



Biography – Gunnar Brundin

Today.

Responsible for the Sustainable Action Plan and the process of building a comprehensive management system for the municipality of Robertsfors. The management system is being built according to the international standards for quality, environment and occupational health – ISO 9001, ISO 14001 respectively OHSAS 18001.

Half-time external lead auditor for SP Certification – Technical Research Institute of Sweden.

Managing director of Esam AB

Board-member of the Sustainable Sweden Association

Background.

Gunnar Brundin is a former teacher, environmental & health officer and co-owner of the environmental consulting firm Esam AB (The Human Ecology Company) based in Umeå, Sweden. Gunnar is together with Torbjörn Lahti, the initiator and former co-ordinator of the Eco-municipality movement in Sweden and has been working professionally with sustainable development during the last twentytwo years. Gunnar has also been an active member of the non-governmental environmental movement in Sweden since 1976.

Within Esam he has done work, mainly trainings, in more than half of the 288 municipalities in Sweden and has assisted with the development of more than 60 Eco-municipalities. The training concept is based on the concept of The Natural Step (TNS), a scientifically based consensus framework developed in Sweden for addressing environmental challenges. Esam has during the last ten years carried through ten so called "Sustainable Sweden Tours" where people from other countries have been invited to take part of the experiences from the Swedish Eco-municipalities and learn more of how you can implement the TNS' concept in practice. In 1999 Gunnar became full-time engaged in his career as an external environment and quality auditor according to the international standards ISO 9001 and 14001. During the last 7 years Gunnar has been auditing over 200 companys and other organisations.

Gunnar was born in the city of Uppsala where he started his professional career as a physical education teacher. Later on he completed his undergraduate and graduate studies in economics, moved to Umeå where he studied to become an environment & health officer. In 1987 he eventually became the head of the environmental department in the municipality of Sorsele, which – in cooperation with Övertorneå – joined the first group of Swedish Eco-municipalities.

In 1990 he co-founded Esam together with Torbjörn Lahti and their work has included eco-villages, city housing, Umeå's Eco-City Project, ecological building, waste handling, and housing materials re-use project. In co-operation with the municipality of Umeå and The Association of the Swedish Eco-municipalities he has been a teacher and advisor in the use of a planning-instrument called The Agenda 21-guide where you combine an aim for high quality of life and democracy with an aim for sustainability. He was often engaged as a teacher at the Umeå University course on Ecological Planning, Building and Housing.

In September 2004 Gunnar joined the Sustainable Robertsfors project and is now on 40 % of his time responsible for the Sustainable Action Plan and the process of creating a management system for the complete administration of Robertsfors.