

# Topic 5#

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I will probably work in energy production fields; therefore one of my main tasks will probably be to produce energy from renewable sources. Because of this, the sustainability issues will take a big role, an example can be the hydropower generation, which is a renewable source, but we cannot produce electricity as much as we want, the more the generation increases, the more water we use. This can have a bad impact on the rivers and the wild life in those areas. Therefore it is important to use a reasonable amount of water, so that both the wild life and the electricity produced are at "balance". A solution for this can be that instead of just increasing the generation (thus increase the amount of water used) we can find new technical solutions, maybe better turbines that can produce more electricity with the same amount of water going through them, or use other renewable sources to compensate for the lack of generation.

We learned in the course that it is not only the big companies that can achieve a more sustainable system, we as individuals can help with that too. An example for this is that we have to think about our own way of living. For example if we start buying more ecological food, and caring more about where my electricity is from or what type of transport I will use, if we think about these stuff we can start to help the community to a more sustainable type of living. If we as individuals start to live more like that, then the big companies will automatically start to produce things that are more environmentally friendly. Another way to think about the sustainability issues is that we have to think about our own consumption, for example how much water we consume. Here in Sweden the water is free, and one does not think about the amount of water one consumes. I would guess that the consumption per person in Sweden is at least 10-20 times (maybe more) of that in an African country. If we as individuals start to care more about these small things, the world will start to be fairer.

KTH does teach us a lot about sustainability, but I can't say if it is enough preparation for me or not. The thing is that I do not know what is required to know while working with sustainability, some companies care more about this issue and some care less, so it depends on what you really will work with in the future.