

THE GÖTEBORG AWARD
FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

THIS YEAR'S AWARD WINNERS CLEAN UP THE CHEMICAL FALLOUT

Modern society is dependent on the use of an enormous amount of chemical compounds. Obviously they contribute to our welfare and comfort, but unfortunately are also the source of a number of frightening and, in part, unknown effects on humans and the environment. Addressing and solving these complex issues requires broad strategies in which science, politics and market mechanisms all play key roles.

The 2008 Göteborg Award for Sustainable Development is shared in three equal parts by: THEO COLBORN, MARGOT WALLSTRÖM and JAN AHLBOM and ULF DUUS from Göteborg.

This is the ninth Göteborg Award and the prize sum is one million Swedish crowns. The Award was founded by the City of Göteborg and several interested companies in 1999. Its purpose is to “stimulate and encourage strategic work for national and international sustainable development”.

THE PRIZE IS AWARDED BY THE CITY OF GÖTEBORG AND THE COMPANIES:

The Second AP Fund, Carl Bennet AB, Elanders AB, Eldan Recycling, Folksam, Götaverken Miljö, Handelsbanken, Nordea, Peab, Schenker AB, SKF and Stena Metall AB.

”Our global chemical society is sitting on a ticking bomb and we have to disarm it! The 2008 Göteborg Award goes to four uniquely distinguished persons who through their everyday work in research, politics and market mechanisms have laid the foundation for a long-term “detoxification” of the world,” says Stefan Edman biologist, author, and Chairman of the jury.

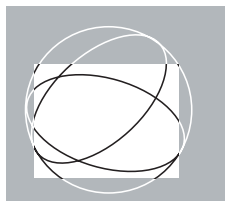
“Our comfortable lifestyle is based on a bunch of clever chemicals like dishwashing liquid, lubricants and preservatives. But the downside is the enormous sludge of known and unknown substances that poison ecosystems and inflict humans with cancer and other illnesses.”

The award winners will receive their prize at a ceremony on the 12th of November in Göteborg.

The Jury's motivation

Modern society is dependent on the use of an enormous amount of chemical compounds. Obviously they contribute to our welfare and comfort, but unfortunately are also the source of a number of frightening and, in part, unknown effects on humans and the environment. Addressing and solving these complex issues requires broad strategies in which science, politics and market mechanisms all play key roles.

Consequently, the 2008 Göteborg Award for Sustainable Development will go to four highly distinguished persons in these sectors, who have in different but complementary ways hel-



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ped to reveal, describe and combat the negative effects of man-made chemicals on ecological systems and human health.

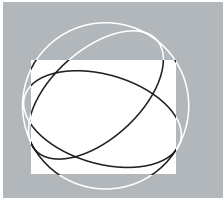
The prize, one million Swedish crowns, is shared in three equal parts, and goes to Theo Colborn, Margot Wallström as well as Jan Ahlbom and Ulf Duus.

Professor Theo Colborn is an American environmental scientist and activist. Through comprehensive analysis of available facts, and through her books and lectures, she has effectively initiated a profound global discussion about the survival of mankind and ecological systems on our planet. Dr Colborn's research, mostly performed around the Great Lakes, has revealed how synthetic toxins disrupt the reproduction of birds and mammals and their affect on sensitive human hormonal systems, inducing the risk of cancer and reduced fertility. Former Vice President Al Gore has called her pioneering book "Our Stolen Future" a sequel to Rachel Carson's world famous wake-up call "Silent Spring".

European Commission Vice President Margot Wallström was during her mandate as the European Commissioner for the Environment one of the key persons behind the formation of REACH, the most progressive legislative instrument for chemical control worldwide, and one of the most far-reaching environmental laws in the European Union. REACH is based on the precautionary principle, reversed burden of proof and substitution, with a special focus on substances that are persistent (non-biodegradable), toxic and bio-accumulating, i.e. they accumulate in animals and plants. Despite strong resistance from commercial interests, EU Comissioner Wallström succeeded in launching REACH as an important first step toward a new, more sustainable way of controlling and environmentally adapting the use of chemicals in our society.

Environmental engineer Jan Ahlbom and toxicologist Ulf Duus have systematically invented methods to reduce the negative impact of chemicals in daily life in Sweden, particularly in the Göteborg region. They have step-by-step tested market-based strategies in which customers are connected to producers and where economic incentives

Members of the jury: Chairman: Stefan Edman, biologist, Russel Johnson, former Environmental Manager IKEA, Lars Hallén, Life Academy, Lotta Göthe, Ecoplan, Johan Trouvé, Schenker AB, Yvonne Wallin, Pejling Marketing and Elin Eriksson, IVL Swedish Environmental Research Institute.



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Past winners are:

2007; Former Vice President Al Gore, USA.

for his relentless commitment to increasing awareness about global warming and thereby starting a movement to end the climate crisis.

2006 The three Japanese engineers Takeshi Uchiyamada, Takehisa Yaegashi and Yuichi Fujii,
for their outstanding, goal-oriented and vital contributions to the development of Prius, the world's first commercial hybrid automobile of which more than half a million have been sold thus far.

2005 The Maraba Cooperative Abahuzamugambi in Rwanda

for its pioneering work to produce coffee with methods that are sustainable from a social, financial and environmental standpoint.

2004 Joan Bavaria, USA, and Tessa Tennant, Great Britain

Great Britain, who are pioneers in the field of "sustainable investments". Through their investment companies and funds they have inspired companies to take make ethically and the environmentally responsible investments.

2003 Swedish Hans Eek and German Wolfgang Feist

for the technology and methods to build houses without heating systems – so called "passive houses".

2002 Former Prime Minister of Norway, Dr. Gro Harlem Brundtland,

for her contributions to coining the expression "sustainable development".

2001 Ecolabelling organisations FSC and KRAV

for their work to introduce sustainable development to farming and forestry.

2000 Business leader and entrepreneur Geoffrey Ballard

for his contributions to commercialising fuel cell technology.

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