

# RESUME

## ***Martin Johan Ossewaarde, Practitioner of Education for Sustainable Development***

Assistant Professor, American University of Central Asia, Maths and Natural Sciences

Martin has an MSc in Economics from the Erasmus University of Rotterdam, the Netherlands with a major in Institutional Economics and a minor in Public Administration. Emphasis on environment and development issues. His Master's Thesis investigated the relationship between environmental technology policies and environmental performance of the Netherlands' leather industry.

His work in the NL Environment Ministry's Division for Climate Change deepened his theoretical and practical knowledge not only of climate change, but also of energy, waste, transport and urban policies as well as the effectiveness of various public policy instruments. Subsequent jobs in NL Government Foresight Committees in Science & Technology raised his interest in innovations for sustainable development.

In 1998, Martin moved to Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. After serving as an educational co-ordinator with a small development NGO, he began teaching at the American University of Central Asia (AUCA). He wrote and taught his own course '*Clean Development Policy & Practice*', a general education course for students of all years and majors and teaches this course among others, including a new course on International Environmental Governance.

The Clean Development course seeks to build a firm foundation for sustainability thinking from a policy maker's point of view – both public and private sector. It is aimed at capturing the interest of future leaders for how their field of major could contribute to a more sustainable world. It investigates the causes of unsustainability in technology, institutional structures, and human behaviour, and discusses sustainable initiatives from around the world. The course finishes by looking at the characteristics of deep organisational change processes, in order to give students a feel for the practical steps by which they could set out on the sustainable development path.

In Martin's vision a 21<sup>st</sup> century sustainable university should ultimately offer the following:

- A general introductory SD course for all students
- An SD component in all relevant study programmes
- An opportunity to specialise in SD

Having been involved in assisting the administration in the field of education for SD, Martin is now helping to coordinate AUCA's new curriculum in Environmental Studies.