

## 'CSEAR E-Newsletter' – June 2010

### 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

- The **22nd CSEAR UK conference** will be held at **St Andrews University** from **1<sup>st</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2010**. The plenary speakers will be **Brendan O'Dwyer, Amsterdam University** and **Stefan Schaltegger, Universität Lüneburg**. Co-organised with **EMAN**, a separate **Environmental Management papers stream** will be available. A special track on **Social and Environmental Accounting and Finance Research: Evidence from 'N>29 samples** is also planned and other topic streams may be organised as required. A Call for Papers has been issued.

[www.st-andrews.ac.uk/~csearweb/conferencesnews/comingschool.html](http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/~csearweb/conferencesnews/comingschool.html)  
<http://www.eman-eu.net/>
- The **3rd Italian Conference on SEA Research** will be held from **16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> September 2010**. Organised by the **University of Catania, Sicily, Italy**, plenary speakers include **Rob Gray; Gianfranco Rusconi; Lorraine Ruffing; and Maria Gabriella Baldarelli**. See conference website for more information.

[www.economia.unict.it/Csear/](http://www.economia.unict.it/Csear/)
- The **4th GECAMB Conference** on Environmental Management and Accounting – **Portuguese CSEAR Conference** will be held from **14<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> October 2010**. Organised by the **Escola Superior de Tecnologia e Gestão do Instituto Politécnico de Leiria, Portugal**, plenary speakers include **Christine Cooper and Charles Cho**. A **Call for Papers** has been issued with the **closing date for abstracts (in English) at 14<sup>th</sup> of June, 2010**.

<http://eventos.ipleiria.pt/gecamb2010/>
- The **9<sup>th</sup> Australasian Conference on Social and Environmental Accounting Research 'Getting the Balance right'** is hosted by the **Charles Sturt University, School of Accounting** from **5<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> December**. Confirmed plenary speakers include **Max Finlayson and Bernard Murphy**. Paper submission deadline is **31<sup>st</sup> August 2010**.

[www.csu.edu/csear10](http://www.csu.edu/csear10)
- A note for your diary the first inaugural **CSEAR France** conference will be held on **June 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>, 2011** and the venue will be the **Universite Paris Dauphine, Paris**. Many thanks to **Prof. Nicolas Berland** and his colleagues at the **Université Paris-Dauphine** for organising this conference.

E.mail for early details:  
[csear@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:csear@st-andrews.ac.uk)
- **CSEAR South America 2011** will be hosted by the **University of São Paulo**, and held at the **Ribeirão Preto Campus** (in the interior of São Paulo State). The dates planned are from **July 25<sup>th</sup> -26<sup>th</sup> 2011**. Many thanks to **Profa. Maisa Ribeiro** and colleagues at the **University of São Paul** for organising this conference.

E.mail for early details:  
[csear@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:csear@st-andrews.ac.uk)

## Call for Papers

- **Accounting Forum** is planning a special issue on ***Social and Environmental Accounting and Reporting in Emerging and Less Developed Countries*** with guest editors **Ataur Belal, Stuart Cooper and Robin Roberts**. A **Call for Papers** has been issued with a final submission date of **February 1st 2011**.
- **Management Accounting Research** has a forthcoming special issue on ***Challenges for Management Accounting Arising from the Sustainable Development Agenda*** with guest editors **Jan Bebbington and Ian Thomson**. A **Call for Papers** has been issued with a final submission date of **Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> 2011**.

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## Other Conferences

- The **Sixth Asia Pacific Interdisciplinary Research in Accounting (APIRA) Conference** will be held in **Sydney, Australia** from **11th – 13th July 2010**. The **Emerging Scholars Colloquium** will be held on **11th July 2010**.
- The **Corporate Responsibility Research Conference 2010 'Sustainability Management in a Diverse World'** will be held on **15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> September 2010** at **Euromed Management School, Marseille, France**. The conference is co-organised with **Queen's University Management School** and the **Sustainability Research Institute of the University of Leeds**.
- The **Journal of Management Studies** and the **Society for the Advancement of Management Studies, Loughborough University, UK** is holding **The Foundations of Sustainability** conference from **27th – 29th September 2010**. Speakers include **Garry D Bruton and Andreas Georg Scherer**.
- The **ERSCP-EMSU 2010 conference - Knowledge Collaboration & Learning for Sustainable Innovation** will take place in **Delft, the Netherlands**, on **25<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> October 2010**. A call for abstracts and papers has been issued.
- The **4<sup>th</sup> Annual International Conference on Business and Sustainability** will be held from **3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> November 2010** and organised by **Portland State University**. The concept of **'Profitable Sufficiency'** will be explored.
- The **15th Conference** in the **Towards Sustainable Product Design** series, **'Sustainable Innovation 2010: Creating Break throughs: Green growth, Eco-innovation, Entrepreneurship and Jobs'** will be held from **8th–9th November 2010** in **Rotterdam, The Netherlands**. This conference is organised by **The Centre for Sustainable Design and Enviu**.
- The **2010 Swiss Discussion Forums on Life Cycle Assessment** will be held on **19th of November 2010** in **Lausanne**.
- The **Social Audit Network Conference 2010 - Accounting for Change** will be held on **3rd December** in **Newcastle, UK**.

<http://apira2010.econ.usyd.edu.au/>  
See website for full details.

[www.crrconference.org](http://www.crrconference.org)

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[www.erscp-emsu2010.org/file\\_download](http://www.erscp-emsu2010.org/file_download)

[www.sba.pdx.edu/sustainabilityconference10/](http://www.sba.pdx.edu/sustainabilityconference10/)  
See attached flyer

[www.cfsd.org.uk](http://www.cfsd.org.uk)  
Email [SI10@ucreative.ac.uk](mailto:SI10@ucreative.ac.uk)

[www.lcainfo.ch](http://www.lcainfo.ch)

[www.socialauditnetwork.org.uk/](http://www.socialauditnetwork.org.uk/)

## Accounting and Reporting

- **Deloitte** has bought consultancy firm **dcarbon8**, with their staff of 12 joining **Deloitte's** 60+ carbon and sustainability practice. Dcarbon8 specialises in carbon management, including helping companies develop sustainability/communications strategies.  
[www.deloitte.com/](http://www.deloitte.com/)
- **The Ecumenical Council for Corporate Responsibility** has published ***Shell in the Niger Delta: A Framework for Change*** - five case-studies from civil society. An update on the social and environmental impacts of the operations of **Royal Dutch Shell's Nigerian** subsidiary, the **Shell Petroleum Development Company** is provided, and it explores what needs to change.  
[www.eccr.org.uk/module-htmlpages-display-pid-78.html](http://www.eccr.org.uk/module-htmlpages-display-pid-78.html)  
Pdf available on website
- **Trucost** will publish later in 2010 work on behalf of the **Principles for Responsible Investment** and **UNEP** looking at the world's 3,000 biggest public companies and the cost of pollution and other damage to the natural environment caused by them which **'would wipe out more than one-third of their profits if they were held financially accountable'**.  
[www.trucost.com](http://www.trucost.com)
- **BSR** has published ***Communicating on Climate Policy Engagement: A Guide to Sustainability Reporting*** offering guidelines for companies on communicating policy engagement. Report includes an assessment of how 150 leading companies report on climate policy engagement plus best practices.  
[www.bsr.org/reports/BSR\\_Communicating\\_on\\_Climate\\_Policy\\_Engagement.pdf](http://www.bsr.org/reports/BSR_Communicating_on_Climate_Policy_Engagement.pdf)
- The government of **India's Ministry of Corporate Affairs** has announced that it plans to up grade its website to enable companies to file their CSR reports online. The move follows the Ministry's introduction of voluntary guidelines on CSR for companies in December last year.  
[www.mca.gov.in/Ministry/latest\\_news/CSR\\_Voluntary\\_Guidelines\\_24dec2009.pdf](http://www.mca.gov.in/Ministry/latest_news/CSR_Voluntary_Guidelines_24dec2009.pdf) amend web link
- **KPMG's** survey ***Corporate Responsibility and Sustainability in Hungarian Large Companies*** reports that a third of Hungary's 100 largest companies reported on their non-financial results last year, with 8 including third party opinion as an independent external control, a decrease in comparison with the previous year.  
[www.kpmg.hu](http://www.kpmg.hu)
- The **South African Institute of Chartered Accountants** has a new website on sustainability and published ***Green***, a book for corporate leaders. Website includes reporting, SA government's response, investment guidelines, carbon trading, sustainability assurance, sustainability tools, publications and reviews, etc..  
[www.sustainabilitysa.org](http://www.sustainabilitysa.org)
- The **Dutch Accounting Standards Board** has reviewed the **Annual Reporting Guideline (RJ-400)** and **CSR supplement**. The RJ-400 includes information for Dutch companies' on annual reporting practices, legal stipulations, international standards and court rulings. The supplement includes recommendations for CSR reporting by Dutch companies, encouraging them to engage with societal issues and ensure that although CSR and CSR reporting may be voluntary, they should be taken seriously.  
[www.globalreporting.org/NewsEventsPress/LatestNews/2009/NewsDecember09DutchAccountingStandardsChanges.htm](http://www.globalreporting.org/NewsEventsPress/LatestNews/2009/NewsDecember09DutchAccountingStandardsChanges.htm)  
Source: **GRI Newsletter**, 10<sup>th</sup> December 2009.
- Japan's **Ministry of the Environment** released the English edition of its ***Annual Report on the Environment, the Sound Material-Cycle Society and the Biodiversity in Japan 2009***, to make Japan's environmental initiatives more widely known.  
[www.japanfs.org/en/pages/029787.html](http://www.japanfs.org/en/pages/029787.html)

## Accounting and Reporting (continued)

- **FEE (The Fédération des Experts comptables Européens – Federation of European Accountants)** has published *'Swedish accounting firms help SMEs to strengthen their businesses and adopt sustainable business practices, at the same time!'* to raise awareness of a Swedish practical tool.

[www.fee.be/publications/default.asp?library\\_ref=4&content\\_ref=1242](http://www.fee.be/publications/default.asp?library_ref=4&content_ref=1242)

- The **March 2010** issue of the *Journal of the Asia Pacific Centre for Environmental Accountability* includes articles on 'Enhancing Graduate Skills by Incorporating Sustainability into Accounting Education' by **Sharon Kemp** and 'Teaching a Sustainability Accounting Course in an Australian University: Insights for sustainability accounting education' by **Sumit Lodhia** plus the usual features.

Future contributors should contact the Co-Editor  
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- The **European Commission** hosted **6 multi stakeholder workshops** to explore the disclosure of environmental, social and governance, with the final workshop looking at hypothetical scenarios for the future of European policy. Summaries of all 6 workshops, plus written submissions and background documents are also available on the website.

[http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/sustainable-business/corporate-social-responsibility/reporting-disclosure/swedish-presidency/files/workshop\\_6/6-final\\_workshop-summary\\_final\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/sustainable-business/corporate-social-responsibility/reporting-disclosure/swedish-presidency/files/workshop_6/6-final_workshop-summary_final_en.pdf)

- **Aviva plc**, the world's 5<sup>th</sup> largest insurance group has published its **2009 Corporate Responsibility (CR) Report**, plus a commitment to put the CR Report to a separate shareholder vote at the 2010 AGM. **Aviva** reports that it is the first company in the UK and the first financial institution in the world to do this. **Aviva** has also extended its reporting of key metrics using the **Accounting for Sustainability Connected Reporting Framework**.

[www.aviva.com/reports/2009/](http://www.aviva.com/reports/2009/)

- **Oxfam America** is running a campaign on companies' financial transparency in the US. It has also filed a shareholder proposal for **Chevron's** annual meeting, seeking greater transparency from the company about government payments worldwide.

[www.oxfamamerica.org/](http://www.oxfamamerica.org/)

- **Carbon Smart**, has reported on 'eco-friendly statements' from businesses, with 80% of the UK's largest listed companies failing to support claims on carbon footprint size and other green credentials. 75 of the FTSE 350 companies provide an 'assurance statement' to verify their environmental statistics. Amongst those most criticised are **Royal Dutch Shell**, **Legal & General**, and **Morgan Crucible**.

[www.smartsustainability.co.uk](http://www.smartsustainability.co.uk/) |

- The **Vodafone Group** has won the 'best report' category in this year's **CR Reporting Awards** for the third year in a row, with **BP**, the runner up.

[www.corporateregister.com/crra/](http://www.corporateregister.com/crra/)

- The **International Federation of Accountants** and **The Prince's Accounting for Sustainability Project** have agreed a memorandum of understanding to support the global accountancy profession's role in developing sustainable organisations.

[www.ifac.org/MediaCenter/?q=node/view/712](http://www.ifac.org/MediaCenter/?q=node/view/712)

- The **CORE Coalition** has published a report authored by **Adrian Henriques** on non-financial reporting by FTSE 100 companies and why the Companies Act has failed to make environmental and social reporting simpler and more effective.

<http://corporate-responsibility.org/ftse100-company-reports-reveal-inadequacy-of-companies-act/>

## Accounting and Reporting (continued)

- **UNEP, GRI, KPMG** and the **University of Stellenbosch Business School** have jointly published '*Carrots and Sticks – Promoting Transparency and Sustainability – An update on trends in voluntary and mandatory approaches to sustainability reporting*'. This is an update on the 2006 edition.

[www.globalreporting.org/NR/rdonlyres/08D0C5D6-3B19-4BA2-9F12-540F66F73C5E/4198/Carrrots2010final.pdf](http://www.globalreporting.org/NR/rdonlyres/08D0C5D6-3B19-4BA2-9F12-540F66F73C5E/4198/Carrrots2010final.pdf)

## Finance, Financial Markets and Institutions

- The **Green Fiscal Commission** has published '*Achieving Fairness in Carbon Emissions Reduction: The distributional effects of green fiscal reform*' by **Paul Ekins** and **Simon Dresner** as part of their aim to assess the social, environmental and economic implications of substantial green tax shift.
- **IBM** is the first company to register energy efficiency certificates (EECs) on an **APX registry**, after improvements to a Canadian data centre. The company will initially save 1,000MWh a year from a server consolidation project, with a rise to 2,700MWh later this year. The APX registry allows companies outside mandatory systems to register voluntary energy efficiency reductions.
- **Friends of the Earth Europe** and **Bankwatch** have published '*Potential Unfulfilled*' suggesting that EU funding for renewables and energy efficiency in Central and Eastern Europe has not been spent.
- **Zerofootprint** has recently announced that the **TD Bank Financial Group's** operations in Canada, the US, and international locations - its entire footprint - are now **carbon neutral**. See website for further details.
- **Standard & Poor European Companies Look To Carbon Markets and Reduction Measures to Manage Their Emissions Exposure** reports on the views of 513 corporate issuers. Findings suggest that while emissions are becoming an accountable item for some companies, around 40% of respondents are integrating carbon exposure risk and carbon reporting into their funding decisions and financial statements. A similar percentage does not factor carbon emissions into any corporate financial calculations at all.
- **China** now has the highest level of investment in clean energy industries according to a report from the **Pew Charitable Trust**. In 2009, China invested \$34.6bn, with the US investing \$18.6bn, followed by the UK that invested in \$11.2bn.
- The UK government is to create a £2billion Green Investment Bank and consult on mechanisms to move the UK towards a low-carbon future – see '*Securing Low-Carbon Growth*' section of the March Budget.
- **EIRIS** has published research on bribery '*Reduces risk, enhances reputation? An analysis of corporate responses to bribery*'. Findings include that 56% of UK companies lack adequate anti-bribery policies and 78% lack adequate management systems to tackle bribery.

[www.greenfiscalcommission.org.uk/images/uploads/gfcBriefing8\\_PDF\\_isbn\\_v7.pdf](http://www.greenfiscalcommission.org.uk/images/uploads/gfcBriefing8_PDF_isbn_v7.pdf)

**Source:**  
[www.environmental-finance.com/online/news/0311ibm.html](http://www.environmental-finance.com/online/news/0311ibm.html)

[www.asb.dk/article.aspx?pid=24445](http://www.asb.dk/article.aspx?pid=24445)

[www.zerofootprint.net/press/single/zerofootprint-helps-td-make-its-global-business-operations-carbon-neutral/](http://www.zerofootprint.net/press/single/zerofootprint-helps-td-make-its-global-business-operations-carbon-neutral/)

**Source:**  
[www.newenergyworldnetwork.com](http://www.newenergyworldnetwork.com)

[www.pewtrusts.org/](http://www.pewtrusts.org/)

[www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/d/budget2010\\_chapter7.pdf](http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/d/budget2010_chapter7.pdf)

[www.eiris.org/](http://www.eiris.org/)



## Finance, Financial Markets and Institutions

- The **International Finance Corporation** has become the latest development bank to issue a '**green bond**' – valued at \$200m.
- **Railpen** and **USS** pension funds have formed a UK joint voting policy alliance to coordinate their share voting at company meetings, to create a global voting resource.
- **BankTrack**, an NGO, has published '**Close the Gap**', its third study researching the quality of lending and investment policies of major international banks. It has looked at the policies of 49 banks from 17 countries for 7 key business sectors and on 9 sustainability issues. The project also reviews the performance of banks on transparency and accountability. All policies are scored on a scale from 0 to 5, using a benchmark developed by **BankTrack** and **Profundo**, an economic research consultancy.
- **Social Finance** has launched the first **Social Impact Bond** to raise capital for social sector investment, with returns based on improved social outcomes. The first issue will fund social organisations working to reduce reoffending by prison leavers from **Peterborough Prison, UK**.

[www.reuters.com/article/idUSN1524970520100415](http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSN1524970520100415)

[www.railpen.co.uk](http://www.railpen.co.uk)  
[www.usshq.co.uk](http://www.usshq.co.uk)

[www.banktrack.org/download/close\\_the\\_gap/close\\_the\\_gap.pdf](http://www.banktrack.org/download/close_the_gap/close_the_gap.pdf)

[www.socialimpactbond.org.uk](http://www.socialimpactbond.org.uk)

## Other Issues

- **Zerofootprint** has launched a new website featuring its enterprise carbon management software products, consulting services, carbon benchmarking services and employee engagement services.
- See the **Richard Curtis** and **Bill Nighy** video, about the **Robin Hood Tax**, "*a tiny tax on bank transactions that could raise hundreds of billions for public services and to tackle poverty and climate change*" on You Tube plus their website.
- The **Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)** has published the **OECD Environmental Outlook to 2030** providing analyses of economic and environmental trends to 2030, and simulations of policy actions to address the key challenges.
- The **LA Times** reports that **Budweiser brewer Anheuser-Busch InBev** plans by 2012, to reduce its worldwide water use by 30% to 3.5 hectolitres of water for each hectolitre of product. Each hectolitre is about 26.4 gallons. In 2007, each hectolitre of production required 5.03 hectolitres of water.
- The **Ethical Consumer Magazine** has set up a market research section on its website which looks at ethical consumer behaviour in its broadest sense. It runs from 1989 to 2010 and contains research both in the UK and around the world. Intended for students and ethical businesses as well as the general reader.
- The **ICMM** has published new guidance on preventing fatalities in **Leadership Matters – Managing Fatal Risk Guidance**. Also published is ICMM's **2009 Annual Review – Making a difference**, following a strategic review of its goals and work

<http://zerofootprintsoftware.com/>

<http://robinhoodtax.org.uk/>  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=qYtNwmXKlvM&feature=related](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qYtNwmXKlvM&feature=related)

[www.oecd.org/environment/outlookto2030](http://www.oecd.org/environment/outlookto2030)  
Summary in English at:  
[www.oecd.org/dataoecd/29/33/40200582.pdf](http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/29/33/40200582.pdf)

[http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/money\\_co/2010/03/anheuserbusch-inbev-to-make-green-beer-by-cutting-down-on-water.html](http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/money_co/2010/03/anheuserbusch-inbev-to-make-green-beer-by-cutting-down-on-water.html)

[www.ethicalconsumer.org/CommentAnalysis/marketresearch.aspx](http://www.ethicalconsumer.org/CommentAnalysis/marketresearch.aspx)

[www.icmm.com/document/822](http://www.icmm.com/document/822)



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