

MSLS 2020



**M.Sc. Strategic Leadership
Towards Sustainability
Blekinge Institute of
Technology Karlskrona,
Sweden
msls.se**

Table of Content

04	MSLS 2020 Group Picture I
06	The Programme
07	The Recipe
08	Why do we study MSLS?
10	MSLS 2020 Biographies
11	Alessandra Zaffiro
12	Anna Lindeberg
13	Anne de Klerk
14	Ashkan Lotfalian
15	Charlotte Freudenberg
16	Claudia Dina
17	Daniela Andrea Stange Urrutia
18	Daniela Tablado
19	Elin Olsson
20	Ellen Decoodt
21	Elshan Rustamov
22	Erin Ring
23	Esther Zimmer
24	Fenna van der Ploeg
25	Håkan Augustsson
26	Haley Mah

27	Hassibullah Ahmadi	48	Roberta Domingues
28	Johanna Mattsson	49	Roxanne Le Failler
29	Julia Martinez Barbero	50	Solaleh Abedi
30	Kristina Gren	51	Sophie Charrois
31	Laura Ferré Cerdà	52	Susan Otuoma
32	Laura Maria López Cuadros	53	Wietse Slob
33	Léandre Jimo Nawej	54	MSLS 2020 Group Picture II
34	Lennart Reymann		
35	Lizzie Moore		
36	Marcus J.I. Olsson		
37	Maria Juliana Salamone		
38	Mariana (Mary) Vasileva		
39	Marielle Carlsson		
40	Marvin Lannefeld		
41	Olivia Viana Neves		
42	Omer Mohammed		
43	Patrizzia Cappelletti Rocha		
44	Paula Ferraz		
45	Pia Hillebrecht		
46	Pippa Emily Wisbey		
47	Rada (May) Jutrakul		





The Programme

The Master's in Strategic Leadership towards Sustainability (MSLS) Programme is a 10-month transformational masters programme in Karlskrona, Sweden that focuses on advancing student knowledge, skills, and global networks, in order to build our capacity to be strategic leaders in the co-creation of thriving, sustainable societies.

The MSLS 2020 class came to Sweden from countries around the world to learn how to collectively lead our societies towards a sustainable future. We are hereby excited to share our stories and aspirations with you!

We are MSLS 2020!

The Recipe



3 cups of Netherlands
6 cups of Sweden
1 cup of Ethiopia
2 cups of Iran
1 cup of Kenya
1 cup of Azerbaijan
1 cup of Thailand
1 cup of Argentina
3 cups of Spain
1 cup of Italy
1 cup of Chile
1 cup of Bulgaria
1 cup of Belgium
5 cups of Brazil
3 cups of Canada
2 cups of England
1 cup of Lebanon
1 cup of Afghanistan
7 cups of Germany
1 cup of Lithuania

Mix all of the ingredients to form a solid collective. Spread it equally in BTH, Karlskrona and let it ferment for 10 months under the care and guidance of a visionary teaching team.

Voilà! That's how you get the fresh, strategic sustainability leaders of 2020 MSLS class.

**Learn how to better act for
the planet with long term
solutions for new
generations**

**Explore diverse perspectives
and put together various ideas
from different backgrounds**

**Become a positive force for the
new world**

**Change the mindset of oursel-
ves, our cultures and societies**

**Zooming out, rethink patterns,
take an external perspective**

To seek systematic viability

**Why do v
MSI**

**Gain education around tools to
address change, across local and
global states**

**To support our unique and
collective purposes**

**Removing borders, challenging
social norms, beliefs, values,
stereotypes**

**Leave this world a
better place**

Rethinking, reshaping, re-
sensing, reconnecting

Finding and balancing our
inner and outer purpose

Personal growth and leadership

Learn how to scale up positive
impact

Act now for next generations

**we study
LS?**

Creating change for the better

Empowerment, passion from
inside and outside

Learn how to be a bridge that
connects various people with
different ideas

Learn how to effectively and
efficiently face sustainability
challenges

**We are
MSLS 2020
Biographies**

Alessandra Zaffiro

Italy

alessandra.zaffiro94@gmail.com

“Just as cherry, plum, peach and damson blossoms all possess their own unique qualities, each person is unique. We cannot become someone else. The important thing is that we live true to ourselves and cause the great flower of our lives to blossom.”

– Daisaku Ikeda



Alessandra grew up in the North of Italy among high quality food from local producers and farmers markets, where she worked during her teens - and she really loved it!

This brought her to study Gastronomic Sciences in a small town where she understood and analysed the world of gastronomy and all the different aspects that compose it. She met people from all over the world and created strong relationships around eating and drinking. Now Alessandra is part of a big network of gastronomes and change makers from all over the world, which she is grateful for. After writing her thesis about plastic pollution, it was clear in her mind that she wanted to be part of the solution and to become a changemaker. This drove Alessandra to create a small line of sustainable and natural cosmetics (check out Statobrado, cosmetici naturali) and to join MSLS! After this year in Karlskrona she hopes to have the required tools to create the conditions for necessary change towards sustainability to happen!

**Alessandra
loves colourful
socks!**



Anna Lindeberg

Sweden

lindeberganna@hotmail.com

[linkedin.com/in/anna-lindeberg-416bb825/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/anna-lindeberg-416bb825/)

“When faced with difficult times know that challenges are not sent to destroy you, they are sent to promote, increase and strengthen you.”

Most things Anna finds meaningful in life converge in MSLS. She has always been interested in meeting with different cultures and is at her best when operating at a strategic level. These interests brought Anna to work in Paris, Stockholm, Luxemburg, Visby and then back to Karlskrona, her hometown. Anna has experience in public administration at EU-level, national and regional level. She has a master's in International Relations from Uppsala University, has been working with management leadership and strategic planning, for global

as well as regional development. Anna wants to be a part of the solution and is ready to give what it takes to lead the societies' transition towards a sustainable way of being. Her two daughters, Agnes and Ellen, are her main source of inspiration. The transition might be inconvenient at first, but Anna is convinced that the journey will be worthwhile. Our needs are better fulfilled in a sustainable way, this will give us a wellbeing we have not yet sensed. We have a whole uni-

verse at our service, when we find the right keys, we will get assistance on our journey. As a proof of this, Anna carries her personal experiences. Thus, this is something that science will never be able to capture. The solution lies in the borderline between these two worlds.

Anna used to have Mickey Mouse & Co as colleagues.

Anne de Klerk

The Netherlands

anne.de.klerk@xs4all.nl

[linkedin.com/in/anne-de-klerk/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/anne-de-klerk/)



**“We may have all come on different ships, but we’re in the same boat now.”
– Martin Luther King jr.**

Being a descendant from a long line of entrepreneurs Anne, born and raised in the Netherlands, became interested in organizational systems at an early age. Therefore, it was not a surprise for her surroundings that she chose to study International Business Administration in Nijmegen. It was during one of her ethics courses that Anna first started thinking about sustainability in business and beyond. To explore these interests, she decided to expand her studies by joining an international youth run organization called AIESEC, which focuses on fostering youth leadership around the world with the use of Sustainable Development Goals (SDG’s).

Anne used to belong to the 5% tallest kids of the Netherlands.

While participating in several sustainability themed projects and bootcamps Anna realized she still lacked a lot of tools and understanding, leading to her decision to join MSLS. During MSLS Anne hopes to gain from the knowledge and experiences of her fellow classmates, acquire new tools, and expand her own leadership skills.



Ashkan Lotfalian

Iran

ashkan_lotfalian@yahoo.com

[linkedin.com/in/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/ashkan-lotfalian-88aaa4161/)

[ashkan-lotfalian-88aaa4161/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/ashkan-lotfalian-88aaa4161/)

**“In the land of repute, our
passage they will dispute
If this will not suit, don’t
stay mute, and transmute
dictates of fate.”**

**– Hafez,
The Great Persian Poet**

Ashkan was born in 1982 and moved a lot between different regions and cities in Iran. The first move happened when he was 6 years old and his family relocated to Tehran (Gohardasht, Karaj). The second move was at the age of 18 when Ashkan went to Rasht to start a BA in English Literature. He moved for the third time aged 22 to Assaluyeh for work. Fourth, when Ashkan was 26 and moved to Lahijan after marriage. Some years later, Ashkan found himself eager

to continue his education, so he started studying Civil Engineering. And then the biggest move happened, when Ashkan was 37 he came to Sweden, alone, to explore himself and to prepare a brighter future for his family. He didn’t have a clear or defined idea what MSLS was about. Step

**Life is a gloomy
joke, don’t take it
serious.**

by step he found himself more and more interested in the program and his nice classmates, instructors and pedagogy methods. “Know yourself to know the world better and deeper.” This is what MSLS is about to Ashkan who has a natural tendency for exploring new ways, even when taking risks. He prizes change and challenge and hopes to be a sustainable person before being a sustainable leader. A person with a great personality to deserve being a sustainable leader, for himself, his family, environment, society, country and the world.

Charlotte Freudenberg

Germany

charlotte_freudenberg@yahoo.de

“Don´t ask yourself what the world needs. Ask yourself what makes you come alive. And then go do that. Because what the world needs is people who have come alive.”

– Howard Thurman



Charlotte grew up in Burkina Faso and in the German cities Freiburg and Heidelberg. Her mind is driven by curiosity about how to create a worthwhile future on a global level. Her inner compass is directed by human connection with emotional authenticity and her peace is discovered through appreciation of nature. She studied Environmental Planning, Sociology and Political Science with a focus on international peace policies in Hannover, Vienna and Berlin. Since graduating Charlotte has put her studies into practice through working with the NGO “Urgewald” that lobbies and campaigns in international environmental conversations and arms exports as well as in the scientific service of the German Parliament reporting on issues such as international conflicts and human rights. Moreover, she has been working for Berlin’s largest refugee camp and for the international acting art collective “Center for Political Beauty”. Charlotte is a solution-focused practical thinker that tends to keep an eye on the bigger picture. Besides challenges, she loves hiking, podcasts, acroyoga, tango and clear communication. Charlotte has experienced that almost anything can be achieved with the simple formula of willpower, creativity, and determination. Therefore, her motto is: dream it, do it, love it!



Claudia Dina

Sweden / Lebanon

claudiadina76@gmail.com

**„Trust in dreams, for in them is hidden the gate to eternity. Tenderness and kindness are not signs of weakness and despair, but manifestations of strength and resolution.“
– Gibran Khalil Gibran**

Claudia is originally from Lebanon but is permanently living in Sweden with her husband and two children. She holds a bachelor's degree in law from the Lebanese University and has worked extensively with refugees and asylum seekers in Lebanon.

As an employee of UNHCR, Claudia has conducted interviews with refugees and asylum seekers in detention and retention centers in Lebanon. She moved to Jordan to work with UNHCR Jordan on a pilot project with the refugee community aiming to empower refugee women and girls. Claudia has also worked with migrants workers in Lebanon, assisting in solving problems with their employers and preventing the possibility of them being trafficked.

Claudia also was a member of the humanitarian organizations that were present in southern Lebanon in 2006 after the 32-day war. She was actively involved in human rights organizations active in Lebanon and attended various training courses with local and European organizations in the field of Human Rights. During her working experience, Claudia witnessed unfair and unnecessary misery imposed on people. This can be prevented. She believes that the MSLS program will help her better understand sustainability and how to strategically work with communities towards a sustainable future.

Daniela Andrea Stange Urrutia

Chile

dstange@gmail.com

[linkedin.com/in/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/daniela-stange-94418230/)

[daniela-stange-94418230/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/daniela-stange-94418230/)



“Where there is a tree to plant, plant it yourself. Where there is an error to amend, amend it yourself. Where there is an effort that everyone dodges, do it yourself. Be the one who removes the stone from the road.” – Gabriela Mistral

Daniela is a loved daughter, sister and aunt. She is the human mother of a shar-pei and a life partner of a strong believer in human society.

She holds a bachelor’s degree in Industrial Engineering and her professional career started by working for a nonprofit corporation that promotes innovation, where she researched initiatives that addressed environmental impacts.

Evaluating ideas for others made her wonder if there was a possibility to generate change from within, so she decided to move to the private sector and to obtain an Environmental Management Diploma. While being part of this company she had a chance not only to implement several sustainability driven initiatives, but to impact

others by helping create the sustainability ambassadors, a group of employees united by the motto “small changes that generate a great impact”. Daniela enjoys spending her free time learning about multiple things, from photography to Ayurvedic medicine, where she found a deeper connection to nature. Moved by a bigger purpose and an inner voice that’s always wondering what’s next she decided to join MSLS in order to continue her journey of learning and development. Where is this going to lead her? That is yet to be discovered, but she will make sure this path will leave a mark in people’s life, not the environment.

Daniela’s nephew is born the same day as her.



Daniela Tablado

Tenerife, Canary Islands, Spain
tabladobth@gmail.com

**“Water is life”
– unknown**

**Daniela gets
goosebumps
when someone
shares
something
emotional!**

Daniela grew up in Tenerife, but she currently considers herself a nomad. As she grew older, her love for nature, people and her “gut feeling” to have a positive impact on the world became more prominent. Rewinding back a bit, in 2010 Daniela had a volunteering experience in Ethiopia which became a turning point in her life, close relations with locals gave her great encouragement to fight for a better world. After graduating from International Relations Bachelor’s degree, she decided to go explore the world a bit and to learn about other cultures before diving into a professional career. Chinese is one of her big interests so her first harbour was China. She then moved to Switzerland followed by Australia and her last “home” has been a rather long stay in south-east Asia. Daniela has had a few different, transitory jobs but besides teaching, none really fulfilling, after all they were meant to be transitory. Now it became time to immerse herself into the change she wants to see, a global awakening to fight for a healthy planet, a harmonious relation people-Earth and social justice. Daniela’s current location: MSLS, her insights: THERE’S NO PLACE I’D RATHER BE! A place where I can connect to diverse and inspiring people and gain the skills and tools to position myself out there.

Elin Olsson

Sweden

elinolssons.mail@gmail.com

[linkedin.com/in/elin-olsson-](https://www.linkedin.com/in/elin-olsson-06418311a/)

[06418311a/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/elin-olsson-06418311a/)

**„Everything big
that happened
in the world first
happened in one
person’s fantasy.“
– Astrid Lindgren**



Elin started exploring the world in a small town outside Lund, Sweden. There were no limits to creativity – Elin repainted her room with crayons, made an indoor aquarium for tadpoles (soon surprisingly realising they were to become frogs), had daily scavenger hunts and directed plenty of costume shows with her brother. As Elin’s world grew bigger and challenges advanced her creativity and will for exploration changed character. Natural science, music and crafting evolved into environmental engineering, water resource management and a huge Mozambique thesis adventure as well as writing manuscripts, acting, dancing, choreographing and taking classes in sketching, pottery and scenography.

However, one important part was missing, which Elin discovered while working with integration of kids with and without disabilities. Here it became obvious that independently of background or abilities you can always contribute, we just need to help each other figure out how. This was key! Since then an immense will to enable inclusion for all has followed Elin along with the will to explore and the urge to create.



Ellen Decoodt

Belgium

**“Where there’s a
will, there’s a way.”
– unknown**

I am a young woman, following my own path in life, not knowing where it will bring me or how I will get there. The only thing I am sure of is where I came from and the journey I’ve had so far. Until now my biography would start with “Ellen Decoodt is a Belgian freelance production manager in the performing arts ...” Although I am still Belgian, this sentence isn’t true anymore. I am heading towards a new professional direction. I used to work with artists, arts institutions and art organisations, I was managing a lot of practical and administrative things in order to enable them to focus on the artistic content.

At a certain point I realised I missed a lot in my job: I didn’t learn anymore, I missed content and a shared vision to work towards. The path I was going on became vague and things started to shift. I was afraid that I wasn’t living my life, but that my life was being lived. Once I had acknowledged that fact, space for new perspectives appeared. These new perspectives lead me to MSLS and at this moment I don’t yet know where the path of my life will bring me afterwards. What I do know is that I commit to living my own life.

Elshan Rustamov

Azerbaijan
elsenrustemov@gmail.com
[linkedin.com/in/elshan-rustamov-9aa8662b/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/elshan-rustamov-9aa8662b/)



After completing a bachelor's and master's degrees in Economics in Azerbaijan Elshan started working for International Financial Institutions (such as the World Bank, Asian Development Bank). He worked as a social safeguard and a social development consultant, preparing and implementing projects in various sectors.

While working in a close collaboration with environmental specialists for more than 13 years, Elshan has been thinking about the inalienable and unavoidable connection between people and nature. He intends to discover potential channels to align the two. However, witnessing people's relation to nature, which has become that of a pathology to a living body, inspired him to continue learning and to be one of the change agents for the World.

Elshan is keen to find alternative economic development models which don't damage our home – the Earth. With this in mind, he completed “International Development” graduate diploma studies at the University of London. Afterwards, the strong desire to continue exploring new methods and innovative tools to deal with sustainable development, brought him to MSLS. Elshan aims to use MSLS as a platform to improve his multidisciplinary profile and enhance approaches in order to confront the sustainability challenge.



Erin Ring

Canada
e.ring@live.com

“Some failure in life is inevitable. It is impossible to live without failing at something, unless you live so cautiously that you might as well not have lived at all – in which case, you fail by default.”
– J.K. Rowling

Erin holds a degree in Chemistry and Environmental Sustainability & Society. Growing up in Canada’s “ocean playground”, she has been able to foster her love for nature and the great outdoors. However, what has truly inspired Erin to work towards complex environmental issues is her love for humanity. Before MSLS

Erin strongly believes that there is never such a thing as too much ice cream!

Erin spent over two years working and travelling abroad, learning about different cultures and ways of knowing, and exploring environments and landscapes different from home. From working with Indigenous youth in remote communities in northern Canada to trekking through the Himalayas, Erin’s experiences have been invaluable. And while she has seen many amazing things, from the beautiful Eiffel Tower to witnessing more people on a single scooter than she had ever thought possible; what will truly stick with her for years to come are the people who she met along the way, the stories that they shared, and the lessons she learned. Erin hopes to continue focusing on this human connection throughout her time in MSLS. In this world, everything is constantly in a state of flux, therefore she believes the ability to connect with others in an unpredictable and ever-changing world is invaluable.

Esther Zimmer

Germany
e.zimmer@posteo.de

**“It’s the possibility of having a dream come true that makes life interesting.”
– Paulo Coelho,
The Alchemist**



Esther has been working with children since her teenage years, yet it was during a year abroad in Canada that she decided to make social work her profession. She studied Pedagogics/Educational Studies (B.A.) in Germany and collected a diverse range of work experience with kids of all ages throughout her university years. Teaching refugees, working at a primary school, volunteering for a food saving and sharing organisation, community gardening are just some of the projects she has participated in. Esther sees increasing materialistic attitudes as a huge factor in the widening gap between people from different countries and cultures and as a big obstacle to a sustainable society. Her aim is to leave these attitudes behind and explore more communal and open-minded lifestyles. It is working with children that helps her see the importance of our attitude towards sustainability over and over again. Therefore, she never forgets one basic thing: Children are the future. And Esther wants to contribute to a beautiful future for children. With the most honest motivation to help make this world a better place, she deeply wishes to lead by example and to be a role model for future grown-ups.

Esther can be a bit of a nerd when it comes to computer science.



Fenna van der Ploeg

The Netherlands

fennavanderploeg@live.nl

[linkedin.com/in/fenna-van-der-ploeg/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/fenna-van-der-ploeg/)

“And you’re spinning around in the middle of absolutely nowhere, living on a planet where water falls from the sky. Can you even believe we are happening?”

When she was 8 years old, Fenna’s teacher assigned her class to write an essay answering the question „What do you want to become when you grow up?“. Fenna wrote, „I don’t know what I want to become, but I want to save the world“.

Fenna used to perform as a spoken word artist.

A bit like Nelson Mandela. When she grew up, she tried to keep this childish naivety - to believe we can not only change the world but save it. Fenna believes there is no other option than to be ambitious about this goal. She tried a whole bunch of things, from climate science (her academic background is in physics) to activism to social entrepreneurship. All were valuable experiences, but she felt she had not yet

found the answer to that essay question. In a way, what Fenna wrote when she was 8 is still the case. What she needs to do with her life is very clear: helping to mitigate climate destruction. How exactly she will do this is, however, not yet very clear. That’s what she’s here for, at MSLS: to find out how she will save the world.

Håkan Augustsson



Sweden

hakan.augustsson1@gmail.com
[linkedin.com/in/håkan-augustsson-a7347a46/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/håkan-augustsson-a7347a46/)

My background is diverse but is mainly in the field of education and real estate. I worked as an economics teacher for youths aged 16-19 and also as an advisor for companies in various fields. For some years I had my own company in the real estate business. When it comes to my interests, they're mostly about exercising and being out in the nature. For example kayaking is a really nice way to explore and connect with nature and ice skating or going cross country skiing are other things that I appreciate. The step from these activities to getting interested in sustainability is not big so I guess I've been on my way to this course for a while now. I'm not yet sure what I'll do after MSLS but it will probably include educating and training people in this method in one way or another.

Håkan is able to memorize 25 names of students in ten minutes.



Haley Mah

Canada

halexmah@gmail.com

**„We do not think ourselves
into new ways of living,
we live ourselves into new
ways of thinking.“
– Richard Rohr**

Haley was born and raised in Vancouver - a west coast city surrounded by mountains and the Salish Sea. As much as she loves exploring her own backyard, Haley is always looking for opportunities to live abroad and enhance her understanding of people, places and cultures.

In 2013, Haley moved to South Korea to teach English to children living in rural areas who lacked access to quality education. In 2015, she moved to Los Angeles

**Haley recently
trekked the Juan de
Fuca Marine Trail, a
47km coastal
wilderness trail.**

where she interned for a non-profit organisation that rescues and resettles North Korean refugees. For ten weeks she traveled across California bringing people together to educate and equip them with tools to start making a difference.

Haley feels most alive when she is working to empower others to act and she believes that her future in sustainability will ultimately lead her to this type of work. Haley's interest in sustainability has grown intimately in tandem with her journey of personal development, so when she's not focusing on her studies she's practicing yoga, trying to meditate or listening to a podcast.

Hassibullah Ahmadi

Afghanistan

hassib_ahmadi@hotmail.com
[linkedin.com/in/
hassibullah-ahmadi/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/hassibullah-ahmadi/)



**“The greatest threat to our planet is the belief that someone else will save it.”
– Robert Swan, Author**

Living in Afghanistan means struggling for life due to violence, terrorist attacks, robberies and pollution. With these challenges in mind Hassib pursued his Bachelor’s degree in Business Administration at Goa University and a Master’s degree in Business Administration at Chonnam National University, Gwangju focusing on community development leadership. Hassib has 7 years of work experience in different fields in Government organizations, he has worked as a MIS reporting officer, HR officer, Master Trainer and New Village Movement Implementation officer. Hassib has applied the Korean Development Model (New Village Movement) as a pilot, which was developed to advance rural communities and decrease the income gap between rural and urban population in Afghanistan. The Model application involved bringing mindset changes and developing the livelihoods, by promoting collective work, tree planting and knowledge sharing. Hassib also volunteered as board member at Afghan-Korean Alumni Association providing chairs, tables, computers and school bags for students. Working with Korean Development Model inspired Hassib’s pursuit of MSLS studies at BTH to find more strategic solution to our planet’s and societies` sustainability challenges.

Hassib can make people laugh by telling funny jokes.



Johanna Mattsson

Sweden

mattsson.johanna@outlook.com

[linkedin.com/in/johanna-mattsson1994/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/johanna-mattsson1994/)

“Maybe we only get the time given to us on this earth. That’s why I see it even more clearly now: Don’t work too much. Don’t let the emotions stay in your chest. Talk. Never argue over money. Dare to say no. Dare to say yes. Paradise can be a place on earth.” – Kristian Gidlund

Johanna grew up in the countryside outside of Borlänge, Sweden and studied Business Administration. She has always been into sports, anything from floorball, horseback riding to soccer. Being involved with various sports she always had a strong connection to the local community. When Johanna got older she felt that she wanted to give back more, so she got involved with different sport association boards. What Johanna likes the most about these sports is how they help young girls to create self-esteem and a sense of belonging, as they had once helped her to do. She is passionate about gender equality and by being involved with those boards she feels that she can make an impact.

**Johanna won
the Swedish
Championship in
high school-soccer
2012**

Johanna’s eyes opened when she worked as a sustainability coach for a hotel during her studies. She realized that the more she knew, the more she wanted to learn about sustainability. By combining ecological and social sustainability MSLS presented the holistic approach that she was looking for. Johanna hopes the school year of 2019/2020 will bring her knowledge and inspiration about sustainable leadership and how we should address the biggest challenges of our time.

Julia Martinez Barbero

Basque Country, Spain
juliamartinezbarbero
@gmail.com



“El progreso consiste en el cambio”
“Progress implies change”
– Miguel de Unamuno

Julia has always been fascinated by the rules that govern the structure of society, and the complex political structures that shape the world. This curiosity led her to study for a B.A. in International Relations and Law, which she recently completed. It was Julia’s work experience in Latin America that was the main root of her interest in sustainability. The experience brought to light the increasing challenges of social inequality and biodiversity loss, this spurred her on to find ways to combat these problems. More recently, Julia interned at UNESCO Center for the Basque Country, where she understood more about how the world works from a local perspective. In particular, she is passionate about the promotion of a Culture of Peace, Human Rights, International Cooperation and Gender. The MSLS program is the challenge she needs to learn how to navigate through the complexities of this world with empathy, fairness and passion. She is looking forward to a magical year in Karlskrona!

**Julia heard
about
MSLS on a
blabblacar
ride.**



Kristina Gren

Ukraine / Lithuania / UK
kristina.gren@hotmail.com
linkedin.com/in/kristina-gren-230bb212

**“Nowadays people know the price of everything and the value of nothing.”
– Oscar Wilde,
The Picture of Dorian Gray**

Kristina loves dancing, especially swing dance.

Having moved countries at a young age Kristina became interested in how different societies, cultures and people function. She studied Psychology and Philosophy at the University of Oxford and later tried to apply her learnings about decision making and influence in the field of B2B Marketing. Kristina always wanted to do more than “just work” and searched for a deeper meaning by doing various voluntary projects on the side e.g. volunteering to help kids with autism, raising funds for water pumps in Africa, working with social enterprises, teaching English in Ecuador and getting involved with Greenpeace. Yet, all these good willing actions seemed a bit sporadic and less efficient than a more focused approach could yield. She decided she doesn’t want to be a Marketer by day and ‘trying to do good’ in her spare time, hence she is currently in the process of a career change (into something yet unknown) Kristina hopes MSLS will equip her with knowledge and tools to do more ‘good’, more efficiently on a greater scale.

Laura Ferré Cerdà

Spain

laura.fc.08@gmail.com

[linkedin.com/in/lauraferre](https://www.linkedin.com/in/lauraferre)



“When I buy something, or when you do it, we are not paying with money. We are paying with the time from our lives we had to spend to earn that money. The difference is that you can’t buy life. Life just goes by. It is terrible to waste your life losing your freedom”

– Jose Mujica

Laura has always believed that everyone can generate change. She is passionate about using the powerful combination of sustainability and business to scale positive impact.

Laura understands sustainable development as each person living better and more fully, societies being more equal, diverse and inclusive and brands serving humanity. She has worked in London supporting innovative schools and social entrepreneurs and in Madrid, helping businesses to integrate organization-wide sustainability by running social innovation projects and involving various stakeholders to align with brand purpose definition.

Laura is fair with food portions: everyone in the table must be served the same amount of food!

Laura believes that the magic lies in recognizing that we are not solo heroes but one of many working towards the same goal: there is strength in numbers. Through the MSLS journey she wants to bring leadership and cooperation to organizations to join forces towards sustainable development.



Laura Maria López Cuadros

Germany (Peru and Spain)

lamalocu@gmail.com

[linkedin.com/in/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/laura-lopez-cuadros-70a7b4127/)

[laura-lópez-cuadros-70a7b4127/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/laura-lopez-cuadros-70a7b4127/)

**“He who has a why to live
for can endure almost any
how.” – Friedrich Nietzsche**

Laura was born and raised in Germany by Peruvian and Spanish parents. She is the second person in her family to pursue academic studies and holds a B.A. in Sociology, Politics and Economics. She owes her capacity to relate to different

Laura was called Riesenbaby - giant baby- when she was born but her mom still calls her Chiqui(ta).

perspectives - to be humble and empathetic - to her parents and grandparents as they lived in a totally different reality than her's, marked by poverty and tough social and economic living conditions. Their stories of suffering and achievements give her courage to continue fighting for a fairer world. She contributes to the empowerment of (young) people through entrepreneurship and purpose-finding. Her biggest personal transformation happened at a young age when she moved from Germany to California with her family. This experience made her leave behind the confusion and aversion she had towards her

multi-cultural background and identity. She took on a grateful can-do-attitude after discovering that there is not a single “reality“. Laura is deeply convinced that acknowledging existing multiple perspectives is key towards more tolerance and cooperation in our world. Through MSLS, she will learn how to apply her knowledge related to sustainability in teams and organizations. She pictures herself to continue doing so in the areas of consulting and entrepreneurship.

Léandre Jimo Nawej

Canada

nawejl@yahoo.com

[linkedin.com/in/leandrenawej/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/leandrenawej/)



“We don’t need more technology to solve these (environmental and social) problems. What we need is willpower. ...We have the solutions. We don’t have the leadership to implement them.” – Paul Polman

Hailing from North Bay and Toronto, Canada – Léandre is a young professional who is passionate about human rights and corporate social responsibility (CSR). She holds a Bachelor of Commerce Degree from Ryerson University where she majored in Law and Business. During her undergraduate studies Léandre realized that she was unsatisfied with “business as usual” and wanted to expand the boundaries of corporate responsibility through sustainable innovation. MSLS has provided Léandre with the tools to go out into the world and challenge the status-quo to protect and preserve social-ecological systems. To date, Léandre has worked for the Canadian government at both the local and national level and for several international NGOs. Following MSLS she looks forward to applying her learnings to the private sector to drive further change. Her current focus is on the textile and apparel industry which she feels is in need of stronger labour laws, anti human trafficking policies, enhanced production methods and efficient waste management processes.

Léandre started an anti human trafficking movement in the Greater Toronto Area.



Lennart Reymann

Germany

lennart.reymann@gmail.com

[linkedin.com/in/lennart-reymann-809442174/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/lennart-reymann-809442174/)

**Learning is not
compulsory. Neither is
survival.
– Dr. W. Edwards
Deming**

With a science background in International Development and Communication Science, Lennart's research questions were mostly related to education. In 2014, he started working as a teacher (Teach For Austria Fellow) in the PTS (prevocational school), to get hands-on teaching experience in Vienna, Austria. In order to tackle the diverse challenges at the school, he conceptualized and initiated a project class focusing on language acquisition. In class, students took over the school buffet. This enabled them to apply language in a real-world context and empowered them to work independently with real-world feedback. The positive outcome of this

In his youth, Lennart was desperate to finally finish school, only to end up deeply routed in the education sector in his professional life.

project made Lennart realize how restrained most teaching is in Austria and around Europe. To empower teacher and school development, as well as sustainable education policy-reforms, he founded Framework Education. With his team, Lennart creates frameworks for teachers, students, parents and policymakers to envision the school system needed to overcome the challenges of the 21st century.

Lizzie Moore

elizabeth.k.r.moore@gmail.com
linkedin.com/in/lizzie-moo-
re-a8249a99/



“There are no strangers here, just friends we’ve yet to meet.”
– Found on the wall of Theatre Cymru in Wales

Lizzie grew up in Cornwall, South West England, and graduated in French and Russian from the University of Oxford in 2014.

Most recently, Lizzie worked at Commonwealth Games England as Business Operations and CSR Manager, where she launched a project designed to connect 2000 young people from diverse backgrounds over a 1.5 year period, building connections through sport and the inclusive message of the Commonwealth Games. Lizzie worked in Australia at the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games and in Russia at Krasnoyarsk 2019 Winter Universiade. Both of these experiences led Lizzie to reflect on the positive and negative impacts international sports events can have with reference to ecological and social sustainability.

It’s very challenging to feel sad while looking at an alpaca.

Through MSLS, Lizzie looks forward to gaining more theory and knowledge about sustainability science and leadership methodology, in order to be well equipped to address the global and systemic challenges that we are facing.



Marcus J.I. Olsson

Sweden

marcus.olsson@runbox.com

<http://linkedin.com/in/jimo>

**“Ask yourself what
the world needs.”**

Marcus is a supply chain professional with many years of international experience in global companies such as IKEA, Atlas Copco and HeidelbergCement. Sustainability, in different applications, has been a part of all his assignments. For example, in the implementation of IKEA’s code of conduct and forest tracing policies during a four year assignment in their North China supply chains, sustainability was a big focus. Another example with a different focus was the sustainable product development and innovation of world-leading products in Atlas Copco’s construction tools. However, a more intended search for a higher meaning led Marcus to be a part of the development of a climate neutral

**Marcus owns a
very friendly cow
called Ronja.**

cement within the HeidelbergCement group. During the development of the much needed and sustainable cement, Marcus developed a passionate interest and drive for sustainability. When HeidelbergCement surprisingly decided to close down (!!!) the ready developed super-green cement, Marcus got slightly irritated. Parallell to his MSLS-studies, that will make him a sustainability professional, he and some colleagues recently started a company that has the vision to become the “Tesla” of the cement-industry. Imagine if all future cities could be built with a climate-friendly cement, that will clean the skies from old fossile sins!

Maria Juliana Salamone

Argentina

juliana.salamone@gmail.com

[linkedin.com/in/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/julianasalamone/)

[julianasalamone/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/julianasalamone/)



There are so many beautiful quotes... how can I choose one?

Juliana has been attracted to nature and of taking care of the environment ever since she can remember. She was born and raised in a small town in the middle of Argentina and witnessed how many environmental injustices were taking place in her small community. At a young age, without many tools or resources, she tried to pursue different initiatives to make society aware of the harmful activities that were carried out at the cost of the city's nature. She didn't accomplish much but instead she found her calling for what she wanted to dedicate her life to, that is to having an active participation in projects that would help solve environmental problems. She went to Law School and pursued an MBA. She started participating in different projects related to sustainability in Argentina - specifically with Circular Economy, Packaging Management and Recycling. She is also part of the NGO Sumando Energias that builds solar collectors with recycled materials for families in need.

Studying MSLS is like a dream come true to her and she hopes that this experience will enable her to become a better version of herself, an empowered professional and her own type of sustainability leader.

Juliana had already found her Girl Power and an interest in sustainability aged 10.



Mariana (Mary) Vasileva

Bulgaria

mary_ann@abv.bg

[linkedin.com/in/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/mariana-vasileva-62467884/)

[mariana-vasileva-62467884/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/mariana-vasileva-62467884/)

**“There are only two ways
to live your life: as though
nothing is a miracle, or
as though everything is a
miracle.”**

– Albert Einstein

Mary has always been an “eco-freako” for her friends and relatives. She thinks one of the factors that contributed to developing such a mindset is the fact she spent most of her childhood living in her grandparents’ house, where she was surrounded by mountains, meadows, animals, clean food and water. All of this opened her senses for the “breathing” world around us.

Mary studied Business Administration and she has worked in branches like telecommunications, insurance and IT. A few years ago Mary became part of the CSR team in the company she worked for and there she discovered the rewarding world of volunteering. Since then she’s been participating in different projects and initiatives in support of nature, people and animals. A cause that she’s really passionate about is reducing the use of disposable plastics.

**Mary is a
song lyrics
machine!**

Mary sees the MSLS Programme as a way to grow personally and to find her own meaning professionally. She says: “MSLS is an opportunity that comes once in a lifetime so I needed to grab it!”

Marielle Carlsson

Sweden

marielle.carlsson@hotmail.com

[linkedin.com/in/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/marielle-carlsson-79a9b0b9/)

[marielle-carlsson-79a9b0b9/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/marielle-carlsson-79a9b0b9/)



Marielle grew up on the countryside in Sweden, close to animals and nature. She spent most of her upbringing riding and competing in horse jumping. At the age of 20 she wanted to discover the world and was given the opportunity to do so for a few years, partly because of her involvement in the music industry, but also for private reasons. During this period, she gained insights into the global sustainability challenges faced by society, both socially and ecologically, and their linkage to each other. At the time she studied law with a focus on contract and market law but realized that it was the environmental area that was closest to her heart. She graduated with a degree in environmental law and courses in sustainable development, environmental science and environmental management. She has worked with sustainability issues both in the public and private sector and in different positions such as global coordinator, advisor and specialist and has come to realize how important right leadership is for a successful work within this field. With MSLS she will get the opportunity to develop leadership skills and the strategic approach on sustainability, as well as get a wider perspective and inspiration.

**Marielle did
the Ironman
Kalmar 2016.**



Marvin Lannefeld

Germany

m.lannefeld@me.com

[https://www.linkedin.com/in/
lannefeldmarvin/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/lannefeldmarvin/)

**“Your time is limited,
so don’t waste it living
someone else’s life.”
– Steve Jobs**

Driven by his fascination for cities and societal ways of living, Marvin chose to attend his undergrad in Urbanism at the Bauhaus-University in Weimar. There, he co-led an initiative that provided free language courses and workshops for refugees and was involved in other politically active organizations. After his exchange semester in China, he decided to delay his studies and found a new calling when wanting to collect work experience:

**Because of
moving frequently
Marvin had up to
this point in total 21
different people as
flatmates.**

he took on an internship opportunity in the automotive sector, where he used his background as an urban planner to support the development of strategies for sustainable transport-concepts on a global scale. Realizing that his understanding of sustainability and leadership-skills were not sufficient for the challenges the mobility sector renders on a systemic level, he decided to attend

MSLS. Marvin hopes the MSLS-experience will help him develop a holistic approach to deal with the challenges our society is facing on a social and environmental level.

Olivia Viana Neves

Brazil

contato.oliviaviana@gmail.com

[linkedin.com/in/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/oliviaviananeves/)

[oliviaviananeves/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/oliviaviananeves/)

“We have the greatest capacity to make a difference when we dare to open ourselves up, to expose our most honest nightmares and our most heart-felt dreams.”

– Adam Kahane



Olivia was born in Goiânia, a city in the center of Brazil. She graduated in Biological Sciences and has worked in ecology and conservation research for some years. With these experiences, along with experiences she made in environmental education, working in a private company and being a questioning person, Olivia realized that she wanted to work in a practical way, being an agent of transformation. She wants to learn more about social development, economics, social entrepreneurship, managing, leadership and so forth... She had a great experience working for a year as volunteer in an NGO in her home town and this reinforced her desire to work with people and organizations that have a purpose that is aligned to hers. Olivia is very committed to make her life a great opportunity for personal growth – and thereby, to contribute to changes in the world.

Olivia loves to dance forró, samba and „brasilidades“.



Omer Mohammed

Ethiopia
samiscoksp@gmail.com

**“Don’t waste water
even if you were at
a running stream.”
– Prophet Moham-
med s.a.w.s**

Omer Mohammed was born and raised in Ethiopia. He studied Civil and Environmental Engineering in Addis Ababa and started his professional career in construction as a senior site engineer where he led dozens of people and managed complex projects. Besides devoting his time as an engineer, Omer has worked as a junior policy maker and strategist at a local political party where he is responsible for developing and implementing proposals for the

improvement of his community and country. Through his political experience he observed a lack of knowledge on the democratic culture and a lack of leadership qualities at his home country. So, he wanted to advance his leadership skills and has joined the MSLS program in Sweden. Once

Politics is Omer’s entertainment.

he has completed his studies, he wants to be a politician in Ethiopia and wants to give back to the society through his experience. Omer is a frequent speaker at youth programs and serves as a chair in different volunteer programs. He enjoys watching movies, documentaries and reading political books.

Patrizzia Cappelletti Rocha

Brazil

patrizzia@gmail.com

[linkedin.com/in/patrizziac](https://www.linkedin.com/in/patrizziac)

**“My humanity is bound up in you, for we can only be human together.”
– Desmond Tutu**



‘Latina’, mother of the most beautiful little angel, honest, courageous, Patrizzia immersed herself in the world to grow and to connect with people and cultures. Originally from Rio de Janeiro, Patrizzia is a Biologist and holds an M.Sc. in Environmental Engineering with 7 years of experiences in environmental licensing processes and socio-environmental projects in Brazil. Also, she is qualified as a Montessori Pedagogy Educator which has given her three years of fantastic experiences with children in the UK. Her motivations to work towards sustainability came, firstly, from her childhood when she could experience nature intensively and beautifully. Her curiosity about how nature works and how humans have been impacting the planet both negatively and positively have lead her to seek for knowledge and successful experiences. Also, during her life time in Brazil she never could be indifferent to massive social contrasts, chronic corruption, violence and injustices of all kinds. To reach big changes, she wants to keep working in education. Supporting people to keep their natural connection with the planet, fostering holistic thinking and increasing understanding of our complex society and environments. Also, she wants to keep her works in collaborative projects designed for personal growth, community building and service to the earth.

Her favourite place is ‘Ilha de Paquetá’.



Paula Ferraz

Brazil

ferraz.paula17@gmail.com

[linkedin.com/in/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/paula-ferraz-82163852/)

[paula-ferraz-82163852/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/paula-ferraz-82163852/)

Paula grew up in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. She holds a bachelor degree in Business and has an extensive experience in consulting and auditing. Working with a variety of clients and people, she realized that there was something missing in the business world and within herself: larger purpose. The larger purpose led Paula to MSLS, where she aims to learn more about leadership, social development, different cultures and so forth. With that she wants to be a transformational agent and bring power and love together to work towards a more sustainable society.

Paula has done volunteer work at a project called “Biblioteca Viva em Hospitais“, mediating stories for hospitalized children, especially those that were hospitalized for long periods. That was a great experience and made her grow spiritually. It also added to her wanting to become a transformation agent.

Pia Hillebrecht

Germany

p.hillebrecht@t-online.de

[linkedin.com/in/pia-hillebrecht-317556174](https://www.linkedin.com/in/pia-hillebrecht-317556174)

brecht-317556174



**“It is something I cannot not do.”
– Peter Senge**

During a voluntary service in Ecuador Pia learned a lot about herself, cultural awareness, global justice and sustainable development. Living for 12 months on a finca (farm) and hearing from the local people about the recent changes in the flora, fauna, cultivation and market developments she started to see the global interconnectedness and the impact social structures as well as her personal actions have on the lives of others and the planet as a whole. Her strong beliefs and passion to change the current path resulted in a B.Sc. in “Environmental and Sustainability Studies” from the Leuphana University. Since then she has worked for consultant agencies dedicated to ecological and social sustainability and on an EU-project designing and implementing new circular business models. What she loves about sustainability is that it is applicable everywhere – in any system, level and field. Through the MSLS program she seeks to acquire the necessary strategic and creative tools to bring diverse people together, create a shared mindset and work effectively together towards a sustainable future.

Pia has difficulties with most jokes but this does not impair her capability to laugh.



Pippa Emily Wisbey

UK

pippa.wisbey@gmail.com

[linkedin.com/in/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/pippa-wisbey-47958a96/)

[philippa-wisbey-47958a96/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/pippa-wisbey-47958a96/)

„It seems to me that the natural world is the greatest source of excitement; the greatest source of visual beauty; the greatest source of intellectual interest. It is the greatest source of so much in life that makes life worth living.“

– Sir David Attenborough

Pippa has a BSc in Psychology from the University of St Andrews in Scotland (apparently she really likes studying in windy cities by the sea!). While there, she got involved in volunteer projects, working with children and adults with disabilities. Her love of horses and the countryside led her to the local Riding for the Disabled group, building strong connections with the local community through the staff, volunteers and parents/ carers as well as the riders. It is one of the things that has given her a deep appreciation of working within and preserving nature. Her work with voluntary organisations at university ultimately

Pippa has run the length of Heathrow Airport runway at 2AM for a charity event.

led her to the charity sector in London, working with a diverse range of causes, such as heart disease, homelessness and veterans' welfare. Working in Corporate Partnerships, Pippa felt that so often, companies could (and should) have been doing much more than they were. At the same time, she was becoming more aware of sustainability issues, and the urgency with which we have to tackle them. Having started to

make changes in her personal life, this didn't feel like enough, and this feeling led her to the MSLS programme to find out how to work more holistically and to help prevent Corporate Social Responsibility being just a 'tick box' exercise.

Rada (May) Jutrakul

Thailand / Sweden
rada.jutrakul@gmail.com



**„Sometimes you win, sometimes you learn.“
– John Maxwell**

May was born and raised in the busy, lively city of Bangkok, Thailand. She knew that her positive mindset and creative imagination would bring her far in life. Volunteering with underprivileged children and minorities was a privilege she has had for as long as she can remember. May quickly discovered her passion in teaching which later led her to pursue her Bachelor's in Psychology and Education in Thailand and a Master's in Learning, Education and Technology in Finland. Through her most current job within R&D as project planner, she was introduced to sustainable development aspects. May soon discovered the MSLS programme and decided to join based on her curiosity and interest for a further self-development journey. Through the MSLS journey, she wants to be equipped to pave the way for integrating sustainability into the compulsory school education. As much as she is determined to find her way back to support her homeland educational system, she is also excited to serve beyond to wherever life wishes to bring her.

May can't stop playing with her hair even when in public or in serious contexts.



Roberta Domingues

Brazil

robertadominguesb@gmail.com

[linkedin.com/in/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/robertadominguesb)

[robertadominguesb](https://www.linkedin.com/in/robertadominguesb)

**„Love is the bridge
between you and
everything.“
– Rumi**

**Roberta is a
spiritual being
having a human
experience and
she likes it.**

Roberta is a person dedicated to the purpose of constantly growing in herself and others deeper levels of humanity and a mindset focused on the common good, who is committed to develop and facilitate processes which include the cultivation of positive values, promotion of wellbeing and sustainability. Out of her core values: wisdom, compassion, making a difference, collaboration and ethics, emerge a deepened purpose for her life and work. She keeps pursuing her vision of shifting systems from ego to eco-awareness through her personal and professional experiences. She has volunteered and worked in diverse organizations in the private and voluntary sectors, with Corporate Social Responsibility, Sustainability, Impact Investing/Social Business, Conscious leadership and business development. She has a bachelor's degree in International Relations, master's degree in Social Responsibility and NGOs; she is a Gross National Happiness Practitioner and Cultural Transformation Tools Consultant.

Roxanne Le Failler

France / Brazil

roxanne.le.failler@gmail.com

[linkedin.com/in/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/roxanne-le-failler-6826782b)

[roxanne-le-failler-6826782b](https://www.linkedin.com/in/roxanne-le-failler-6826782b)



**„In medio stat
virtus“
– Aristotle**

Roxanne's background is bi-cultural as she grew up between Brazil and France. Her mind is driven by curiosity about the collective dynamics of today's World. Her heart connects with emotional diversity. Her intuition requires her to express herself with spontaneity and sincerity. Roxanne studied Political and International Affairs in France and Spain and holds a Master's degree in Metropolitan Governance. She has been working as an international consultant for UN-Habitat in Latin America. In parallel, she keeps learning and volunteering both formally and informally. Emotional literacy, inter-cultural experiences and the socio-economic inclusion of migrants are some of the topics she is involved with at different levels. She is an action-oriented person, cares about the human component of processes and tends to keep an eye on the bigger picture. Her experience with governance and the UN institutional setting leads her to value complexity and systems thinking concepts and tools. She moved from Brazil to Sweden to study MSLS in Karlskrona. It will allow her to experience a new culture and actively develop her understanding and skills related to Social Sustainability.



Solaleh Abedi

Iran

solale.4lg@gmail.com

**“Leaders never use
the word failure.
They look upon
setbacks as learning
experiences.”
– Brian Tracy**

Solaleh is a 27-year-old medical doctor who has lived in many countries throughout her life. As a child she grew up in Paris, France where she completed her primary school, after three years of a break back home in Iran she travelled to Poland when she was 10. She lived there for almost 10 years. Solaleh finished her high school there and got admitted to Warsaw Medical University. She

thought that one day she wanted to be somewhere where they need her knowledge, so she decided to move to Pakistan and complete her studies there. Hard work pays off and now she is medical doctor graduated from Karchi University. As a member of the new generation living in the current world of fast depleting resources and improper management of natural assets that our planet contains, Solaleh aspires to take a leadership role

by collaborating with other similar and like-minded people to work towards a society that would not only be able to sustain itself ecologically but also socially. She specially plans to undertake this task in developing countries, where the problems of an ever-growing population and fast depleting natural resources create a harsh environment for the people to survive or thrive.

**Solaleh
loves
laughing.**

Sophie Charrois

Germany
sophiech@live.de
linkedin.com/in/
sophie-charrois-5a0765111/



**“Where both reason and experience fall short, there occurs a vacuum that can be filled by faith.”
– J. Gaarder**

Sophie is an open-minded change agent with a passion for organizational development and community involvement. While unraveling the mysteries of the fashion & textile value chain during her first studies, she became deeply involved in the topic of sustainability in higher education, economics & management by joining the international student network oikos. That's where she started embarking on a self-development and leadership journey that finally led her to MSLS in 2019.

Over the past years, she developed an intrinsic passion for the field of organizational development and responsible leadership. She believes that the spaces where people frequently come together with a common purpose are also the spaces where we forge the keys towards sustainability. When not saving the world, Sophie considers herself a culture and arts enthusiast, sparking positive energy.

Sophie's future aspirations? Helping to transform the cosmos of organizations in a truly collaborative, wholesome, purpose-led manner.

Sophie carries salt wherever she goes.



Susan Otuoma

Kenya

sotuoma80@gmail.com

[linkedin.com/in/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/susan-otuoma-61668554/)

[susan-otuoma-61668554/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/susan-otuoma-61668554/)

**“A society that
abandons its
vulnerable,
abandons its
future.”**

Susan is passionate about social justice and transformation. Having worked extensively in the design and implementation of community projects targeting orphans and vulnerable children, gender, development and education, Susan strongly believes that an investment in socio-ecological sustainability is a sure step in the attainment of social justice.

Coming from Kenya (sub-Saharan) Africa, Susan has experienced first-hand the effects of ecological degradation and structural obstacles to a just society and their direct impact on the most vulnerable in society. She feels honoured to have held leadership positions that have enabled her to influence the policy landscape for social protection in Kenya and the East African Region and is persuaded that she can achieve more and make greater impact with enhanced awareness, knowledge and leadership skills gained through the Master programme in Strategic Leadership Towards Sustainability.

She hopes to be a sustainability champion and create awareness on sustainability while using her influence to advocate for, develop and implement policies and actions towards a more sustainable Kenya, Africa and the globe within the context of social justice and social transformation.

**Dancing is
Susan’s cup
of tea.**

Wietse Slob

The Netherlands
wietseslob@gmail.com
linkedin.com/in/
wietse-slob-37804810b/



“Be brave. Take risks. Nothing can substitute experience.” – Paulo Coelho.

Wietse grew up in the Netherlands. He is a typical Dutch guy: he loves (vegan) cheese, windmills and likes to eat ‘stamppot’ (Dutch dish) during winter times. The summer of 2015 proved to be an important period. While visiting the United Nations headquarters in New York, he made an informed decision to become an agent-of-change, committing to establishing a sustainable future for this blue dot we call our world. This led to his enrollment in the newly designed bachelors programme in Global Sustainability Science (in Utrecht). He studied governance and societal transformation for sustainability and discovered why people and societies change (and why not). Alongside his bachelor studies, Wietse worked as a self-employed entrepreneur, helping several Dutch food-related companies to support their business. At MSLS, Wietse wants to connect to others and grow as a person. His goal is to learn and to speak the language of change and use it to support transformation towards a sustainable, future-proof society. Wietse’s journey towards becoming an agent-of-change and a sustainability leader has taught him many lessons, been instrumental in his friendships and can be confrontational at times. His most important insight is that it isn’t as difficult to affect positive change as many people believe.

Wietse has a secret plan to sail around the world.





A vertical poster with a background of a sunset or sunrise over a body of water. The sky is a gradient of blue and orange, with the sun low on the horizon. The water reflects the light. On the right side, there is a dark silhouette of a tree or bush. The text is centered and reads:

**WE
ARE
MSLS
2020**