



'CSEAR E-Newsletter' – December 2008

FROM THE CENTRE FOR SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL ACCOUNTING RESEARCH

Welcome to the latest CSEAR *E-Newsletter* which is sent out to all members regularly throughout the year, providing you with up to-date SEA news and contact information. If you would like to use these pages for publicising any conferences or events that you think would be of interest to other CSEAR members just let us know by emailing us.

CSEAR News

- **Just another reminder that Wikipedia has an entry on social accounting. Have a read and see what you think.** http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Social_accounting
- **CSEAR Website:** The slow process of redesigning the CSEAR website has begun again. A **new section on Practice is now in place**. All comments welcome to the usual email. www.st-andrews.ac.uk/management/csear/aptoppractice/index.html
- **CSEAR's own Discussion Board** has an on-line forum for the **Emerging Scholars** and the **Lesser Developed Countries** groups including thoughts about objectives. www.csear.forumup.org
- The newly formed **Towards a Less Unsustainable CSEAR Sub-Committee** is now chaired by Jill Solomon, who is looking for people to get involved. Email us if you want to join. **E.mail:**
csear@st-andrews.ac.uk
- The **British Accounting Association Special Interest Group on Corporate Governance** is organising a one day event on **Social and Environmental Accountability and Governance in May 2009**. Plans are to invite six speakers with time for discussion. CSEAR will be acting as one of the co-sponsors. **Email us at CSEAR if you want to know more**
- The **1st South American CSEAR Conference on Social and Environmental Accounting Research** will be held from **27th – 28th July 2009** in **Rio de Janeiro, Brazil**, and organised by the **Federal University of Rio de Janeiro**. **To express early interest email:**
Aracéli Cristina de S. Ferreira
araceli@ufrj.br
- A one day CSEAR workshop on **'Accountability & Human Rights'** organised with colleagues from Glasgow University will be held on **1st September 2009** at **University of St Andrews**. This will be one of the **ESRC Research Seminar Series: 'When Worlds Collide'** – see overleaf for more details. **Email:**
csear@st-andrews.ac.uk
- The **21st CSEAR UK** conference will be held at **St Andrews University** from **2nd – 4th September 2009**. With an increase in place numbers for 2009, let us know if you are interested in attending. www.st-andrews.ac.uk/management/csear
- The **7th Reunión de Investigación en Contabilidad Social y Medioambiental (Spanish CSEAR)** will be held at the **Universidad de Las Palmas de Gran Canaria** from **10th-12th September, 2009**. Early information and a Call for papers are on the Spanish CSEAR 2009 website now with registration and accommodation details available soon. General enquiries email: **Jose Juan Deniz-Mayor, 7th Spanish CSEAR Coordinator**. www.congresos.ulpgc.es/7ricsma
www.congresos.ulpgc.es/7ricsma/call4papers.pdf
Email: 7ricsma@defc.ulpgc.es

CSEAR News (continued)

- The 8th Australasian Conference on Social & Environmental Accounting will be hosted by the University of Canterbury, Christchurch New Zealand on 6th–8th December 2009. See the website for early information.

www.bsec.canterbury.ac.nz/csear2009/

Call for Papers

- *Critical Perspectives on Accounting* has issued a Call for Papers for a special issue on 'Accountability & Human Rights'. Guest Editors are Ken McPhail, John McKernan and Sibylle van der Walt. Submissions required by 1st Aug. 2009.
- AAAJ has sent out a Call for Papers for a special issue on *Climate Change, Greenhouse Gas Accounting, Auditing & Accountability*. Guest Editors are Amanda Ball, Markus J. Milne and Suzana Grubnic. Papers can also be presented at the *GHG Measurement, Management and Sense-Making* stream at the 8th Australasian CSEAR Conference 2009. The submission deadline is 31st December 2009.
- *Issues in Social and Environmental Accounting* a biannually published journal in July and December has issued a Call for Papers. Papers to be submitted before 30th May and 30th November each year. Contact Editor Hasan Fauzi for details.

Email:
k.mcphail@accfin.gla.ac.uk

www.bsec.canterbury.ac.nz/csear2009/

Email:
amanda.ball@canterbury.ac.nz
zmarkus.milne@canterbury.ac.nz

Email: hfauzi2003@indo.net.id
www.maksi-uns.ac.id

Other Conferences

- ESRC Research Seminar Series: 'When Worlds Collide': Contested Paradigms of CSR consists of six one-day events focusing on some key CSR issues. The first seminar will be held on the 15th December at the British Library in London on 'Deciphering the Domain of CSR' followed by a seminar held at the University of York on the 25th March 2009 to consider 'Is Corporate Taxation Practice a CSR Issue'.
- Accounting and the New Labour Process Symposium will be held at Birmingham University, UK on 8 January, 2009 and will include all aspects of critical accounting and the labour process.
- The 6th 2009 Performance Measurement Association Conference on International Organisational Performance: New Worlds, New Thinking, will be held on 14-17 April 2009, Dunedin, New Zealand. See website for details.
- EMAN 2009 Conference 'Environmental Accounting – Sustainable Development Indicators' is being organized by Jan Evangelista Purkyne University in Usti nad Labem and will be held on 23rd – 24th April 2009 in Prague.
- The 7th European Network for Research in Organisational and Accounting Change (ENROAC) Conference will be held on 23rd – 25th June, 2009 at the University of Dundee, UK. A Practitioner's Day on *Organisations and Sustainability* will include Jan Bebbington, Jesse Dillard and Angelo Riccaboni as plenary speakers.

Email:
alan.murray@shef.ac.uk

Email:
Tony.tinker@gmail.com
Aida.sy1776@gmail.com
m.tsamenyi@bham.ac.uk

www.pma.otago.ac.nz

www.ea-sdi.ujep.cz/

www.dundee.ac.uk/accountancy/research/confer/dundee.html

Other Conferences (continued)

- The **Sustainable Management of Public and Not for Profit Organisations Conference** will be held at the **Bologna University, Forli Campus, Italy, 1st – 3rd July 2009**. It will be organised by **Bologna University, Sydney University, the International Research Society for Public Management** and the **Italian Academic Network for the Development of Management in Public Sector (SIVMAP)**.
<http://smog.econ.usyd.edu.au>
- The **9th Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Accounting (IPA) Conference 2009** is hosted by the **Innsbruck University School of Management** and held from **9th – 11th July 2009**. The conference will be preceded by an **Emerging Scholars Colloquium** on **7th - 8th July 2009**.
www.uibk.ac.at/at/atr/ipa2009
- **CMS6 The 6th International Critical Management Conference** is hosted by **Warwick Business School, Warwick University**, and held from **13th – 15th July 2009**. Stream 18 will be on the topic of **Accountability and Accounterability**.
<http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/soc/wbs/conf/cms2009/>

Accounting and Reporting

- **Reynolds American Inc.** has joined the 2008-2009 **Dow Jones Sustainability North America Index**, from September 2008 as the only U.S. tobacco company and one of 125 North American companies in the index.
www.ReynoldsAmerican.com
- The **Boston College Center for Corporate Citizenship and Reputation Institute** using their **Global Pulse Study** has published the **Most Respected US Companies**. This ranks the top 50 US companies based on the public's recognition of a company's corporate citizenship, governance and workplace practices. **Google, Campbell Soup, Johnson & Johnson** came top of the **2008 Corporate Social Responsibility Index (CSRI)**.
www.bccccc.net/_uploads/documents/live/GlobalPulse2008.pdf
- **KPMG** has published its **International Survey of Corporate Responsibility Reporting 2008**, covering the **Global Fortune 250** and the 100 largest companies in 22 countries. The survey includes historical data, drawn from 5 previous KPMG surveys since 1993. The survey uses public domain information only for this survey, eg company websites, corporate responsibility reports and annual reports issued in 2007-2008.
www.kpmg.com
- **Deloitte's** have published '**Best Practice for Sustainable Development -KPIs**' a study by Jörg Baetge (University of Münster) and Axel Hesse (SD-M) for Deloitte which considers the annual reports of 200+ companies and highlights best practice.
www.deloitte.com/de
- **Covalence** regularly publishes company ethical reputation rankings, showing the best ranked companies and those making the most progress. Recent results: **IBM** enters top 10 EthicalQuote score across sectors replacing **Starbucks**; whilst **Kraft Foods** and **DuPont** appear in top 10 best progress category; and **Wal-Mart, Toyota** and **Nissan** show best Reported Performance
www.covalence.ch/

Accounting and Reporting (continued)

- The **European Parliament (EP)** latest strategic plan aims to reduce its carbon footprint by 30%, going beyond the EU's current target of 20% reduction. The Parliament's current move to use only 'green electricity' in its 3 places of work has reduced its greenhouse gas emissions by 17%. The **EP** has also been awarded **EMAS** certification for its buildings in Luxemburg, so that it now has an **EMAS** certificate for all three places of work.
www.europarl.europa.eu/news/expert/infopress_page/064-39980-294-10-43-911-20081020IPR39979-20-10-2008-2008-false/default_en.htm
- The **BSI British Standards** will manage the UK's new standard – the **PAS2050** – which allows UK firms to measure their goods' carbon footprints. It is hoped the new audit will let customers know how much CO₂ has been emitted during the production, consumption and disposal of a range of products.
www.bsi-global.com/
- According to the **2008 Accountability Rating™**, **Vodafone** is the most accountable of the world's 100 largest corporations (the G-100). This 5th annual assessment of corporate accountability is compiled by **AccountAbility** and **Csrnetwork** with support from **Asset4**. The top ten companies in the 2008 rating are: 1)Vodafone; 2)General Electric; 3)HSBC; 4)France Telecom; 5)HBOS; 6)Nokia; 7)EDF; 8)Suez; 9)BP; 10)Royal Dutch/Shell
www.accountabilityrating.com
- A new report '*Fit for Purpose? A Review of the UK National Contact Point (NCP) for the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises 2008*' has been published by the **Rights & Accountability in Development (RAID)** in association with the **Corporate Responsibility (CORE) Coalition** and the **Trades Union Congress (TUC)**. It calls for tighter regulation of companies and financial institutions.
www.corporate-responsibility.org/module_images/NCP_report_2008.pdf
- The UK government has passed its **Climate Change Bill**, including amendments that will require companies to report on their greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from 2012.
www.defra.gov.uk/environment/climatechange/uk/legislation/
- The **GRI Financial Services Sector Supplement** has been developed by **UNEP Finance Initiative** and the **GRI** as an environmental and social reporting standard for retail, corporate and commercial banking, insurance and asset management. The indicators of the revised Supplement are now integrated and built upon the existing **G3 Reporting Framework** of the **GRI**.
www.unepfi.org/work_streams/reporting/index.html
- The **AA1000 Assurance Standard** and **AccountAbility Principles Standard 2008** has been launched as a step forward in sustainability assurance. Three separate documents have been developed to replace the **AA1000AS 2003: the AA1000AS 2008: AA1000APS 2008**; and **Exposure draft: Guidance for the use of AA1000AS 2008**. See website for details.
www.accountability21.net
- The **Business & Human Rights Resource Centre** has established a web-based microsite – **Corporate Legal Accountability Portal** - which includes a database of human rights lawsuits which can be searched according to Company; Country where lawsuit filed; Country where alleged abuse took place; Industry; Issue. There are also many resources-related cases here.
www.business-humanrights.org/microsites/Portal/Home

Finance, Financial Markets and Institutions

- **Andreas Hoepner, St Andrews University** has posted on the **SSRN** website a subjective categorisation of the responsible investment literature in 8 main and 23 sub-literature bodies. It is based on a literature scan of 12 relevant bibliographies. Get in touch with Andreas if you are working in this area.
- The 2007 European market for sustainable and responsible investment was worth €2.7 trillion according **Eurosif**, equivalent to 17.5% of the European asset management industry. **Eurosif's** survey of asset managers and asset owners in 9 European countries showed that responsibly managed assets had increased by 102% from 2005 - 2007 – a compound annual growth rate of 42%.
- The **People's Bank of China (PBoC)** and **WWF** have issued a report recommending that Chinese commercial banks should establish environmental reporting, management and risk evaluation systems to promote sustainable development. In 2007 the **PBoC**, the **Environmental Protection Ministry** and the **CBRC**, designed a 'green credit' system, to restrict credit to companies breaching environmental regulations. It has also developed an environmental database of Chinese companies, and requires commercial banks to assess clients' environmental history before extending credit.
- The **European Environment Agency (EAA)** has released reports highlights varying vulnerability to climate change across Europe. The **EAA** suggests that Europe should prepare better for climate change. See website for reports, trends and projections.
- **Zerofootprint** argue that there have been 2 main approaches for carbon emissions reduction for individuals – carbon taxes and personal carbon quotas. They propose **Green Credits**, which is based on rewarding citizens for actions which reduce emissions. **Green Credits** are based on consumer loyalty reward schemes.
- The **UN Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI)** is to amalgamate with the **Enhanced Analytics Initiative** with the intention of 'opening up the latter's research on 'extra-financial issues' to a wider audience'.
- The **Australian Securities Exchange (ASX)** plans to list futures and options contracts for renewable energy certificates and carbon pollution permits and also has plans to service New Zealand's emissions trading scheme.
- **China's Industrial Bank** is the first Chinese financial institution to sign up to the **Equator Principles**, a voluntary code launched in 2005 by 10 leading Western banks. It requires signatories to meet certain standards when financing projects with major social or environmental impacts.
- In **The Economist's** Oct 9th 2008 edition the 'Africa's prospects: Opportunity knocks' article argues that Africa may survive the current world financial crisis in better shape than other parts of the world. The very factors that have damaged the continent in the past may now be working in its favour.

http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=1283646

www.eurosif.org/publications/sri_studies

Source:
www.sciencecentric.com/news/pda/article.php?q=08092902

www.eea.europa.eu/themes/climate

<http://zerofootprint.net/about/publications>

www.unpri.org/

Source: *Environmental Finance*.

www.equator-principles.com/index.shtml

Source: Eldis Programme
www.eldis.org/

Finance, Financial Markets and Institutions (continued)

- The **World Bank** has issued its first bond with proceeds invested in climate change-related projects. The bond is part of the Bank's efforts to direct institutional money towards tackling climate change. \$300 million in Swedish krona-denominated six-year bonds has been sold by Swedish bank **SEB** to Scandinavian institutional investors. The money raised will be invested in technologies that reduce greenhouse gases, energy efficiency projects, reforestation or avoided deforestation projects, or to help developing countries adapting to climate change.
- The FTSE Group and KLD Indexes – have agreed a strategic partnership which will include a rebranding exercise early next year. With the exception of the FTSE4Good index family, all the FTSE and KLD indexes in the sustainability space will be relaunched early in 2009 under the 'FTSE KLD' banner.
- The **Carbon Disclosure Project** has published the UK findings of **CDP6** with 90% of **FTSE 100** and 58% of **FTSE 250** companies responding to the CDP6 information request. Responses indicate increasing appreciation by companies of their indirect climate change impacts.
- **EIRIS** latest research report "*The State of Responsible Business in 2008: Implications for PRI signatories*" focuses on 2300 global companies, highlighting unmanaged risks in areas of climate change, human rights, bribery and labour standards in the supply chain. The report outlines the issues these risks present to **UNPRI** signatories and other investors.

www.worldbank.org
Press Release
No:2009/132/SDN

www.cdproject.net

[www.eiris.org/files/press%20releases/stateofrespbisnov2008.p
df](http://www.eiris.org/files/press%20releases/stateofrespbisnov2008.pdf)

Other Issues

- **Japan for Sustainability** reports that **Toho Cinemas Ltd.**, which runs large movie complexes in Japan, has launched the '**Green Sunday**' campaign, with green power used to screen movies on Sundays. The campaign will be conducted in movie complexes in **Roppongi, Tokyo** and **Nijo, Kyoto**.
- **Footprint Consulting** and **WWF** have been working on a **Natural Change Project** and via the website you can subscribe to the blog to see how an outdoor-based programme creates personal and social change for a sustainable future.
- **NEF's** latest publication is '*Five ways to well-being*' written for the **Foresight Project on Mental Capital and Well-being**. **Advice** includes getting off the consumer treadmill to spend time with friends and family, engaging in active pursuits (sport, gardening and dancing), keep learning and trying new things, take notice of the sights, sounds and smells of everyday life, and giving '*to others by smiling, volunteering and saying thank you*'.
- **Impactt** and **Traidcraft** have co-authored '*Material Concerns: How responsible sourcing can deliver the goods for business and workers in the garment industry*'. The report provides a set of operational principles and scorecards for buyers and suppliers to incentivise efficiency and better ethical behaviour

Source:
[http://www.japanfs.org/db/221
3-e](http://www.japanfs.org/db/2213-e)

www.naturalchange.org.uk

www.neweconomics.org

[www.impacttlimited.com/wp-
content/uploads/2008/10/garm
ent-report.pdf](http://www.impacttlimited.com/wp-content/uploads/2008/10/garment-report.pdf)



Contact

CSEAR, School of Management, University of St Andrews

The Gateway, St Andrews KY16 9SS Fife, UK

Tel:- +44(0) 1334 462805, Fax:- +44(0) 1334 462812

Email: csear@st-andrews.ac.uk

URL: <http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/management/csear/index.html>

The University of St Andrews is a charity registered in Scotland : No SC013532

Disclaimer: The CSEAR E-Newsletter provides links to information and articles supplied by external services which are not in any way under the control of CSEAR or the University of St Andrews. We regret, therefore, that we cannot be held responsible for the content, continued existence or accuracy of any external pages.