate change, this fundamental condition may become increasingly challenged. For example, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) suggests that the consequences of climate change will have a massive impact on communities around the world, “ultimately sparking political instability” (EPA 2014). Thus, the prospects for economic growth may be at risk as future climate change pose challenges for regime stability. Yet, although such statements by and large reflect how policy makers in general tend to view climate change as an imminent threat to national, regional, and local security and stability (Smith and Vivekananda 2008), there is a substantial lack of research investigating this relationship empirically. This project, however, sets out to fill this gap. After developing the theoretical arguments about how climate change may or may not affect regime stability – and hence the prospects for economic growth – we test their merit on a global set of countries by using data on extreme weather events on the one hand, and data on regime stability and economic growth on the other hand. Through collaboration with leading meteorologists, we have access to unique data on patterns of the El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO), popularly known as the El Niño phenomenon, over

the years 1950-2008. These events are external to other socio-political processes and may thus serve as an experimental treatment of the impact from climate change. Our measures of regime stability are in turn more detailed than commonly used as we have data on trends in both leadership tenure (i.e. political survival of heads of states) and government turnover (i.e. regime length). Taken together, this data gives us the opportunity to thoroughly investigate how climate change affects regime stability. This, in turn, increases our understanding of how fundamental conditions for economic growth are affected by previous and future climate change.

Research participants: Martin Sjöstedt, Pelle Ahlerup, Aksel Sundström, Sverker C. Jagers, University of Gothenburg. The project is based at the Centre for Collective Action Research (CeCAR) at the Department of Political Science, University of Gothenburg. CeCAR, established in 2016, focuses on large-scale collective action and its role in various societal and environmental problems. The project will also work closely with the Quality of Government (QoG) Institute and the Varieties of Democracy (V-Dem) program, both based at the Department of Political Science, University of Gothenburg.

4.2

RELATIVE CONSUMPTION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

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Much evidence suggests that people are concerned with their relative consumption, i.e., their own consumption relative to that of others, in addition to the consumption per se. Aronsson and Johansson-Stenman (2017) was the first paper to analyse implications of relative consumption concerns for measures of sustainable development in terms of genuine savings.

How to measure social welfare, and correspondingly welfare change over time, is a classical and much discussed question in economics that has received increased attention recently, e.g., through the report of the Stiglitz-Sen-Fitoussi Commission (Stiglitz et al. 2009) initiated by French president Sarkozy, and its aftermath. According to this report (page 8), “it has long been clear that GDP is an inadequate metric to gauge well-being over time particularly in its economic, environmental, and social dimensions, some aspects of which are often referred to as sustainability.” The idea of sustainable development is also highlighted by the 17 sustainable development goals adopted by the United Nations in September 2015.

The concept of genuine saving plays a key role in the measurement of both social welfare change and sustainable development. The genuine saving of a country is a measure of comprehensive net investment, i.e., the value of all capital formation undertaken by society over a time period. In other words, it summarizes the value of the net investment in all relevant capital stocks, potentially including net investments in man-made capital and human capital, changes in natural resource stocks and environmental capital, as well as biodiversity.

Aronsson and Johansson-Stenman (2017) show that unless the positional externalities due to relative concerns have been internalized, an indicator of such externalities must be added to the measure of genuine saving to arrive at the proper measure of intertemporal welfare change. A numerical example based on data for a large number of countries then suggests that conventional measures of genuine saving (which do not reflect positional externalities) are likely to largely overestimate this welfare change.

Relative consumption concerns also have other important implications for sustainable development. For example, Aronsson and Johansson-Stenman (2014) analyze how socially optimal investments in state-variable public goods - where the global climate can be seen as a prime example - are modified in the presence of such concerns. Moreover, Aronsson, Johansson-Stenman and Wendner (2019) analyze how charitable giving to public goods ideally should be treated as a part of an optimal tax system, in a model where people are motivated by both relative consumption and relative giving concerns.

4.3

KNOWLEDGE INTENSIVE ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND SMART SPECIALIZATION STRATEGIES: CONCEPTUALIZING STRATEGIES FOR SUSTAINABILITY

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Smart specialization strategy (S3) is a mission oriented policy strategy and an important active framework for policy makers at the international, national and regional levels. Public policy makers use S3 in order to identify industrial assets at the regional level, and thereby aim to find ways to strategically utilize these assets in order to maintain and increase competitiveness. So far, S3 theory has been built around the key role of both SMEs and new enterprises in the S3 constellation (McCann and Ortega Argilés, 2016). However, this literature is lacking additional conceptualization of the knowledge intensive innovative entrepreneur (KIE) or entrepreneurial firm.

An integral component of S3 is sustainable growth and development (European Commission, 2010). Several streams of literature (OECD 2016; EU 2017; Schot and Steinmueller, 2018) have heavily influenced modern policy discourse about sustainability in Europe – and specifically about the role of technology and institutions in promoting transition. Rather than focusing on technology per se, this type of social science research addresses the overall changes needed in society, and especially the role of public policy. It is more-over recognized that an independent technology will only contribute to sustainability goals when complementary technologies and institutions become available in this larger socio-technical system (Bijker et al 2012). Related literature on

public policy conceptualized as grand societal challenges and mission-oriented policy argues that major society issues – such as sustainability, aging, healthcare, climate change, energy, and poverty – will require new modes of collaboration between public and private actors (Mazzucato 2016; Elzen et al 2004). However, current knowledge is not adequate and investment into developing new technology and new knowledge is needed, in order to solve current and future challenges.

Past models of innovation policy focused its efforts on strengthening the systemic interactions between so-called new technology-based firms (NTBFs) and other actors. This has widely been acknowledged to tell only a portion of the story. Revitalizing and reappraising the potential of existing and established industries, and their perceived technological upgrading through smart specialization at the regional and national level has been thrust to the forefront of the policy agenda (Foray, David, and Hall, 2011).

The question then becomes; what types of startups are needed, and what should their strategies be to increase the likelihood of progressing with the SDGs? Policy makers in general want to direct investments towards the type of entrepreneurship that has the potential to positively impact productivity (Baumol, 1996). Current S3-related literature acknowledges the importan-

ce of looking outside high-tech industries for regional competitive advantage (Trajtenberg, 2009; Foray, 2018), but little has been done in terms of analyzing how this occurs and what the outcomes are. It has also been argued that S3 should focus on interactions between different actors, and less on a specific trajectory (Balland et al., 2018).

KIE is an established empirical and theoretical phenomenon thanks to EU projects, edited scientific books, and peer-reviewed scientific journals (AEGIS, 2013; Malerba et al., 2016; Malerba and McKelvey, 2018). It has been argued in national policy and research communities as a tangible way to increase productivity and positively impact economic growth in developed and developing countries and sectors. KIE goes beyond strict sectoral classification of what constitutes high impact or high potential entrepreneurship. It materializes within as well as outside of high tech or highly research-intensive sectors, and has been linked to EU and OECD initiatives as a key area for development. Further study of this topic connotes a strong potential for learning lessons from existing entrepreneurial innovation systems and how they have developed and applying these lessons to other contexts, for instance, sustainable development of industry in other economies. It conceptually links Schumpeterian entrepreneurship, evolutionary economics (Nelson and Winter, 1982) and innovation systems theory in order to create a synthetic concept to understand and taxonomize societally beneficial forms of entrepreneurship that have their basis in the advance use and application of scientific, technological, or creative knowledge (Gifford, 2017; Malerba and McKelvey, 2018).

We propose that this private actor role in implementing S3 on a local/regional level can be in part filled by this particular type of actor/firm (Malerba & McKelvey, 2018). KIE firms play a crucial role in today's evolving industrial landscape, not least in the EU region, where strategic actions by multinational firms must be made to fit with overall strategies of regional policy. Integrating an entrepreneurship perspective into this constellation of actors and actions is crucial. By doing so we can understand more about the needs and drivers of startups when balancing between different alternative models of interaction within their systemic context, and how these decisions shape different paths and outcomes for the region. Moreover, according to the public policy, the societal

goal of sustainability should be met through new scientific and technological knowledge, as well as goals of promoting industrial competitiveness and high-impact research. KIE thus fill a key role as creators and users of new scientific and technological knowledge, and their strategies shape largely the sustainable development outcomes of the innovation system and S3 system in which they are active.

In this project we will analyze the interplay between small, new KIE firms and S3 for developing new scientific and technological knowledge that contribute to achievement of specific sustainable development goals, and what types of interactions and collaborations drive this process. We will investigate how KIE firms build their short and long-term strategies within the smart specialization area of the Maritime cluster in West Sweden. What impact do these strategies have on increasing the perceived likelihood of fulfillment of the SDGs relating to Life under Water (14), Decent work and economic growth (8), Responsible consumption and production (12), and Life on land (15)? How can the literature on KIE and smart specialization be integrated to help policy learn more about what types of firms can and should formulate certain strategies, in order to result in a net benefit to achieving the SDGs in this cluster? The activities in the maritime cluster in West Sweden relate directly to the sustainable development goals (SDGs) of the UN, most specifically Goal 8: Decent work and economic growth; and Goal 14: Life below water i.e. to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas, and marine resources for sustainable development. Additionally, one of the key areas in Västra Götaland's (the county containing Gothenburg and much of the western Swedish coastal area) S3 is focused on the marine environment and maritime technologies (VGR, 2019). It also overlaps with other SDGs, responsible consumption and production (12), and life on land (15).

The Maritime Cluster in West Sweden, which oversees collaborative efforts in this area, is composed of 6 different strategic groups: marine energy, marine governance, maritime operations and marine technology, tourism and recreation, marine biotechnology, and seafood. In this project, we will conduct inductive case studies in several of the different strategic areas of the maritime cluster, including seafood and marine

energy. The seafood group concerns maritime technologies and their application to nutrition, food production and aquaculture. A continued collaborative effort between entrepreneurs, scientists and private organizations, along with regional and national innovation offices and other public actors has yielded noteworthy results in establishing the financial and political support needed to provide “blue entrepreneurship” with resources and capabilities to create both innovative and climate-friendly solutions in West Sweden (Maritime cluster in West Sweden, 2018). The marine energy group involves different subgroups of energy generation: Oil and gas; water-based energy; wind-based energy; and marine bioenergy. Within these subgroups, KIE firms interact with the public and private sector in unique ways and in unique value chain configurations to produce energy (ibid.).

4.4

ENTERPRISE ZONES, FINANCIAL INCLUSION AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT IN NIGERIA

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Abstract

Creation of enterprise jobs is very important in a developing country like Nigeria where growth is slow, unemployment is rising on a daily basis and the incidence of poverty is high. The objective of the sustainable development goal 8 (SDG8) is to achieve growth and decent work for all by 2030, and for a country with dysfunctional economy like Nigeria, establishment of small and medium scale enterprises (SMEs) is indispensable for the achievement of the goal. Women are important partners in economic development of Nigeria because of their population. Unfortunately, only 13% of the women are engaged in economic activities. Hence, if Nigeria is to stimulate growth and achieve decent work for majority of the people, women must be encouraged to go into entrepreneurship. The present study was undertaken to achieve 3 objectives, namely, (1)-to find out if the establishment of enterprise zones in Nigeria has increased the number of women in various fields of economic activities; (2)- find out if woman doing business in enterprise zone grow faster in business; and (3)ascertain if women in enterprise zone have easier access to financial resources more than women outside the zone. The result of the study will be helpful to the government of Nigeria in reshaping policy meant to encourage women to go into full time economic activities so as to create more jobs, reduce

household poverty and accelerate economic growth and development.

4.5

SDG 8 IN THE CONTEXT OF GLOBAL SUPPLY CHAINS

*Niklas Egels Zandén, Professor, Director
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Trade is increasingly conducted via global supply chains involving interlinked suppliers coordinated by lead companies that exert control without formal ownership. The rise of global supply chains facilitate the global integration of activities from initial design to inputs, manufacturing, and distribution, through to the final retailing of goods and services (Barrientos et al., 2011b). It has also led to a fragmentation and geographical dispersion of production, typically in low-wage developing countries (Locke et al., 2013).

This transformation of global production has created both opportunities and challenges for worker rights. On the one hand, the expansion of global production in labor-intensive industries has been an important source of employment generation, especially for women and migrant workers who previously had difficulty accessing wage employment (Barrientos et al., 2011a). On the other hand, stiff competition among export manufacturers in developing countries have led to poor working conditions and lax environmental standards in the factories producing for global brands (Locke et al., 2013). National governments have been unable to address these sustainability challenges, leading to multinational corporations being required, via voluntary private regulatory systems, to enforce sustainability principles at their legally independent and geographically dispersed suppliers (Barrientos et al., 2011b; Seuring and Müller, 2008). This rise of “private regulation” of worker rights followed from high-profile, activist-driven “name-and-shame” campaigns and has mainly taken the form of companies adopting codes of conduct and auditing schemes across their international network of suppliers (Bartley, 2007; Locke et al., 2007).

Companies, labor activists and scholars having, since the early 1990s, invested staff, time, and resources into codes of conduct and auditing. However, all concerned actors are increasingly realizing that these systems, at best, lead to marginal improvement in working conditions at the point of production. This is so for top-down lead firm led implementation of codes and auditing (e.g., Egels-Zandén and Lindholm, 2015), bottom-up local union and NGO leveraging of codes (e.g., Bartley and Egels-Zandén, 2016) and, particularly so, for improving process rights such as discrimination and unionization (e.g., Bartley and Egels-Zandén, 2015).

These insights have led leading firms and stakeholders to experiment with alternatives to the code and auditing approach. Some refers to these novel alternatives as the “second generation” of sustainability work and others refer to as “business case” initiatives. However, these novel alternatives have faced difficulties scaling, meaning that most remain experimental small-scale initiatives (e.g., Egels-Zandén and Oka, 2018). Still, these small scale initiatives could hold the potential to actually make a difference for workers in global supply chains.

In close collaboration with industry, our research is focusing on these novel private regulation alternatives. This includes, for example, factory level initiatives to empower women workers, digitalize payments, payment of a living wage. It also includes sector-wide initiatives to lobby vis-à-vis governments to improve labour laws and their enforcement and to set-up hybrid public-private regulatory systems (e.g., the Accord system in Bangladesh). We are interested in understand the emergence of these alternative initiatives and, in particular, their impact on worker rights in practice.

4.6

CAN A POSITIVE INCOME SHOCK GENERATE A POVERTY TRAP? COMMODITIES AND CHILD LABOR

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Abstract

We present a theoretical model in order to study the causal relation between commodity prices and poverty traps. Using an overlapping generation's framework where savings, education, fertility and child labor are endogenous variables we find four central results: 1) High commodity prices may generate poverty traps. 2) Given commodity prices, high labor productivity in the production of human capital reduces the likelihood of a poverty trap. 3) When there is child labor, the growth rate of human capital negatively depends on the commodity prices. 4) Child labor may lead to a decrease in both physical and human capital.

Keywords: poverty traps, mining, child labor, natural resources, education, growth, commodities.

4.7

GOTHENBURG CENTRE OF GLOBALIZATION AND DEVELOPMENT

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The Gothenburg Centre of Globalization and Development (GCGD) conducts research on how globalization processes affect development in the South, and seeks to identify appropriate domestic and international policy responses.

The starting point of the research agenda is that the global community has agreed to work for sustainable global development at the same time as the global system that is to help bring this about looks more fragile and less sustainable than it has done for a long time. Populist protectionism is on the rise across the Global North. The role of multilateral institutions such as the International Monetary Fund and the World Trade Organization is being challenged. The question is how global sustainable development can be achieved when international collaboration and exchange are increasingly challenged.

The research programme covers both development cooperation and global governance. We may broadly distinguish four development cooperation channels. Those traditional bilateral donors, multilateral organisations, non-governmental organisations, and firms, as well as multi-stakeholder channels combine them. We are interested in understanding how their roles and behaviour change and what the implications are for the impacts of their activities on the ability to achieve SDG8 in poor countries.

We investigate the role of global governance via international policies, institutions and organizations. We ask how global governance is organized to support enhanced global justice. What are the major and emerging actors, institutions, and strategies relating to the SDG8, and what are the most important effects of these efforts? How

should SDG activities be organized to promote sustainable development in poor countries?

We do research on the impact of foreign aid on employment, growth, inequality and poverty. In this context, we are particularly focusing on the importance of the quality of government and the effectiveness of democracy.

Another focus of research is on the determinants and character of technological change and economic growth and what it does to employment and income differences and technology changes.

The current ‘anti-globalization’, ‘post -globalization’ trends in the context of populism makes the prospects of achieving development goals such as SDG8 in the Global South extra challenging. In our research, we will therefore also have to address questions such as:

- Is the current populist trend an expression of lack of confidence in globalisation?
- What are the consequences of populist governments for development policies/processes?
- How are different states and social movements reinterpreting globalization-de/globalization trends?
- How have the politics of identity shifted in light of these trends?
- What are the sources of current heightened opposition to increased global transactions and interdependencies, as well the associated global governance?
- What strategies of ‘re-globalization’ are available, including reform and transformation of the rules and institutions that govern the global political economy?

- How has violence been normalised in this new age of anti-globalisation and right wing politics?
- In particular, how can inclusive democratic citizenship and sovereignty obtain due voice and influence in a revitalized global cooperation both in the global south and north?

4.8

CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMME FOR INCLUSIVE GREEN ECONOMY

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The economic development in sub-Saharan Africa has been positive in many respects during the last 20 years. The education level has increased and infrastructure such as roads, railways, industry and energy systems, has expanded. Poverty levels have declined in many African countries, and consumption has generally increased. However, this economic development is also strongly associated with increased emissions of pollutants into the environment, climate change and unsustainable natural resource use. A major challenge is thus to break the link between economic growth and environmental degradation (decoupling) while increasing opportunities for women, children, young people and other vulnerable groups in society, especially among the poorest. To do that, economies must transform to meet people's social and economic needs without causing unsustainable environmental impacts. This change requires a shift from current practices and production and consumption patterns to an inclusive green economy (IGE)¹. Policies and strategies need to be implemented.

The changes needed to transition to an IGE will not happen automatically or cannot be attained only through technological achievements. Changes must be made also through progressive policies and public reforms, not least within fiscal and investment policies, monetary and credit policies, trade policies, industrial and labour market

policies, through new laws, rules, behaviours and norms. In this context, economic instruments are powerful tools for change and can be used to prevent and minimize adverse environmental and social effects (negative externalities). Properly designed and implemented, they can facilitate more ecologically sustainable prices and markets for individuals and businesses. Taxes on pollution can decrease the pollution. Right prices on natural resources can increase public revenues and prevent unsustainable depletion. Economic instruments have been identified by nations as important and powerful tools for enabling Agenda 2030. These include e.g. carbon taxes, pollution charges, economic reforms that sustainably govern the use of fossil fuels, agricultural lands, water resources, fisheries, timber, minerals etc. This may also include review and reform of subsidies, interest rates, natural resource fees, tax exemptions for clean and efficient technologies, and more efficient waste management.

There is growing interest among decision makers to shift current economies to IGE as an effective way to achieve the goals of Agenda 2030. However, the capacity to apply IGE and economic instruments is very low in low-income countries. The Inclusive Green Economy Capacity Building Programme therefore aims to strengthen such countries' capacity for a conversion to IGE. In addition to increased use of fiscal instruments,

¹ An inclusive green economy (IGE) is an economic development that improves human well-being and social equity, while significantly reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities. This requires economic policies backed up by strong institutions that are specifically geared to safeguarding social and ecological dynamics and services. *Source: Adapted from UNEP 2015. Uncovering Pathways Towards an Inclusive Green Economy: A Summary for Leaders.*

it also includes necessary organizational changes, support to development of national systems for IGE and transparent institutions. In order to achieve Agenda 2030, enhanced cooperation and better coordination between governing ministries and implementing agencies are required.

Already in the choice of target group and selection of participants, a good representation of the theme of central governing and implementing authorities is ensured. Organized together with local/national experts, the programme provides in-service training of officials (primarily economists) in government institutions such as ministry of finance, and customs authorities, environmental and energy ministries, agricultural and natural resource authorities and other central government agencies for IGE. The programme contains several elements where participants strengthen their capacity for increased cooperation between authorities both nationally and internationally. This is an advanced training with direct applicability in the participants' daily work, by actively translating knowledge into practical action in their own organizations. The program aims to inspire participants and give them greater understanding, knowledge and ability to critically review and analyse current economic policies and conditions, and opportunities and tools for a transitioning towards greener economies. This will also strengthen them in their roles as change agents within their respective organizations.

The Inclusive Green Economy Capacity Building Programme covers all the themes of Agenda 2030, with particular focus on Goal 8: Decent working conditions and economic growth. Creating economic growth, employment, income and wealth in an inclusive manner without increasing emissions, climate change impacts and unsustainable natural resource use are at the core of the programme. Emphasis is placed on interaction and exchange of experiences among the participating civil servants as well as with the international experts taking part in the programme. These interactions for enhanced learning are crucial for meeting the complexities and goal conflicts inherent to Agenda 2030; for instance for Goal 8, conflict of interest can occur between target 8.1, which states that GDP growth of at least 7 percent per year in the least developed countries shall be achieved, and target 8.4, which states that the link between economic growth and environmental degradation shall be broken. We

emphasize inclusive green economy as a practical way to prevent or minimize this conflict, and reduce the risk that economic growth is attained at the expense of nature or the poorest or most vulnerable groups in society.

The pilot program (2019) aims at senior civil servants of central government in Rwanda, Kenya and Ethiopia.

4.9

HOW FINANCIAL FREEDOM AND INTEGRATION CHANGE PUBLIC DEBT IMPACT ON FINANCIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC. A PANEL SMOOTH TRANSITION REGRESSION APPROACH

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This study investigates the non-linear effect of fiscal policy (measured by total domestic public sector debt) on the level of financial development, using a balanced panel of 22 economies in the Asia-Pacific region. Governments in less developed financial institutional infrastructure (for instance, emerging markets) tend to abuse their power by intervening in the domestic debt market. This study shows that better financial institutional infrastructure helps to discipline governments. The results suggest a negative effect of domestic public sector debt on financial development, but only at low level of financial freedom and integration. Higher financial freedom and financial integration would reduce the crowding-out effect of domestic public sector debt.

4.10

GRASSROOTS FINANCIAL INNOVATIONS

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With over half of the world's population now living in cities, and 90% of urban growth taking place in low-middle-income countries, there are more than 828 million people living in informal settlements. These areas are characterized by poor basic services, deficient infrastructures, high unemployment rates and scarcity of money. An extensive informal sector of self-help groups ("chamas"), resident associations, cooperatives and micro-entrepreneurs provide critical services such as water, sanitation, energy, transportation or waste collection. These become one of the few options for a livelihood in urban informal settlements. Yet, owning few assets and with no access to established financial institutions nor markets, micro entrepreneurs in the settlements have few alternatives to free themselves from the level of extreme poverty in which they live. Their income hardly covers their livelihood costs, and their saving capacity is almost inexistent.

As a response to economic and financial hardship, a variety of citizen groups are experimenting with a wealth of grassroots financial innovations. Grassroots innovations build on the idea that vulnerable people hold the key to their own solutions. These initiatives focus on mobilizing local resources, designing governance structures, and developing local investment that empower the community. Community tokens have emerged as a grassroots innovation for economic growth. Developed bottom-up by grassroots entrepreneurs in collaboration with community and cooperative groups, community tokens are inclusive economic tools to expand local markets in informal settlements, create networks to provide critical services, and build bridges between the community and local government. In this doing, community tokens contribute to retain resources

locally while incentivizing community investment. Community tokens, that is, suggest a novel monetary infrastructure for communities with lack of access to conventional money. They are, too, indicating a novel route for grassroots participation in sustainable economic growth.

Informed by the case of the Kenyan community tokens, and bringing together monetary, urban and grassroots innovation studies, the research project Grassroots financial innovations for inclusive economic growth investigates three areas: 1. the practices of grassroots financial innovations; that is, how they are organized and governed; 2. the impact of the monetary designs and governance rules on the sustainability and inclusiveness of the local economy so developed; and 3. the diffusion strategies used by grassroots innovations in their encounter with established institutions. Thus, the research project offers an interdisciplinary perspective on the issue of organizing resilient and inclusive local economies. This is relevant not only for Kenya but also for informal settlements in other African cities.

Kenyan communities in Mombasa and Nairobi have been leading the creation of grassroots monetary schemes in Africa since 2011. Since the fall of 2018, these communities are moving from paper-based to crypto-based currencies, thus offering significant historical experiences from which to conduct research on this field. The research project will learn from the experiences of the currencies in Mombasa and Nairobi and, adopting a participatory action research approach, translate those lessons to the introduction of three community tokens in the informal settlements of Kisumu. In this doing, we will develop theory on institutional arrangements and practices related

to the effective governance and management of grassroots innovations for inclusive economic growth in general and community tokens in particular.

The project builds on collaborations with resident associations and community-based organisations in informal settlements in Kisumu, the local non-profit Grassroots Economics Foundation, the Kisumu County Council as well as Jaramogi University, Copenhagen Business School, Lund University and University of Gothenburg. The project brings together monetary, urban and grassroots innovation studies in interdisciplinary research, contributing to the development and diffusion of financial and monetary infrastructures for urban informal settlements, and indicating a novel route for social enterprise and development aid.

Research participants: Michael Oloko, Jaramogi Odinga Oginga University of Technology; Ester Barinaga, Lund University & Copenhagen Business School (Project Leader); Will O. Ruddick, NGO Grassroots Economics; María José Zapata, University of Gothenburg.

4.11

WORK AND EMPLOYMENT RESEARCH CENTRE (WE) – PROMOTING RESEARCH, EDUCATION, INNOVATION AND UTILIZATION IN THE FIELD OF SUSTAINABLE WORK AND EMPLOYMENT

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Work and Employment Research Centre (WE) is set up as collaborative initiative between University of Gothenburg and Chalmers. The purpose of WE is to promote and support research, education, innovation and utilization in the field of sustainable work and employment. The center is a platform for national and international research collaboration and dissemination of scientifically based knowledge in the area of sustainable work and employment. As a consequence, WE's focus and activities addresses a number of themes and goals defined in agenda 2030, and most particular sustainability goal 8 on decent work and economic growth.

One example of a WE endorsed activity with this focus is a six year long research program funded by FORTE called "The Challenges of Polarization on Swedish Labour Market". The program addresses an important transformation of the Swedish labour market – the trend towards increased job polarization. From an international comparative perspective, the Swedish labour market has often been described using the term "the high road" to full employment with a focus on high-quality goods and services, strong social partners devoted to solidaristic wage policies, and government investment in education, and an encompassing welfare state. However, in the last decade this upgrading of the occupational structure seems to have come to a halt.

Since the early 2000s, the Swedish labour market has moved towards polarisation. High-paid jobs are still increasing, but at a slower rate. Instead, the number of low-paid jobs is rising, while middle-layer jobs are decreasing. Thus, the Swedish labour market has started to resemble the US and UK. This programme aims to study trends of polarisation in the Swedish labour market, and analyse possible consequences for individuals, unions and employers, as well as more general societal consequences. The patterns, trends and experiences of polarization challenge the societies as well as research to the core. Firstly, research is required to discern the kind of jobs that are increasing and decreasing in a polarised labour market, and how polarization interacts with other trends, such as increased temporary employment, rising migration and decreased unionisation. Secondly, we need to know how the new job structure is distributed among such social categories as gender, age, ethnicity, and education/class background, and whether polarisation reinforces existing divides of inequality or creates new ones. Thirdly, we must focus on the individual consequences regarding incomes, health and perceptions of insecurity and status. Finally, we must find out why the Swedish "high road" seems to have come to an end. This project aims to answer these questions.

4.12

FROM VALUE-BASED HUMAN RESOURCE PRACTICES TO I-DEALS: SOFTWARE COMPANIES IN VIETNAM

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Abstract

Idiosyncratic deals (i-deals) are employees' proactive individualized negotiations with their employer for higher job autonomy corresponding to their competencies and values. The path to i-deals in the organization can commence with value-based human resource (HR) practices. The purpose of this paper is to investigate this path from value-based HR practices to i-deals through the mediating roles of corporate social responsibility (CSR), emotional intelligence (EI) and upward influence behaviors. Research findings found value-based HR practices as the starting point of the path to i-deals, in which consecutive crucial milestones are ethical CSR, EI and organizationally beneficial upward influence behaviors.

4.13

INCLUSIVE MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT POLICY IN NIGERIA: ENGAGING THE INFORMAL ECONOMY IN POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

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Abstract

The problem of municipal solid waste has remained intractable in Nigeria despite the state's central role in municipal solid waste management (MSWM). Policy and reforms of the MSWM system have invariably excluded the informal economy, with this exclusion frequently reinforced by uncritical implementation of neoliberal development policies. Yet, the informal economy fortuitously remains active in solid waste collection, recycling and disposal. This article is the aggregate outcome of an 8-year multi-stakeholder engagement in MSWM in Nigerian cities. It draws on insights from first-hand qualitative engagement with informal waste workers, interviews with key stakeholders, policy documents, and relevant literature to situate the Nigerian informal waste economy within current international development discourse. While highlighting the implications of social acceptance and inclusion of the waste economy in post-2015 MSWM and development policy, the study notes the lack of an articulate policy on MSWM in Nigeria and canvasses a specific policy to integrate the ubiquitous informal waste economy in MSWM. The paper suggests that inclusion per sé is central to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and argues that an inclusive MSWM policy in Nigeria is desirable as it maps onto the SDGs which aim to improve lives in the post-2015 development era.

Keywords: Informal economy; Sustainable Development Goals; Nigeria; municipal solid waste management; inclusive policy

4.14

CREATIVE MACHINES AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN THE WORK PLACE: ORGANIZATIONAL AND LEGAL CHALLENGES

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Creative machines and artificial intelligence (AI) are expected to contribute to revolutionary changes in the labour market and in the workplace. The society at large and individual organizations are faced with concrete challenges. Successfully integrating AI-driven technical solutions connects to issues of organizational routines, training of staff, security and integrity of employees, trust in technologies that make autonomous decisions, and challenges to safety directives and legislation. These changes affect organizations differently: some challenges are shared, while others are specific to individual companies and organizations.

In this project, we conduct two in-depth empirical studies: (i) a large company and (ii) a county council. The project examines how these organizations look at opportunities and risks associated with AI, how they plan for future changes and how they view change in work organization, changed professional roles, security, legal and industry-related regulation and other challenges. The data collection consists of interviews with people in different professional roles within the organizations from management level to workers on the floor. Interviews are supplemented with focus groups, participant observation and questionnaires. The case studies are analysed and compared to identify challenges associated with integrating AI in organizations and contribute to new regulatory guidance. Issues concerning

changed professional roles, the need for education and new legislation as a result of new technology have been studied and discussed in organizational research, sociology and law. Our study builds on existing research and adds a unique empirical material and an intersectional analysis, providing new knowledge about challenges resulting from machines making decisions without human interference. The project therefore positions itself at the forefront of the research debate by substantially deepening and renewing the research front.

4.15

CHILDREN IN ANGOLA: POVERTY, DEPRIVATION AND CHILD LABOUR

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Abstract

Child poverty is considered to be an obstacle for the development of children around the world and to have a negative effect on social, economic and human development of a country. Therefore, analysis of this situation becomes vital in the study of poverty. However, there is a lack of empirical evidence in this field, especially in countries such as Angola, with a long history of internal conflict and violence. This paper aims to measure the levels of deprivation and multidimensional poverty of children in Angola and the perceptions of poverty and child labour that urban households have in this country. A mix-methods study was designed, initially using the Integrated Survey on the Well-being of the Population (IBEP) 2008–2009. The levels of deprivation and multidimensional poverty of households with children of 18 years old or younger were calculated and the characteristics of those households were analysed. In the second part, a thematic analysis of 21 semi-structured interviews was conducted. The interviews were done in Lubango, urban Angola, with 14 children (8 to 16 years old) and 7 heads of household. The findings revealed that more than 30% of children aged 5 to 17 years in Angola are multidimensionally poor and 52% of children aged 0 to 17 years are absolutely poor.

In addition, parents and children in Lubango associate poverty with lack of food and an income, which is inadequate to cover the basic needs in a household. In addition, child work is considered to be normal if the family does not have the means to provide the minimum dietary intake.

4.16

CHANGING TEACHERS' WORK IN ETHIOPIA AND SWEDEN: GLOBAL CHALLENGES, LOCAL RESPONSES

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This research in connection to SDG 8, target 8.6 Promote Youth Employment, Education and Training, is about the increasingly changing conditions for teachers' work and teachers' responses to the new challenges, constraints and ambiguities they experience. A good education is more than ever seen as a necessity of the knowledge society and for the students' future employment. This is a living theme in the global north as well as in the global south, also meaning that high expectations are placed on teachers all over the world. Teachers' work has thus become a target for a huge number of reform efforts, from national as well as from international policy making. The expectations are diverse and perhaps ambiguous, ranging from the making of a more effective education, to education for the development of a nation's economy, and development of international/cultural understanding among students. At the same time, contemporary student cohorts are changing due to for instance mass education, new streams of refugees and migrants, or ethnically diverse local contexts. As a consequence, teachers seem to be exposed to aspects they cannot fully control and that sometimes might be contradictory. The current conditions for teachers' work with students also seem to demand new kinds of expertise. Teachers are often blamed for educational shortcomings in this matter. Thus, this research tries to respond to SDG 8 and target 8.6 by a simple question: how do teachers deal with, and respond to new demands from the state and from the students, in and through educational contexts? An argument is that we need to know

more about what institutional resources teachers' have access to or not, in their efforts to support students' education and training, and thereby in the long run, to support youth employability.

Our research on this topic has its origin in a seven-country European study (Lindblad & Goodson, 2011) but draws from and relates to a comprehensive number of studies from many countries in this field. An important point of departure is that the challenges teachers are facing are different depending on context, including the resources teachers have access to, meaning that about similar restructuring efforts from the state and demands from students can enable and constrain teachers' work in different ways.

The studies highlight how Swedish teachers seem to translate organizational expectations in accordance with pressure from students, embedded in different management principles. Clearly, new forms of educational governance, including marketization and governing by results are constraining means on teachers' work in the Swedish studies (Samuelsson, 2019; Fejes, Runesdotter & Wärvik 2016). Similarly, pressures from students and management principles also affect Ethiopian teachers. However, in this multicultural, multilingual and multiethnic context, instead the teachers' struggle with ethnic diversity is at the center (Fereja, 2007). An example is the ongoing thesis work by Azmeraw (2019) who studies how teacher educators are dealing with diversity in a context of social studies teaching. Given this, we

can also problematize general educational advice given to teachers from the large international organizations. Instead, for a long-term sustainable development of teachers' work on supporting students' education and training, and directly or indirectly their future employment, it is important to understand how teachers deal with experienced enabling and constraining working conditions.

4.17

THE VOCATIONAL – ACADEMIC DIVIDE IN NEOLIBERAL UPPER SECONDARY CURRICULA: THE SWEDISH CASE

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This article builds on results from a research project with the title ‘Critical education in vocational subjects? Civic knowledge in vocational programmes, policy documents and classroom practice’ initiated to generate knowledge concerning the extent and nature of learning processes that can be characterized as civic education in vocational subjects, and to what extent and why these processes vary among programmes and school contexts. Previous studies of citizenship preparation in upper secondary school, including studies on vocational programmes, have primarily focused on general subjects. The potential and actual roles of vocational subjects in this context have received little attention, so we have little knowledge of what is likely a significant part of the citizenship preparation that occurs in vocational programmes.

A historical tension between a more general and a more specific focus in post-compulsory education is made visible in some educational systems by the division into more academic and more vocational programmes. Embedded in this tension are questions of social justice and the purposes of education. In addition, division into academic

and vocational programmes has class dimensions since youth with working class backgrounds are often over-represented in vocational programmes.

This study investigates how this tension is handled in the Swedish upper secondary curriculum, which reflects an international neoliberal policy trend in promoting competition, employability and employer influence over the curriculum. By analysing how the educational content of vocational educational and training (VET) programmes and higher educational preparatory (HEP) programmes is contextualised, we found that the two programme types were based on very different logics. In VET programmes, knowledge is strongly context-bound and often related to regulating behaviours. This contrasts sharply with the way knowledge is contextualised in HEP programmes in which less context-bound knowledge and skills such as using concepts, models and critical thinking are dominant. Students in VET programmes are trained to ‘do’ and to ‘adapt’, while the students in HEP programmes are trained to ‘think’ and to ‘imagine possibilities’. Thus, students from different social classes are prepared for very different roles in society.

4.18

LACK OF RESEARCH ON SUSTAINABILITY CONFLICTS IN TOURISM

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Challenges related to sustainability of tourism have been studied for several decades (cf. Turner & Ash, 1976). Policy and planning processes focus on mitigating adverse economic, environmental and social effects on increasing numbers of tourists (Øian et al, 2018). However, due to increases in (international) tourism (Sharpley, 2009) sustainability conflicts in tourism remain a great concern. In Sweden, tourism consumption has more than doubled since 2000 and the fastest growing segment is international visitors that have increased consumption with 229% since 2000. This rapid growth of tourists increase CO₂ emissions from transportation and put pressure on nature, public transportation, infrastructures, land for housing and food production and local communities (SOU, 2017, Wall & Mathieson, 2006; Deery et al., 2012). Sustainable tourism development is inherently dependent on an interplay between different Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Development strategies are likely to comply with some SDGs but also be in conflict with other SDGs, for example between SDG 13, 14, 15 and SDG 8 and 11¹. SDG 8 (Decent work & Economic growth) is likely to conflict with SDG 13 (Climate action) in rural tourism development.

There is a lack of scientific and practical understanding of such conflicts (Hall et al, 2015; SOU, 2017). Recent literature on sustainable tourism relates this knowledge gap to the lack of research on tourism production and consumption that sustain unsustainable tourism (Hall et al, 2015;

Sharpley, 2009). Public and private measures are taken to increase tourism sustainability in terms of e.g. climate emissions, resource use, and locally sourced food, but increasing numbers of national and international tourists call for new measures that balance the impacts of tourism (Hall et al, 2015).

More tourism (in terms of money spent and miles travelled) is related to disposable income (Holmberg and Nässen, 2010; Peeters and Bongaerts, 2015). The relationship between affluence and resources spent on travel follow Linder's (1970) theory of time allocation where gains in productivity increase consumption instead of leisure time. The increase in affluence, work, and leisure time is linked with an intensification of leisure and consumption of energy intense goods and services such as aviation (Knight et al, 2013, Röpke and Godsken, 2007). An increase in affluence therefore counteract sustainability.

The trend towards increased consumption is enforced further in consumer centric countries like Sweden where leisure travel has become part of a normal life and tourist offerings are closely connected to identity and emotion. Research on sustainable consumption emphasizes that marketing practices such as advertising are persuasive in consumer societies when consumption per se is an important motivation for gaining higher income (Knight et al, 2013).

To date, sustainable tourism planning is predo-

minantly product- or tourist-centered and there is a need to integrate sustainable tourism planning into sustainable development strategies (Hall et al, 2015; Øian et al 2018; SOU, 2017). The relationship between growth of tourism and increased disposable incomes urges a need for a consumer and market oriented approach to change consumer behavior in a tourism context. Future tourism strategies must pinpoint areas where the consequences of production and consumption converge into long-term sustainability. A challenge is the conflicting goals, i.e. necessary trade-offs required between social, economic and environmental aspects of tourism (Øian et al 2018). A deeper understanding of the conflicting goals (figure 1, in Appendix J), with ways forward, is key to the development of strategies and policies that can support increased sustainability (Hall et al, 2015; Øian et al 2018). Surprisingly, there is a lack of research on these conflicts. Specifically, how tourism consumption and production create and maintain these conflicts.

¹ see UNWTO, <http://tourism4sdgs.org>

4.19

NEW WAYS: A RESEARCH PROGRAMME TO IDENTIFY, TREAT AND SUPPORT PERSONS WITH COMMON MENTAL DISORDERS TO MAINTAIN THEIR CAPACITY TO WORK AND REDUCE THE NEED FOR SICKNESS ABSENCE

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Common mental disorders (CMD) are prevalent in the working population globally. The WHO has estimated that globally 300 million people have depression, the most common of the different types of mental disorders. Depression is more common in women than in men. Depression as most other mental disorders, dementia excepted, affect people in young ages with possible negative consequences for work participation and associated economic independence. In many cases of CMD there are efficient treatments with medication or therapies but there is also a question of availability and affordability in different countries, often related to health care systems and welfare solutions. To afford a treatment is in many countries balanced with the possibility to pay for family supplies such as housing, food, children's schools to mention some.

Work is associated with CMD in at least two major ways. One is that CMD are very common in the working population and depending on CMD definitions, the prevalence estimates vary between 15% and up to 30% of the working population. In persons affected by CMD, reduced capacity to work has been estimated to 72% while in an unaffected population the corresponding figure is 25%. In countries with universal welfare systems, with high coverage of sickness benefits while off sick, the costs for sickness absence has been an issue for political discussions. Swedish and international research has shown that persons with CMD are at a higher risk of sickness absence, often in long episodes and, in some cases, these

long episodes result in disability pension. This risk of early marginalization from work life affect the individual and his/her economic independence and social and cultural participation. It also affect employers in different ways.

The other way that CMD is associated with work is that work itself is a source of negative exposure. Systematic reviews have found strong support for an association between factors such as high demands and low control, unfair treatment at work, conflicts, mobbing, and high efforts and low reward, and an increased risk of depression and anxiety disorders and stress-related health problems. Psychosocial risk factors are in fact an important aspect to reduce if a decent work situation should be achieved along with other exposures at work such as physical, ergonomic, chemical and so on.

“New Ways” is a research program aimed at increased knowledge to identify, treat and support persons with common mental disorders to maintain their capacity to work and reduce the need for sickness absence. The point of departure is that increased work place flexibility, early identification and treatment of CMD in the health care and an early and adjusted rehabilitation can strengthen work capacity and prevent short and long sickness absence. Since capacity to work constitutes the basis for income, social inclusion and structures the everyday life, it is important that persons are not excluded from work due to limited knowledge (or prejudices) concerning

CMD among managers at different levels or due to limitations in the sickness absence and rehabilitation process.

The goal is that new knowledge from research in New Ways will strengthen capacity in work life to support persons with CMD to keep their capacity to work and to contribute to a better competence in the health care to identify and treat patients with CMD and risk of sickness absence. Research so far in this area has mainly been done in the global North. The interest and need for research in the global South is increasing due to changes of structures and organization of the working life in different ways. In many countries, there is a shortage of psychiatrists, psychologists and other health care personnel which also makes it more difficult to get treatment for CMD. Stigma varies between countries and can, irrespective of where and how it appears, influence the possibility for treatment but also for work participation and vocational rehabilitation. Goal 8 in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is highly relevant in relation to mental health at work. Decent and safe working conditions is important for a healthy population and a sustainable society.

5. ABOUT THE IAU-HESD CLUSTER

The International Association of Universities (IAU) is an international non-governmental organization and an official partner of UNESCO (Associate Status). As stressed by UNESCO, Education for Sustainable Development is to provide everyone with the opportunity to acquire the knowledge, skills, attitudes and values necessary to shape a sustainable future.

The IAU embraces Gro Harlem Brundtland's definition and works on Higher Education and Research for Sustainable Development (HESD) since it drafted and adopted the IAU Kyoto Declaration in 1993.

Higher education (HE) plays a key role in achieving the 2030 Development Agenda and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Leaders of universities and other higher education institutions, academic and administrative staff, students and other HE stakeholders are driving the processes towards a more sustainable present and future. HE offers disciplinary and transdisciplinary teaching and research, and generates and contributes to the development of new and innovative approaches to global, regional and local issues. It calls for strong national and international teaching and research cooperation in order to give rise to unformulated solutions to new and older problems.

The IAU Cluster on HESD promotes the role that Higher Education Institutions globally have to fulfil in order to achieve the SDGs and Agenda 2030. Universities are to address the SDGs, which themselves impact on and transform universities.¹

¹ <http://iau-hesd.net/en>

The IAU Cluster on HESD promotes the role that Higher Education Institutions globally have to fulfil in order to achieve the SDGs and Agenda 2030. Universities are to address the SDGs, which themselves impact on and transform universities.



SDG 1: UNIVERSITY OF GHANA, GHANA



SDG 2: ANTONIO NARIÑO UNIVERSITY, COLOMBIA



SDG 3: OPEN UNIVERSITY OF CATALONIA (UOC), SPAIN



SDG 4: LEUPHANA UNIVERSITY OF LÜNEBURG, GERMANY



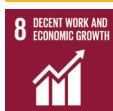
SDG 5: UNIVERSITY OF BOLOGNA, ITALY



SDG 6: UNIVERSITY OF TEHRAN, IRAN



SDG 7: ASSAM DON BOSCO UNIVERSITY, INDIA



SDG 8: UNIVERSITY OF GOTHENBURG, SWEDEN



SDG 9: BEIRUT ARAB UNIVERSITY, LEBANON



SDG 10: UNIVERSITY OF TSUKUBA, JAPAN



SDG 11: SIAM UNIVERSITY, THAILAND



SDG 12: UNIVERSITY OF REGINA AND LUTHER COLLEGE, CANADA



SDG 13: UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES, JAMAICA, BARBADOS, TRINIDAD & TOBAGO, WEST INDIES



SDG 14: UNIVERSITY OF BERGEN, NORWAY



SDG 15: UNIVERSITY OF COSTA RICA, COSTA RICA



SDG 16: UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI, KENYA



SDG 17: INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITIES, IAU/GLOBAL

6. ABOUT UNIVERSITY OF GOTHENBURG

The University of Gothenburg is one of northern Europe's major universities, with more than 38,000 students and over 6,000 staff. The University offers training in the Creative Arts, Social Sciences, Natural Sciences, Humanities, Education, Teacher Training, IT and Business Economics and Law. The university also houses the Sahlgrenska Academy, with training in Medicine, Health Care Sciences and Odontology.

The University's unique breadth in education and research provides excellent opportunities for creative collaboration between the sciences, as well as with private enterprise and public institutions. The University of Gothenburg is environmentally certified and works actively for sustainable development.

There are numerous units at the University of Gothenburg, with research and operations directly linked to Goal 8. Gothenburg Centre for Sustainable Development, GMV, hosts SIDA's helpdesk for Environment and Climate Change, as well as the multidisciplinary research network Focali (Forest, Climate and Livelihood research network), both of which engage in the question of sustainable livelihood. Research with high relevance for Goal 8 is conducted at Sahlgrenska academy (the medical faculty at University of Gothenburg), at the Faculty of Social Science, eg in the Department of Sociology and Work Science and the Department of Political Science, at the Faculty of Education, and at The School of Business, Economics and Law, to mention some.

RESEARCH CENTRES, AT UNIVERSITY OF GOTHENBURG, CONNECTED TO SDG 8 IN PARTICULAR:

- Environment for Development Initiative (EfD), www.efdinitiative.org
 - Work and Employment Research Centre (WE), www.we.gu.se
 - Gothenburg Centre of Globalization and Development (GCGD), www.gcgd.gu.se
 - Centre on Global Migration (CGM), www.cgm.gu.se
 - Centre for Tourism (CFT), www.cft.handels.gu.se
 - Centre for Global Human Resource Management (CGHRM), www.cghrm.gu.se
 - Centre for Business in Society (CBiS), www.cbis.handels.gu.se
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