

## **Sustainability as a Goal and Hallmark of Scientific Projects of Christians**

Scientific research is more and more supposed to serve one or more of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The SDGs, while not formulated under particularly Christian auspices, can be traced back to God's command that humans exert good stewardship of creation. Using examples from the speaker's own drug and bioeconomics related research and teaching, this talk will show how Christians can tailor their work so that it serves one or more SDGs, concomitantly staying true to the Lord's stipulations. This constructive - rather than critical - approach will lend credibility to the Christian worldview of creation.

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### **I. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**

- A. ... as such
- B. ... their history
- C. ... in the light of the Bible
- D. ... their present status in academic research

### **II. Why and what to sustain?**

- A. The weak, emotional basis of naturalism for sustainability
- B. The strong, rational and emotional basis of theism for sustainability

### **III. Examples of prominent Christian researchers that actively work for the preservation of this creation**

#### **IV. Examples of research based on, incorporating or informing SDGs**

A. Drug discovery and production

B. Research project with sub-saharan academic partners

#### **V. Who and what to sustain: The ultimate goal of sustainability**

A. Humans are eternal. The earth is not.

#### **Further Reading and Listening**

- <https://trisustain.uni-halle.de/>
- Peter Imming *Ist diese Welt noch zu retten? Umweltzerstörung und Lebenserhaltung* (2002), sold out, as pdf only: <http://clv-server.de/pdf/255503.pdf?7>
- Talk by Timothy Keller (New York City): “Can Faith be Green?”  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g2ThU17l\\_Rw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g2ThU17l_Rw)
- Robert S. White (Editor) *Creation in Crisis: Christian Perspectives on Sustainability* (2009)
- J. Moo, J. A. Moo *Creation Care: A Biblical Theology of the Natural World* (2018)