



Dear Delegate,

at first, we want to thank you that you delivered the previous assignments mostly punctual.

In only seven weeks the WSES in Tuebingen will take place! To prepare yourself for the Summit, we are sending you the assignment for the topic "Sustainable Consumption Patterns" today. You will discuss this topic on Friday, September 24, listen to keynote speeches and work on concrete solutions concerning problems in the field of consumption.

5th Assignment: "Sustainable Consumption Patterns"

This assignment is composed of different tasks.

- 1) At first, we ask you to watch the following movie, if you do not know it yet. It is called "The Story of Stuff" and analyses our consumption patterns.
The movie can be found here: <http://www.storyofstuff.com/>, it is about 20 minutes long.
- 2) To measure sustainable ways of consumption, the concept of the "Ecological Footprint" was developed. Please read the introductory article "Ecological Wealth of Nations" about it, you can find it here:
http://www.footprintnetwork.org/images/uploads/Ecological_Wealth_of_Nations.pdf.
The article contains a lot of graphs and pictures, so please be not frightened of the 40 page-long document. The most important pages to read are 4 to 24.
(Since the pdf is 14,8 MB large, it is also available via our presence at <http://issuu.com/2010wses/docs/ecowealthofnations> as slideshow. This slideshow will also be embedded in the assignment's blog post, so that you don't need to download the whole pdf.)
- 3) Please now write an essay about ONE of the following questions:
 - a) Why do you buy / buy not eco-friendly products? Which incentives help you with your decision? Which restraints do you face?
 - b) Is there a project for more sustainable consumption running at your university? If you have not described this project in the second assignment "University Project", please now describe this project.

The essay should not be longer than 500 words.

Please send us the essay as pdf file to assignment@2010wses.org until August 30, 2010.

Best wishes from Tuebingen,

The Organisation Team