

### Programme

The Symposium will take place at the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences in Stockholm between 16-19 May and will include a mix of plenary presentations, panel discussions and working group sessions. The event is invitation only, but the outcomes as well as some of the discussions and lectures will be available at [www.globalsymposium2011.org](http://www.globalsymposium2011.org)

	16 May	17 May	18 May	19 May
<b>Morning</b>		Working Group 1,  Ecosystems and Human Development	Working group 3,  Tipping Towards Sustainability	Open event
<b>Afternoon</b>	Arrival	Working group 2,  The Human Dominated Planet	Discussion Conclusions Memorandum  Symposium Closure Press Conference	Open event cont.
<b>Evening</b>	Reception at the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences	Cultural event Dinner	Royal Dinner	Dinner

Three half-day sessions on 16 and 17 May will begin with a plenary presentation from the working groups followed by roundtable dialogues and panel discussions.

The afternoon session on 18 May will consist of concluding summaries from the three half-day sessions and a synthesis of the Symposium Memorandum.

An open event dedicated to the themes of the Symposium, is planned for 19 May.

More information on the programme will follow – please check the Symposium website for the most recently updated version.

Wassberg & Skotte Oktober 2010

# 3rd Nobel Laureate Symposium on Global Sustainability

Transforming the World in an Era of Global Change  
Stockholm, Sweden, May 16-19 2011

## A call from Stockholm...

### More information

Invitations will be sent out in September and October 2010. Please contact the following staff at the Symposium secretariat regarding questions on:

Invitations: Symposium Coordinator Christina Leijonhufvud, [globalsymposium@kva.se](mailto:globalsymposium@kva.se)

Press: Head of Communications Erika Hermansson Török, [erika@stockholmresilience.su.se](mailto:erika@stockholmresilience.su.se)

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The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences,  
Box 50005, SE- 104 05 Stockholm, Sweden

For more information please visit our website: [www.globalsymposium2011.org](http://www.globalsymposium2011.org)



Stockholm Resilience Centre  
Research for Governance of Social-Ecological Systems





# Transforming the world in an era of global change

*Climate change, decreasing biodiversity, deteriorating ecosystems, poverty and a continuously growing population all contribute to reducing the planet's resilience and may have catastrophic implications for humanity.*

*Each of these problems has attracted great attention from the international community, but they have invariably been considered in isolation, with little or no regard to the interactions between them.*

*It is time to change this approach.*

## 3rd Nobel Laureate Symposium on Global Sustainability, Stockholm, May 2011

The Symposium will focus on the need for integrated approaches that deal with the synergies, conflicts and trade-offs between the individual components of climate change.

It will gather some 40 of the world's most renowned thinkers and experts on global sustainability – half of them Nobel Laureates – to discuss innovative approaches to the way we manage the world's social and ecological systems.

The Symposium, that will be concluded by a Royal dinner hosted by HM King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden, will provide an informal setting for productive discussions on how we can transform current governance into a more sustainable and adaptive management approach that operates within the boundaries of the planet.

## The Symposia series

In 2007 the First Nobel Laureate Symposium on Global Sustainability entitled 'Global Sustainability: a Nobel Cause' was held in Potsdam, Germany, and convened by the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK).



Photo: Nigel Luckhurst

The Symposium in Stockholm is the third in the Global Sustainability Series – this shows the second meeting at St James's Palace in London, under the auspices of Prince Charles.



Photo: Bernd Lammell

*"Global change is one of the greatest challenges facing humanity in the twenty-first century"*  
Angela Merkel, Federal Chancellor of Germany, at the first Nobel Laureate Symposium in Potsdam, 2007.

Two years later it was followed by the 'St. James's Palace Symposium: – the Fierce Urgency of Now' in London under the auspices of HRH The Prince of Wales. The Nobel Laureate Symposia on Global Sustainability have attracted much attention around the world and have significantly advanced our understanding of the magnitude and complexity of the challenges humanity faces in global sustainability.

## Symposium themes

The Symposium discussions will be concentrated to three themes – all participants will take part in all three. Three working groups will be created to support these themes. Prior to the Symposium, the working groups will produce reports that will be distributed to the participants beforehand and synthesised into a first version of a Symposium Memorandum.

### 1. Ecosystems and Human Development

The first theme focuses on the role of ecosystems and the services they provide as the basis for societal development and human well-being.

Chair: *Professor Carl Folke*, Stockholm Resilience Centre, The Beijer Institute of Ecological Economics

### 2. The Human Dominated Planet: Where are the Boundaries?

This theme focuses on the great acceleration of human enterprise and on the recent scientific attempts to identify the safe operating space for the ability of planet Earth to support human development as we know it.

Chair: *Professor Will Steffen*, The Climate Change Institute at the Australian National University

### 3. Tipping towards sustainability: The great transformation towards sustainable development

The third theme will explore the links between crisis, opportunity and innovation for creating radical shifts and large-scale transformations towards sustainability.

Chair: *Professor Frances Westley*, Waterloo University, Canada.

## Key outcomes

The symposium will conclude with a memorandum signed by key Nobel Laureates. This will be communicated and handed over to the High-level Panel on Global Sustainability appointed by the UN Secretary General to reflect on and formulate a new vision for sustainable development and prosperity, along with mechanisms for achieving this vision. The conclusions of the Panel will feed into the preparations for the 2012 UN Conference on Sustainable Development in Rio de Janeiro and into the ongoing climate negotiations.

Furthermore, a special issue of a scientific journal will summarize key discussions from the Symposium.

A public and webcasted event is also planned for 19 May in conjunction with the Symposium. In this, a handful of the researchers and policy-makers will give presentations related to the themes of the symposium.



Photo: Georg Bodnar

Wangari Maathai, Nobel Peace Laureate 2004, is signing the 2009 Memorandum.



Photo: Nigel Luckhurst

Scientists from different fields will meet leaders from society and business. In Stockholm the discussions will be divided into three themes – as in Potsdam we want to create opportunities for important informal dialogues.

*"We want to avoid a situation where scientists 'tell the world about how things are' and instead execute the science-policy transfer in a more humble way with respect for knowledge generation, including combinations of diverse knowledge systems."*

Johan Rockström, Chairman of the Symposium Executive Committee and Carl Folke, Chairman of the Scientific Committee.



Photo: Anette Andersson

## Organizers

The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, Stockholm Resilience Centre at Stockholm University, Stockholm Environment Institute, Beijer Institute of Ecological Economics and Potsdam Institute of Climate Impact Research  
We are honoured by the participation and support by *HM King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden*.

## The Executive Steering Group:

*Professor Johan Rockström*, (Chair), Executive Director, Stockholm Resilience Centre and Stockholm Environment Institute  
*Professor Staffan Normark*, Permanent Secretary, The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences  
*Professor John Schellnhuber*, Director, Potsdam Institute of Climate Impact Research

## Partners

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The world is facing a tangle of entwined challenges

It is time to recognize that we are part of Nature