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NGEA51 – Internship course, 15 credits
Autumn term 2016

Internship Summary – IKEA Group Sustainability

During the autumn term 2016, I got the opportunity to have the internship course at IKEA in Malmö. During my stay at IKEA, I worked in "Group Sustainability", closely linked with my supervisor Ivan, who works as a business analyst concerning sustainability issues.

My position in Group Sustainability was in the analysis section, which is also the section most related to physical geography. Large amount of data, mainly concerning CO_2 and other greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, was to be processed and analysed in order to prepare the results in a comprehensive way for the yearly Sustainability Report. MS Excel was the primarily tool for processing, analysing and presenting the data.

My main assignments at IKEA were to update, validate and document existing calculation models concerning CO_2 and/or other GHG-emissions from activities within the IKEA business. For some activities, there were no existing model to update and my assignment was then to build a new model. All modelling tasks were performed in MS Excel. Examples of the models are Customer Transportation (emissions related to how customer are travelling to and from IKEA stores) and Waste Generation (emissions related to the treatment of the waste generated by IKEA). All models were on global level meaning data from all 30 IKEA countries was included.

For each of the models, a Cover sheet should be included and it was my assignment to write these cover sheets. The Cover sheet should act as an instruction for the model and it should include a description of the model structure (what calculations are used and why), which data have been used and how reliable that data is and also how to interpret the outcome of the model.

The modelling results I managed to get through, will in one way or another be used for the Sustainability Report for the financial year 2016. When the FY16 report is finished, it can be accessible and downloaded from IKEA´s webpage.