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Curriculum Vitae

Dr. **Katarina Gårdfeldt**

Director General (Myndighetschef och Direktör) for the Swedish Polar Research Secretariat

Professor in Inorganic Environmental Chemistry, Chalmers (Affiliated)

Since January 2018, I hold the position as the Director-General of the Swedish Polar Research Secretariat (SPRS), which is a Swedish governmental authority with the mission to co-ordinate and promote Swedish polar research. Currently I am also the Chair for the National Committee for Environmental Global Change at Royal Academy of Sciences (KVA) and board member of the Swedish Foundation for Strategic Research.

My research focus has been devoted to global transport and transformation of environmental pollutants e.g. mercury species and micro plastics. I study how climate change is affecting polar regions and e.g. the mixing of warm Atlantic water with cold Arctic sea water and implications for transport and transformations of pollutants, for verification a publication list is attached.

My personal objective is to combine knowledge on global environmental change and the UN Sustainable Development Goals to analyse the steps and actions in defined knowledge based transformative solutions in relation to the Agenda 2030. I am devoted to initiating collaborative projects between students, partners from industry and authorities, entrepreneurs, and NGOs. I have been engaged in "from research to policy processes" in e.g. UNEP and UNESCO. A recent initiative at the Swedish Polar research Secretariat, is "The Polar Research Process" which is an open invitation to an innovative, multi-disciplinary, global coordination of polar science.

In my previous position, as the Director of the Centre for Environment and Sustainability (GMV) at University of Gothenburg and Chalmers University of Technology which is one of the largest networks of scientists in environmental and sustainability sciences in Sweden, I worked in close contact with universities, industry, and local and national authorities. At GMV I was Co-Chair, and initiator of, Sustainable Development Solutions Network Northern Europe SDSN NE <https://www.unsdsn-ne.org>

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I have been engaged in several projects for education for sustainable development. For example, I was responsible for the **World Environmental Education Congress 2015 -people and planet, how can they develop together?** Gothenburg 2015. I was also the coordinator of the project **Taking children seriously** - How the EU Can Invest in Early Childhood, and co-author of the connected synthesis report **"Education for a Sustainable Future"** finished in 2010 and presented at a seminar in Brussels and

during an event at the UN main building in New York 2011. The report gathered present research on children's interest and ability to understand questions on the social, economic, and environmental dimensions of sustainable development. The pedagogical challenge was to translate research to the policy level. The preface was written by Jan Eliasson, Deputy Secretary-General of the UN.

During 2014, I was appointed to be a member in a working group for IAU, International Association of Universities. The task for the working group was to prepare the session "Assessment for Sustainability" that was held during the International Conference on Higher Education for Sustainable Development: "Higher Education Beyond 2014", in Nagoya Japan, Nov 2014. The conference was organised by IAU and UNU, United Nations University marking the final year of the **UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (DESD) 2005–2014**. The conference gathered approximately 750 participants from 66 countries and highlighted the major challenges and pathways for transforming higher education, with a focus on mainstreaming innovative practices in learning, knowledge development, and research. I was co-author of the Background Paper for thy session "Assessment for Sustainability" as well as part of the panel in one of the conference sessions. The summary of the session was reported as one input to the Nagoya Declaration on Higher Education for Sustainable Development. The Declaration was shared with the UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development, also held in Nagoya on 10–12 November.

Stockholm +40, Partnership Forum for Sustainable Development

Under my leadership, the Centre for Environment and Sustainability, GMV, at Chalmers University of Technology and the University of Gothenburg, was asked by the Swedish Ministry of the Environment to involve Swedish universities in the work to arrange the Stockholm +40 international conference on sustainable development, as a follow up to the Rio +20 meeting. The conference focused on three themes: Sustainable innovation, sustainable production, and sustainable living. The Stockholm +40 meeting was an international event, and the targets groups were decision makers, young people, business sector, the civil society, and researchers. By this meeting, the Swedish Government offered a platform to initiate and stimulate a dialog for sustainable solutions on a global level. My role was to coordinate the involvement of Swedish universities and to engage students and researchers to take part in the general program as well as to be engaged in local seminars and events arranged in university cities around Sweden. The project was granted by Formas.

Exams and academic merits:

1984, *Bachelor of Science Degree in Chemistry* at University of Göteborg.

1998, *Master of Science Degree in Environmental Science* at University of Göteborg.

2003, *Ph D Degree in Environmental Science with emphasise on Inorganic Chemistry* at University of Gothenburg, May 2003. Title: "Transformation of mercury species in the aqueous phase"

2012 *Docent, associated professor* in Inorganic environmental chemistry at Department of Chemical and Biological engineering at Chalmers University of Technology.

2019 *Professor in Inorganic Environmental Chemistry*, Chalmers University of technology