

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: Challenges and Opportunities on a Finite Planet

Professor: Tancrède VOITURIEZ

Session 2

Language of instruction: English

Number of hours of class: 2.5

Objective of the Course

This Master Class will provide intellectual material for students to understand the rationale for and challenges behind sustainable development and climate action. It will engage students to develop a critical sense of the drivers of actions and the factors of inaction, and explore with them options to make sustainable development the “new normal” of modern societies.

Summary

Sustainable development raises considerable challenges for societies. Natural resources must be protected, fossil fuel consumption must be sharply reduced to avert uncontrollable global warming, and at the same time, living standards should be raised across the globe to meet the aspirations of the emerging global middle class and to put an end to poverty.

To live up to these challenges, the United Nations solemnly agreed in 2015 with the Paris Agreement on Climate Change to strengthen the universal response to the threat of global warming by keeping a global temperature rise in this century well below 2°C. The same year, UN member countries set the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and decided on 17 new and universal Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

From goals to action, burning questions remain, however, on the amount of change delivered by global commitments, and on the options remaining to prevent major disruptions in our ecosystems, economies and societies. The masterclass will address these questions and flesh out the different proposals laid out by experts and advocacy groups to respond to the alarm bell rung by scientists.

Main Professor Biography



Tancredè Voituriez has a PhD in Economics and is Senior researcher on Global Governance at Iddri. His research focuses on trade and green innovation relationships, and on the causes of inertia in the implementation of sustainable development policies. Tancredè Voituriez has been involved as a coordinator and/or expert in numerous research projects on globalisation and sustainable development for the European Commission, the European Parliament, the China Council for International Cooperation on Environment, among others. He

has been a lecturer at Sciences Po since 2005. He has been based in Abuja, Nigeria, since 2018.

