

Enrollment for research lunch seminar November 16 12-13 in M20.

To attend, add your name and an X in “no salad” or name the salad of your choice (choose from Chèvre, Ham and cheese, Chicken, Feta cheese, Shrimp, Vegan). RSVP on **Friday November 11 noon time at the latest**.

Name	No salad	Salad
Harko Verhagen		Chèvre
Clàudia Figueras		Feta cheese
Frithjof Stöppler		Shrimp
Jelena Zdravkovic		Shrimp
Sindri Magnússon		Shrimp
Nanda Wijermans		Chèvre

Description

Ferdinanda “Nanda” Wijermans - new docent at DSV, employed as researcher at SUs Stockholm Resilience Center.

Title: Agents for simulating social complexity: Increasing behavioural realism of agent decision-making

Abstract: Understanding (collective) human behaviour and decision-making is of vital importance for both science and society at large. Computational models, especially those with heterogeneous agents situated in specific environments (agent-based models or ABMs), are powerful tools for analysing, assessing, understanding, and governing collective human behaviours such as crowd behaviour, group dynamics, collective action in natural resource use, etc. However, many computational models lack (adequate) representation of human behaviour dynamics. This calls both for advancing fundamental theories and empirical grounding as the crucial building blocks in supporting policy practice, appropriate for these times of high uncertainty and complex social and environmental dynamics.

In this seminar, I will illustrate my contribution to advancing our understanding of human (group) behaviour and decision-making through the development of agent-based social simulation, e.g. for modelling crowd behaviour. Since my research is interdisciplinary at its core, I will in detail describe how I integrate theories and qualitative and quantitative empirical insights in my ABMs to reflect complex social realities, e.g. by combining behavioural experiments with ABM to study why and how of collective action of sustainable resource use. Finally, I will present an outlook of future research that contributes to a plurality of (theory and empirical) social science-grounded models, e.g. formalising the social identity approach applied to the necessity to collectively transform our behaviour in light of the climate crisis.