

Hi!

Yesterday was sunny. Today it is sunny. And tomorrow will be sunny (in Lund at least). It feels somewhat wrong to complain about having clear and sunny skies for about a month, but you also start to wonder what would happen if there is no rain soon. What will happen with the crops, the forests, the insects and other wildlife? Will there be another extreme year of forest fires like in 2018? Is this something we have to get used to? Will we have to save much more water and will people be able to change their ways? It is bittersweet to have such lovely weather and for every day that passes, more and more people seem to wish for rain.

On another note, vacation is soon upon us. There will be no newsletters during July as both Kristina, Sara and Ylva will be out of office. So we hope that you will all have a nice July, whether you have vacation or are doing research.

Here is the monthly newsletter for June:

3rd conference on Sustainable Development – acceleration of progress (29th of September, Eden (Allhelgona Kyrkogata 14), Lund)

Submissions for the Lund University PhD conference on sustainable development is now open! We cordially invite all PhD students at Lund University with an interest in sustainable development to submit proposals for panels, papers, workshops, and other activities. The aim with the conference is to showcase ongoing research on sustainable development and offer a networking opportunity for PhD students with similar interests from the whole of Lund University. It will be a space to meet and share ideas and research, hopefully strengthen existing as well as generate future cooperation across disciplines, departments and faculties. The PhD conference is an opportunity to encourage interdisciplinary cooperation in order to further academic research on all aspects of sustainability. We encourage interdisciplinarity, but this is not a requirement for participation.

If you would like to send in a submission, you need to Submit a 200-word abstract (or full paper, workshop idea, etc.). State your preference of activity, plus estimated time for you proposed activity.

Abstracts should be sent to kristina.jonsson@svet.lu.se and ylva.van_meeningen@cec.lu.se.

More information about the conference can be found here: [3rd PhD Conference on Sustainable Development, 29 September 2023 - Acceleration of progress | Sustainability Forum \(lu.se\)](#)

Upcoming Agenda 2030 Graduate School courses 2023:

- **Existential sustainability: Expanding the discourse on sustainability** (Faculties of Humanities and Theology). Time to be given: 18 September 2023 – 18 January 2024. What is existential sustainability and how can existential perspectives become part of contemporary sustainability work? In the process of implementing the green transition, new perspectives have emerged, relating to the existential and religious dimensions of human life. In this course, existential and religious studies perspectives on sustainability will be studied in relation to perspectives on the built environment, as a way of expanding the conceptual framework of Agenda 2030. Special attention is paid to the human being as a narrative being, which will be examined through three theoretical complexes, namely place, deep time, and identity. Departing from an excursion to Råängen at Brunnsög, the students will study how existential meaning and identity are created through storytelling in relation to place and time. Course coordinator: Lovisa Nyman (lovisa.nyman@ctr.lu.se).
- **Digital monies for a sustainable future** (School of Economics and Management). Time to be given: September – October. This PhD course examines the technological developments that are facilitating monetary innovation and the role of monetary entrepreneurs in re-organizing the production and circulation of money. The course provides students with the tools to explore opportunities for addressing big societal challenges and asks in particular

how new forms of money can contribute to developing more just and equal societies. Course coordinator: Ester Barinaga (ester.barinaga@fek.lu.se).

- **A law to save the world?** (Faculty of Law). Time to be given: November 2023 – January 2024. This course offers critical analysis of the sustainable development goals and the discourses and interests they serve. Material from a range of disciplines - history, politics, economics, and law is used for a better understanding of where Agenda 2030 is coming from and where the world it brings into being might be heading. The course focuses in particular on the relationship between sustainable development and our existing global legal order.
- Other courses to be given this fall are: **Water and sustainable development** (Faculty of Engineering).

For more information about the courses, see: [Agenda 2030 PhD courses | Sustainability Forum \(lu.se\)](#)

Other

- Only about 12 per cent of the SDG targets are on track according to the Special edition of the Secretary-General's report on Progress Toward the SDGs. If you want to read more about it, you can find the report here: [Documentation | United Nations](#)
- **Beyond ChatGPT – what next for generative AI in higher education?** (23 June 14:30-15:30, online). There is little doubt that generative AI technologies can be used by students and teachers alike to develop new learning experiences and foster creativity. However, there are significant concerns, e.g. about made-up 'facts' or how data is collected. There are also challenges for universities regarding the assessment of work produced with the help of artificial intelligence. More information here: [Beyond ChatGPT - what next for generative AI in higher education? \(eua.eu\)](#)
- **Summer school on sustainable plastics** (5 ECTS, 7-18 August, Lund). STEPS (Sustainable Plastics & Transition Pathways) is organizing a summer school with an aim to provide understanding of the current plastic system and its challenges, pathways to a sustainable plastic system, biobased and biodegradable plastics, recycling solutions, policies, and standards for sustainable plastics. More information can be found here: [Summer School on Sustainable Plastics | Sustainability Forum \(lu.se\)](#)
- **PhD Course: Sustainable development – a systems view** (5 ECTS, 5 September 2023 – 18 January 2024, Lund). The course provides a broad knowledge base on the topic sustainable development. It consists of modules in which you will learn about different perspectives on sustainable development and relate them to your own research. Each module ends with a seminar in which you get to discuss its specific topic with experts in the field. Register as soon as possible and at the latest by August 20 to cilla.perlhagen@design.lth.se. Read more about the course at [Research education courses | Designvetenskaper \(lth.se\)](#)
- 11th Annual International Conference on Sustainable Development (18-20th September, hybrid). The International Conference on Sustainable Development (ICSD) provides a forum for academia, government, civil society, UN agencies, and the private sector to come together to share practical solutions to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This year's theme is, "The Midpoint of the SDGs: Global and Local Progress & Challenges". Registration will open in July. More information here: [International Conference on Sustainable Development \(ic-sd.org\)](#)
- **7th international conference on Green urbanism** (11-13th December, Rome, Italy). The 7th "Green Urbanism (GU)" conference brings about a healthy discourse on topics pertaining to the concept of green urbanism, environmental resilience, and the implementation of sustainable urban planning techniques. GU covers topics depicting contemporary innovations in waste management, sustainable energy resources, urbanization of rural areas, and green

Agenda 2030 Graduate School monthly newsletter #5

2023-06-12

Ylva van Meeningen

urban transit. Abstract submission deadline is 14th of June and more information can be found here: [Green Urbanism \(GU\) – 7th edition \(ierek.com\)](https://www.ierek.com/green-urbanism-gu-7th-edition)

On behalf of the Agenda 2030 Graduate School,

Ylva van Meeningen