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SLU

## Sustainable Development - Project Management and Communication Fall 2017

### Individual Assignment I

The aim of this assignment is for you to critically and creatively reflect upon your understanding of sustainable development and systems thinking, and apply this thinking to potential projects for the semester ahead.

#### Instructions

- The assignment should be approximately **800 words** (have your word count visible on submission)
- Put your name on the top of each page. For the file name of the document, use your name plus assignment number (e.g. 'Name\_Individual Assignment 1').
- Submit your assignment as a **PDF** on Studentportalen – you will find the link under "Submissions". The deadline is **Sunday 10th September, 23.59**.
- This assignment is graded as **Pass/Fail**

We will use the outcomes of this assignment in a **seminar** the following week, thus it is essential that you hand this assignment in on time.

#### Grading

This assignment is graded **pass/fail**.

The grading criteria can be found on the course website under Course Essentials.

#### The Assignment

##### **Part 1: Sustainable Development**

What is your current understanding of sustainable development? In your response compare and contrast at least three existing definitions on sustainable development. What are the strengths and limitations of these definitions?



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## **Part 2: Systems Thinking**

What does it mean to be a systems thinker when working for sustainable development? Refer to relevant course literature and sources of your own choosing.

## **Part 3: Defining a Project**

What is a project to you? Refer to relevant course literature and sources of your own choosing.

## **Part 4: Sustainable Development Goals**

On September 25th 2015, the countries of the United Nations adopted a set of 17 goals to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure prosperity for all as part of a new sustainable development agenda, with specific targets to be achieved over the next 15 years.

Pick one of the Sustainable Development Goals you are particularly interested in.

Discuss how this goal could strategically be realised via your project this semester.

## **References**

Refer to relevant course literature throughout your assignment, as well as academic articles, lectures, videos, course books or other appropriate material. Make sure to make it very clear to the reader when you express your own ideas and opinions, and when you refer to sources and other people's opinions or research.

Use either footnotes, i.e. the Oxford system or include the references in the text, i.e. the Harvard System; example: (Hornborg, 2001, p. 39). Make sure you are consistent with your referencing. You can find extensive guides online.