CSEAR E-Newsletter' – June 2014 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

 In May 2014, the CSEAR Council produced a set of By-Laws for CSEAR and the Committee of International Associates produced a Roles, Responsibilities and Governance document. Both of these documents were distributed to the CSEAR Membership who were asked to vote for the adoption (or otherwise) of each of the documents. The vote closed on 4th June 2014 and we are delighted to announce that both documents were unanimously adopted. We wish to thank all those that participated in the vote. These documents are attached for information.

CSEAF

- Mentoring: Many of us have found the CSEAR community to be a place that supports the conditions for personal and profession growth and development. Mentoring and career development have been a central element in CSEAR's developmental DNA and a defining attitude of this academic community. The question considered here is: How can we build upon and enhance this central tenet of the community? This is a continuation of the conversation began last year with the membership questionnaire, discussions at the CSEAR 2013 (St. Andrews) and the Council's subsequent contemplations on this topic. The attached article outlines the thinking that underpins this recommendation in the hope it will stimulate dialog as well as a renewed sensitivity and commitment to engaging as an imaginative and supportive community. It is proposed that CSEAR provides the context and conditions where mentoring type relationships and career development opportunities can emerge through encouraging and facilitating a supportive network of academics. We strongly encourage and very much appreciate any observations, comments, suggestions, disagreements, etc. in the spirit of constructive dialog wherein new insights emerge that can facilitate a supportive network for mentoring and career development by and within the CSEAR community (csear@st-andrews.ac.uk).
- We are delighted to announce that Jan Bebbington has been named winner of the British Accounting and Finance Association 2013 Distinguished Academic Award. She was presented with the award at the BAFA Awards ceremony on Tuesday 15 April 2014 in London, which was part of the 2014 BAFA 50th Annual Conference that took place at London School of Economics from 14 to 16 April. Congratulations Jan!
- The 5th CSEAR North America Conference is being hosted by the École de comptabilité of FSA ULaval, Québec, Canada and will take place on July 2 and 3, 2014. The plenary speaker for the conference is Professor Ian Thomson, Professor of Accounting at Heriot-Watt University (Edinburgh, UK) and Convenor of the CSEAR Council.
- The 26th International Congress on Social and Environmental Accounting Research will once again be hosted by CSEAR at the School of Management, University of St Andrews, Scotland from 27th – 29th August 2014. The conference this year will be fully residential and registration is now open. Immediately preceding the conference is the one day Emerging Scholars Colloquium on Tuesday 26th August.

Please see attached CSEAR By-Laws and Committee of International Associates produced a Roles, Responsibilities and Governance

Please see attached discussion document. Please email comments, suggestions, disagreements etc., to csear@standrews.ac.uk

http://www.fsa.ulaval.ca/csearna

Please see website for further details: http://www.standrews.ac.uk/csear/conferences/nextcs earuk/ and attached information

CSEAR NEWS (continued)

 A special issue of AAAJ on Ecological Accounts is being edited by our very own Colin Dey, Markus Milne and Shona Russell. The project has its own website and the project will run from 2014-2017. The call for papers is attached. Markus, Colin and Shona would welcome enquiries and expressions of interest. A workshop will be held on 26th August 2014 at the Gateway, School of Management, University of St Andrews.

CSEA

- The Vth Italian CSEAR Conference will be held in Padova, Italy on the 18th and 19th September 2014. The conference website is now up and a call for papers has been issued. The conference will focus on greenwashing and camouflaging. The plenary speakers will be Prof. Robin Roberts, University of Central Florida, Prof. Charles Cho, ESSEC Business School, and Piermario Barzaghi, KPMG Partner Global Sustainability.
- An Emerging Scholar Consortium on Social and Environmental Accounting will take place on September 22, 2014 at IESEG School of Management, Lille in collaboration with the Centre for Social and Environmental Accounting (CSEAR) and the French Accounting Association.
- The VIth GECAMB conference on Environmental Management and Accounting – the Portuguese CSEAR will take place from 6-7 November 2014 and will be hosted by Polytechnic Institute of Leiria, Portugal. The deadline for the submission of papers has been extended to 30th June 2014.
- The **13th Australasian CSEAR Conference** will be held at **Latrobe University**, **Melbourne**, Australia from the **29th November until 2 December 2014**. Further details will follow.
- CSEAR Teaching Case Study Competition 2015 CSEAR is launching a new . annual teaching case study competition for members. All members (including PhD students and practitioners) are invited to contribute a teaching case study as part of our initiatives to develop the effectiveness of Accounting and Sustainability education. Five winners, as determined by a panel of judges, will be invited to present their cases in a plenary session at CSEAR UK conference in Royal Holloway University of London (26th-28th August 2015) and have their cases published in an e-book format that will be distributed free to all CSEAR members. They will also receive a framed award certificate and be listed on the CSEAR webpage. The aims of this competition are: to develop a database for CSEAR members of high quality Accounting and Sustainability teaching cases; to encourage the development of high quality teaching cases and promote effective case writing Strategies; facilitate the exchange of ideas leading to the improvement of case research, writing, and teaching; assist with the distribution and publication of cases.
- An SEAJ Special issue on EU regulation about corporate social and environmental reporting will be published in April 2016, with Special Issue Editor Thomas Riise Johansen. Authors interested in contributing to this Special Issue of SEAJ should submit their manuscripts to the SEAJ online submission system not later than the 31st of January 2015, selecting this special issue. Review papers and commentaries are also welcome until the 30th of June 2015.

http://ecologicalaccounts.wordpress.co m/ please see attached call for papers

http://www.economia.unipd.it/csearitaly-2014 please see attached conference information

please see attached call for papers

please see attached call for papers

please see attached call for papers

please see attached for full details

please see attached call for papers http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/reaj

CSEAR NEWS (continued)

• Written by **Rob Gray, Carol Adams and David Owen,** *Accountability, Social Responsibility and Sustainability* is the long overdue **successor to** *Accounting and Accountability* published in 1996. It is published by Pearson.

CSEA

- The 27th International Congress on Social and Environmental Accounting Research will be held during the week of 24th August 2015 and will be hosted by Professor Jeffrey Unerman and the School of Management at the Royal Holloway University of London. Further details will follow.
- Invitation: CSEAR Blog seeking guest bloggers: Do you write blogs or tweet about your research? Would you like to share short overviews or updates with others in the CSEAR communities? The CSEAR Blog is looking for guest contributors to write up to 500 words on their research. If you have something to contribute or would like to find out more about the CSEAR blog please contact Colin Dey or Shona Russell.
- General Invitation to Submit Article and Book Reviews for SEAJ: For each issue of SEAJ we, the review team, publish a range of book and article reviews covering the broad area of interest to SEAJ readers. Generally, and increasingly so, we commission these by identifying recent articles/books and then inviting academics to contribute a short review. However, the purpose of this email is remind everyone that we also welcome and encourage members of the CSEAR community to contact us with potential contributions to the review section, in particular book reviews. We welcome contributions from both senior and emerging academics. While we are open to a broad range of literature relevant to the SEAJ readers being reviewed, we do focus on reviews of recent publications. We also ask that you contact one of the review team (details below) prior to writing the review to ensure that a review of the article or book you identify has not already been published, or currently being reviewed by someone else. Reviews are generally 300-350 words, however can be longer in the case of a book review. We look forward to hearing from you (or your postgraduate students) soon with a suggested review. Regards, The SEAJ Review Team.

Please see the attached information

http://catalogue.pearsoned.co.uk/catalog/pr oduct?ISBN=9780273681380

https://www.google.co.uk/maps/preview?ie= UTF-

8&q=royal+holloway&fb=1&gl=uk&hq=Royal +Holloway+University+of+London&cid=15006 901091123610984&ei=9ZopU-LEJYfwhQev-IG4BQ&ved=0CJ8BEPwS http://csearweb.blogspot.co.uk/ Colin Dey: colin.dey@stirl.ac.uk

Shona Russell: sr65@st-andrews.ac.uk

Conny Beck cornelia.beck@sydney.edu Helen Tregidga helen.tregidga@aut.ac.nz Matias Laine

Matias.Laine@staff.uta.fi

Call for Papers

- Henley Centre for Governance, Accountability & Responsible Investment (GARI). Call for Papers: Forthcoming International Conference: 9–11th September 2014: Corporate Governance and Integrated Thinking? Full papers should be submitted to Professor Jill Atkins (J.F.Atkins@henley.ac.uk.).
- A Special Issue of Sustainability Accounting, Management and Policy Journal on "Camouflaging of corporate (un)sustainability" is being guest edited by Giovanna Michelon, Silvia Pilonato, Federica Ricceri and Robin Roberts.
- Call for Papers on 'Japanese Approaches to CSR': The Journal of Corporate Citizenship is pleased to invite papers for a special issue of the JCC on 'Japanese Approaches to CSR.

please see attached call for papers

please see attached call for papers

www.greenleaf-publishing.com/jcc

Issue 8 No 2 June 2014

Call for Papers (continued) www.gdn.int Imagining the future of Africa 2025: If you are currently a student enrolled in an African university and are 21 to 29 years old, speak out on the future of Africa 2025: What does the future hold for the African continent? What are the possible scenarios? How will the future be different from the Africa that exists today? Write a paper of 15 000 characters (with spaces) covering one of these 3 areas: Economic challenges; Environmental challenges; Social and political challenges. If you are selected, you will receive an invitation to join the GDN 15th Annual Global Development Conference and exchange your views with experts, researchers, policy-makers and economists from around the world. http://lhscientificpublishing.com/journals/JE The new Journal of Environmental Accounting and Management, a peer-AM-Default.aspx reviewed publication that aims at linking environment and ecological science with complex system theory. http://www.scirp.org/Journal/AimScope.aspx The Journal of Human Resource and Sustainability Studies is an ?JournalID=2421&utm_source=E&utm_mediu international journal dedicated to the latest advancements related to topics m=cpJHRSS20130617&utm_campaign=aimSco of human resource, work, and ecological sustainability. ре http://www.omicsgroup.org/journals/accoun Journal of Accounting & Marketing is an academic journal providing an • ting-marketing.php opportunity to share information amongst scientists and researchers. **Other Conferences** The 30th EGOS (European Group for Organization Studies) Colloquium in http://www.egosnet.org/jart/prj3/egos/ Rotterdam, The Netherlands, 3-5 July, 2014, will host a subtheme, entitled main.jart?rel=de&reserve-'The rise of accountability: Rethinking management accounting, control mode=active&contentid=1368705858152&subtheme_id=13345 and organization theory'. 81237115 http://criticalperspectivesonaccounting.c • The next Critical Perspectives Conference will be held on July 7 - 9, 2014 at the Schulich School of Business, York University, Toronto, Canada. The om/ Emerging Scholar's Colloquium will be held on July 6, 2014. Please email events@uksif.org to request UKSIF Summer Event Kindly hosted by Schroder Investment Management • to attend. UK with the Rt Hon Lord Smith of Finsbury, Chairman of the Environment Agency 5.30 – 8.30 pm, Tuesday 15 July 2014. NERC, working closely with the UK Energy Research Centre (UKERC) and its http://www.nerc.ac.uk/research/funded /programmes/valuingnaturalcapital/new Valuing Nature programme, will be running a two-day interactive strategic ideas brokerage workshop to develop research consortia that will s/workshop/ subsequently submit grant proposals to address this challenge. Date of workshop: 21-22 July 2014. 2nd World Symposium on Sustainable Development at Universities (WSSDhttp://www.haw-hamburg.de/en/ftzals/veranstaltungen/world-symposium-on-U-2014) 3-5 September 2014, Manchester, United Kingdom. sustainable-development-at-universitieswssd-u-2012.html Economic, Social and Cultural Rights - Justiciability and Accessibility Issues Paper abstracts/concepts must be • submitted electronically by 30 June 2014 in South-Asia: Towards ICESCR and Domestic Legal Framework to Dr Cailin Mackenzie (info@mimat.org). Effectiveness for State Accountability 5-7 September 2014 Kathmandu, Nepal.

CSEA

Other Conferences (continued)

- 14th Annual Bank Research Conference Risk Management after the Crisis: What is next for the Domestic and International Financial Institutions and Systems? September 18-19, 2014, Arlington, Virginia.
- 15th Global Conference On Environmental Taxation, 24-26 September 2014, Copenhagen Denmark.
- International Summit of Cooperatives Quebec October 6-9, 2014.

CSEA

- ECB Workshop on Non-standard Monetary Policy Measures Monday, 6 and Tuesday, 7 October 2014, Frankfurt.
- 3rd European Conference on Banking and the Economy (ECOBATE 2014) 8
 October 2014, Winchester, UK. The Centre for Banking, Finance and
 Sustainable Development (University of Southampton, UK) is inviting paper
 submissions for presentation at the 3nd European Conference on Banking
 and the Economy (ECOBATE 2014), hosted by the Centre on 8 October 2014
 in the Guildhall, Winchester, UK and for publication in a Special Issue in the
 International Review of Financial Analysis.
- Sustainable Innovation 2014: Cities & Regions as Catalysts for Smart & Sustainable Innovation. Part of the 'Towards Sustainable Product Design' series of conferences , 3rd-4th November 2014, KADK , Copenhagen.
- 2nd Geneva Summit on Sustainable Finance, November 27th, 2014, Geneva, Switzerland.
- The UCL Institute for Sustainable Resources (UCL ISR) & UCL Grand Challenge of Intercultural Interaction (GCII) will host a two-day conference in November to explore the concept of stewardship for planet earth.

For additional information, please contact the conference organizers: JReidhill@fdic.gov or hunal@rhsmith.umd.edu

http://conferences.au.dk/gcet/

http://www.sommetinter.coop/cms/en_ CA/sites/somint/home/edition-2014/articles-scientifiques.html

full papers or extended abstracts in PDF format to NSMWorkshop@ecb.europa.eu by 30 June 2014

The submission deadline for full papers is 30 June, 2014. Please mail your papers to ecobate@soton.ac.uk

http://cfsd.org.uk/events/sustainableinnovation-2014/sustainable-innovation-2014-eshot/

http://www.geneva-summit-onsustainable-finance.ch

Call for papers- 'Stewardship for Planet Earth: Sustainable Resources & Governance – Evidence, Challenges & Solutions' and http://www.bartlett.ucl.ac.uk/sustainable/lat est/activities/symposium_series/symposium_ 2014/research-call

Accounting and Reporting

- The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) have issued their Fifth Assessment Working Group III Report 'Climate Change 2014: Mitigation of Climate Change'. This final report assesses the options for mitigating climate change and their underlying technological, economic and institutional requirements. The report can be downloaded from the IPCC website. A concise summary of the key messages is also available on The Carbon Brief blog. The report says the effects of climate change are already occurring on all continents and across the oceans. The world, in many cases, is ill-prepared for risks from a changing climate. The report also concludes that there are opportunities to respond to such risks, though the risks will be difficult to manage with high levels of warming.
- The *Eldis Climate Change Resource Guide* offers a specially created Storify which brings together some of the reaction around the world to the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)'s fifth Assessment Report (AR5).

http://report.mitigation2014.org/spm/ipcc_wg3_ar 5_summary-for-policymakers_approved.pdf http://www.ipcc.ch/

http://www.carbonbrief.org/blog/2014/04/notjust-another-climate-report-main-messages-fromthe-un-report-on-tackling-emissions/ http://www.unep.org/newscentre/Default.aspx?D ocumentID=2764&ArticleID=10773&l=en#sthash.G

HDLwnqg.dpuf http://www.unep.org/publications/ebooks/emissio nsgapreport2013/

http://www.unep.org/climatechange/

http://www.eldis.org/go/latestnews/news/ipcc-fifth-assessmentreport#.U57wePldXAI

Accounting and Reporting (continued)

• Here is a roundup of some of the reactions from business to academia to the UN report on climate change.

CSEA

- IPCC's outdated climate change communication won't cut it. If the IPCC doesn't move away from staid warnings towards human stories, the science will never be brought to life. A thought provoking comment in the Guardian.
- The International Integrated Reporting Council (IIRC) welcomes a further move towards better quality corporate reporting in the UK, with the publication today of the *Guidance on the Strategic Report by the Financial Reporting Council (FRC)*.
- The International Resource Panel (IRP), under the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), recently launched a new report 'Building Natural Capital: How REDD+ Can Support a Green Economy.' This report provides a concise summary of the pieces necessary for integrating REDD+ into a Green Economy.
- A new **report** by **the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS)** explores whether **regional energy initiatives** are an efficient, effective and politically acceptable approach toward reaching **three EU energy policy objectives**: competitiveness, supply security and sustainability.
- A report published by Forum for the Future, The Climate Group and WWF-UK has highlighted the importance of a 'Net Positive' approach to long-term business success. The report, 'Net Positive: A new way of doing business', captures for the first time, the principles of what it means to take a Net Positive approach and provides a route map to help businesses engage with the concept.
- A new report by the Global Subsidies Initiative of the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) with the Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW) explores renewable energy policy in India and the contribution it has made to green growth.
- Accountants, the Unexpected Heroes of Sustainability is a very interesting article by Adam Koniuszewski (Solutions for a sustainable future).
- The winners of the 7th annual CR Reporting Awards (CRRA'14) have been announced. The CRRA'14 report is available as a free download from www.corporateregister.com.
- The European Commission is seeking stakeholders' views about the impact of its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Strategy over the past three years and on the role it should play in the future. The public consultation is running until 15 August 2014.
- Big auditors must be made accountable to the public: The UK government's spin machine has been busy saying that it is ending corporate secrecy to tame darker side of capitalism. It sounds good, but is not supported by the proposals which will hardly worry the shady practices industry. The shortcomings of the UK proposals are explained in this article titled "Don't be misled by Vince Cable's talk of corporate transparency".

https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar5/wg3/

http://www.theguardian.com/sustainable-business/ipccclimate-change-science-communication?CMP=new_1194 http://www.theguardian.com/sustainablebusiness/blog/2014/apr/14/climate-change-reportreactions-to-the-final-instalment-of-the-ipccanalysis?CMP=new_1194

https://frc.org.uk/Our-Work/Publications/Accounting-and-Reporting-Policy/Guidance-on-the-Strategic-Report.pdf

http://www.unep.org/resourcepanel/

http://www.ceps.eu/book/exploringregional-approach-eu-energy-policies

http://www.theclimategroup.org/_asset s/files/Net-Positive.pdf

http://www.iisd.org/publications/assessi ng-green-industrial-policy-indiaexperience

http://adamkoniuszewski.com/2014/04/16/a ccountants-the-unexpected-heroes-ofsustainability/

(http://www.corporateregister.com/a10723/ 63249-14th-13914780J9330808725I-Gl.pdf)

http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/susta inable-business/corporate-socialresponsibility/publicconsultation/index_en.htm

https://theconversation.com/bigauditors-must-be-made-accountable-tothe-public-25766

Issue 8 No 2 June 2014

Accounting and Reporting (continued)

•	 The United Nations Energy Programme (UNEP) has published several new reports which may be of interest: Our Planet: the future is priceless, put a price on carbon Assessing global land use: balancing consumption with sustainable supply Building natural capital: how REDD+ can support a Green Economy Our Planet: greening business UNEP global environmental alert service: May 2014 	http://www.unep.org/publications/
•	A global body is to be created to help public sector organisations develop integrated reporting – reporting that incorporates both financial and other relevant information, including ESG. The new initiative is to be christened the Public Sector Pioneer Programme, and will be formed jointly the International Integrated Reporting Council (IIRC) and the UK-based Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA).	http://www.unpri.org/whatsnew/public- sector-to-get-integrated-reporting-body/ http://www.theiirc.org/2014/05/08/accounti ng-today-network-will-promote-integrated- reporting-in-public-sector/
•	The ACCA has set out its key polices and statements concerning a series of six business and sustainability topics : sustainability reporting; integrated reporting; assurance of non-financial reporting and disclosures; climate change; natural capital; green economy.	http://www.accaglobal.com/gb/en/research- insights/environmental- accountability/sustainability-matters.html http://www.accaglobal.com/content/dam/acca/glo bal/PDF-technical/sustainability-reporting/tech-tp- smapp.pdf
•	The UN Global Compact has released its <i>Activity Report 2013</i> , providing a snapshot of the initiative's accomplishments over the past year and highlighting major activities, partners, governance and accountability measures. The report is intended to increase transparency and accountability around Global Compact activities.	http://www.unglobalcompact.org/docs/ about_the_gc/ActivityReport-2013- web.pdf
•	A new report from the Institute of Business Ethics suggests that the adoption of agreed Global Ethics standards for international business could generate and sustain trust between those engaged in international trade and investments and help reduce poverty .	http://www.ibe.org.uk/userassets/press releases/intnorms.pdf
•	CEOs are increasingly seeking "good growth," aligned with business ethics and sustainability writes Dennis Nally, Chairman of PwC International for Strategy+Business.	http://www.strategy- business.com/article/00253?gko=66f79
•	The European Parliament has adopted the proposed Directive on disclosure of non-financial and diversity information by large companies and groups. Companies concerned will need to disclose information on policies, risks and results as regards environmental matters, social and employee-related aspects, respect for human rights, anti-corruption and bribery issues, and diversity on boards of directors.	http://europa.eu/rapid/press- release_STATEMENT-14-124_en.htm
•	The European Commission has adopted measures to improve the corporate governance of around 10 000 companies listed on Europe's stock exchanges and has presented a proposal for the revision of the Shareholder Rights Directive. The initiative aims at contributing to the competitiveness and long-term sustainability of these companies.	http://ec.europa.eu/internal_market/co mpany/modern/index_en.htm
•	The International Council on Mining and Metals (ICMM) has released its Annual Review 2013 - Strengthening relationships with communities.	http://www.icmm.com/document/6993

Accounting and Reporting (continued)

 Business Ethics in Corporate Reporting: The growth of Narrative, Sustainability and integrated reporting has created a space in which business ethics is being reported in external company reports. This Briefing looks at how these three initiatives have facilitated the reporting of business ethics and areas in which more information could be reported.

CSEAF

 A new report launched by CIMA, in collaboration with EY the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC) and the Natural Capital Coalition, calls for finance professionals to take action and lead the change to prevent their organisations failing in today's ever changing environment. Accounting for Natural Capital: The Elephant in the Boardroom highlights how natural capital is largely ignored by investors as boardrooms continue to focus on short-term management decisions and priorities. http://www.ibe.org.uk/userassets/briefings/b41_reporting.pdf

http://www.cimaglobal.com/Documents /Thought_leadership_docs/Sustainability %20and%20Climate%20Change/CIMAaccounting-for-natural-capital.pdf

Finance, Financial Markets and Institutions

 The European Commission has published a first comprehensive review of the financial regulation agenda as a whole. This economic review sets out how the reforms will deliver a safer and more responsible financial system by enhancing financial stability, deepening the single market for financial services and improving its efficiency whilst improving market integrity and confidence.

Two interesting articles from Prem Sikka this quarter for you to read:

- The world of auditing has learnt no lessons from the banking crash and continues in its age-old irresponsible way. His short article on it begins by saying "What should we do with producers who routinely deliver faulty goods and services? Producers of cars, food, medicines, aeroplanes and even financial products are forced to compensate injured parties, recall their goods and face the possibility of being forced out of business. But such niceties do not apply to the auditing industry". There is no effective reform in sight.
- A lot has been written about Pfizer's attempt to buy AstraZeneca, a UK-based company. Some have suggested that a public interest test should be applied to mergers and takeovers of all large companies. What would a "public interest" test include? In an article titled "I've applied the public interest test to the big pharma deal and Pfizer fails" he provides elements of such a test, and the article may interest you. Pfizer does not pass this test. You may have your own benchmarks.
- The Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI) and the UN Global Compact LEAD are working to overcome the risks of short-termism. Understanding the value of sustainability and communicating with investors took centre stage at the recent event 'Realising Long-Term Value for Companies & Investors' held in Rome. The event marked the launch of a joint report by the PRI and LEAD.
- GRI have announced the availability of two new linkage documents and six new Sector Disclosures documents. All 10 G4 Sector Disclosures are now available. The documents are adapted versions of the 10 GRI G3/G3.1 Sector Supplements reorganized to fit the structure and content of the G4 Guidelines. They serve as complementary material for G4 reporters, and constitute a key component of the 'in accordance' criteria.

http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-14-564_en.htm

https://theconversation.com/dont-bemisled-by-vince-cables-talk-of-corporatetransparency-25879

https://theconversation.com/ive-appliedthe-public-interest-test-to-the-big-pharmadeal-and-pfizer-fails-26791

Strategies for Managing the Impacts of Investor Short-Termism on Corporate Sustainability. http://www.unglobalcompact.org/docs/issues_ doc/lead/LEAD_ShortTermism.pdf

https://www.globalreporting.org/reportin g/sectorguidance/sectorguidanceG4/Pages/default .aspx

Finance, Financial Markets and Institutions (continued)

Australia's big four banks are backing companies accused of kicking people off their land, leaving them homeless and hungry. ANZ, Westpac, National Australia Bank and the Commonwealth Bank have invested in companies that have contributed to illegal logging, forced evictions, inadequate compensation, food shortages and child labour, according to Oxfam Australia. The claims were made in its report: Banking on Shaky Ground – Australia's big four banks and land grabs.

CSEA

- The FTSE Group has launched the Developed ex Fossil Fuels Index Series, a global benchmark excluding companies linked to exploration, ownership or extraction of fossil fuels. The index covers 7400 companies.
- Why Finance Giants Should Bank on Sustainability: Huw Magg's latest piece for SustainAbility's What's Next column on GreenBiz explores how multinational banks can play a major role in the context of sustainable development.
- The PRI have launched a new resource for signatories: Integrating ESG in private equity A guide for general partners. More than 97% of those signatories required to report have completed the mandatory reporting framework. The Reporting and Assessment team are now in the process of collating responses and validations in order to begin analysis of the information.
- A three-year initiative to increase levels of responsible investment around the world has been kicked off by a group of 11 major institutional investment institutions. The institutions, under the banner of the Investment Leaders Group (ILG), have published a scoping document that outlines how the project needs to 'shift the investment chain towards responsible investment'.

http://ethicalinvestor.com.au/oxfam-sayssustainability-leaders-profiting-forced-evictions-landgrabs/ https://www.oxfam.org.au/wp-content/uploads/sitemedia/pdf/2014-47%20australia%27s%20big%204%20banks%20and%2

http://ethicalinvestor.com.au/new-fossilfuel-free-index-covers-7400-companies/

0land%20grabs_fa_web.pdf

http://www.sustainability.com/blog/why-finance-giantsshould-bank-on-

sustainability?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Whats%2 0Next%20%20Sustainability%20Leadership%20Financial%20I nnovation%20and%20More&utm_content=Whats%20Next% 20%20Sustainability%20Leadership%20Financial%20Innovatio n%20and%20More+CID_be5cfe9df40edab2728821e3ed7c1dd f&utm_source=Campaign%20Monitor&utm_term=Read%20 more#.U6ASE_ldXAk

http://d2m27378y09r06.cloudfront.net/viewer /?file=wp-

content/uploads/PRI_IntegratingESGinprivatee quity_digital.pdf http://www.unpri.org/areas-ofwork/reporting-and-assessment/reportingoutputs/individual-2013-14/

http://d2m27378y09r06.cloudfront.net/vi ewer/?file=wp-content/uploads/ILG-The-Value-of-Responsible-Investment.pdf

Other Issues

- The ICMM and UN Global Compact hosted a multi-stakeholder international workshop to explore challenges and promote good practice at the operational level around Indigenous Peoples and mining. The workshop took place as a side event to the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII).
- The European Resource Efficiency Platform (EREP) was established to provide high-level guidance to the European Commission, EU Member States and private actors on the transition to a more resource-efficient economy. Following its final meeting on 31st March, EREP has developed their final set of policy recommendations.
- The concept of ecosystem services is increasingly being promoted as a means better to protect ecological systems through more informed decision-making. A new collection of research papers (two of them open access) by international experts in knowledge ecological production and use explore, for the very first time, how far ecosystem knowledge has been taken up in critical decision making venues such as land use planning, policy appraisal and cost benefit analysis.

http://www.icmm.com/articles/human-rightsand-indigenous-peoples-workshops-2013-2014

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/resource_eff iciency/re_platform/index_en.htm

http://www.envplan.com/contents.cgi?jou rnal=C&volume=32&issue=2

 A new guidance document has been released, which for the first time, brings together in one place examples of planning policies around the UK that support community food growing. Published by Sustain, the alliance for better food and farming, the report sets the planning context in the four nations, and provides the background to community food growing.

CSEAF

- Toby Webb has 11 reasons to be optimistic about sustainability with the caveat that business has yet to address climate change issues properly, there are reasons to feel positive about the state of sustainable business.
- Economics students call for shakeup of the way their subject is taught: Students from 19 countries argue economics courses failing wider society by ignoring need to address 21st-century issues. An interesting read from the Guardian
- The Coming Climate Crash: Lessons for Climate Change in the 2008 Recession. For too many years, we failed to rein in the excesses building up in the nation's financial markets. When the credit bubble burst in 2008, the damage was devastating. Millions suffered. Many still do. We're making the same mistake today with climate change. A thought provoking article in the New York Times.
- What needs to happen and what must be done differently for the climate negotiations to pick up speed? This much debated question is the focus of the new "Carbon Mechanisms Review" (CMR).
- The new publication from CIRCLE-2 makes recommendations for better approaches to science-policy-practice working. CIRCLE-2 is a European network for research and co-operation on climate change. Recommendations in the briefing note are drawn from a literature review, as well as the outcomes of working sessions at the European Climate Change Adaptation conference in Hamburg in 2013.
- The latest 2014 volume in the Worldwatch Institute's highly regarded State of the World series examines how action- on climate, species loss, inequity, and other sustainability crises- is being driven by local, people's, women's, and grassroots movements around the world, often in opposition to the agendas pursued by governments and big corporations.
- The International Energy Agency (IEA) has released two guides aimed at helping countries around the world develop ambitious energy efficiency policies by showing policy-makers, analysts and statisticians how to better track and use data on the so-called hidden fuel.
- The World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF)'s main focus is to promote agroforestry research in developing countries. The Centre's mission is, "to generate science-based knowledge about the diverse roles that trees play in agricultural landscapes, and to use its research to advance policies and practices, and their implementation, that benefit the poor and the environment."
- The new *Eldis Global Health Resource Guide* is now live. The Guide aims to provide access to relevant, diverse and credible research on global health in developing countries, and to inform dialogue and the sharing of good practice by policy actors and decision makers globally.

http://www.sustainweb.org/publications/ ?id=295

http://www.ethicalcorp.com/stakeholderengagement/reasons-be-

cheerful?utm_source=http%3a%2f%2fuk.ethicalcorp.com%2ff c_ethicalcorporationlz%2f&utm_medium=email&utm_campa ign=1679+Enviro+270314&utm_term=Top+reads+from+Ethica ICorp.com%C2%A0&utm_content=434583

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http://www.nytimes.com/2014/06/22/opi nion/sunday/lessons-for-climate-changein-the-2008recession.html?ref=opinion&_r=1

http://www.jikobmub.de/files/english/application/pdf/cmr_01_2014 _engl_bf.pdf

http://www.circleera.eu/np4/%7B\$clientServletPath%7D/?n ewsId=674&fileName=CIRCLE2_Productive SciencePracticeInterac.pdf

http://www.worldwatch.org/bookstore/p ublication/state-world-2014-governingsustainability

http://www.iea.org/newsroomandevents/ pressreleases/2014/may/name,56328,en.h tml

http://eldis.org/go/latestnews/news/spotlight-series-worldagroforestry-centre-icraf#.U57wwPldXAk

http://www.eldis.org/go/latestnews/news/new-eldis-global-health-resourceguide#.U57xFPIdXAk

 Interface are renowned as pioneers of sustainability and in this podcast, Rob Boogaard (acting President & CEO of Interface) explicates the various different initiatives the company are taking, as well as the changes they are undergoing, the targets they hold and the strategies they have implemented.

CSEA

- The Ethical Consumer 'Your thoughts about ethical clothing on the high street' results make for very interesting reading: 700 answered the recent clothing questionnaire.
- The CDP has released its report on the climate change activities of 500 major Japanese companies, the CDP Japan 500 Climate Change Report 2013.
- The Solar LED Association in Japan has announced that it has started selling a new type of small, solar-powered water purification system that can produce potable water from rainwater, river water, well water, and even household bathwater, without the need for external power. This would make it especially useful in times of disaster.
- The Japan Meteorological Agency has released 2013 statistics on annual mean temperatures for Japan and worldwide.
- The Tokyo Institute of Technology (Tokyo Tech) has announced success in developing man-made leaves to harvest light, jointly with Toyota Central R&D Labs. This success will lead to realization of artificial photosynthesis, with an efficiency of converting solar energy to chemical energy comparable to that of natural photosynthesis.
- Kitakyushu in southern Japan, with the aim of creating "a world environmental city," has announced a plan for a zero-emission transportation system that would not produce any pollution like carbon dioxide (CO2). Electric buses are to be charged by large rechargeable batteries which store electricity produced by solar power will run on two city bus routes.
- Recording of 2014 Sustainability Leaders Survey: If you missed the webinar hosted by Chris Coulter, co-CEO, GlobeScan and Chris Guenther, Research Director, SustainAbility, you can now access a recording of the presentation.

http://www.ethicalcorp.com/businessstrategy/podcasts/podcast-rob-boogaard-acting-president-

ceo-interface-introduces-companys-

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How can the value of nature be embedded in the world of business?
 Natural capital isn't about putting a cash value on a Siberian tiger or a mangrove forest; it's about business risks and costs.

CSEA

- Lithium sulphur graphene a battery breakthrough? A new battery under development promises to store twice as much and power an electric vehicle for more than 300 miles.
- Bhutan could be world's first wholly organic nation within a decade. Political parties in the Himalayan kingdom unite to eradicate chemical fertilisers and pesticides as part of its Gross National Happiness programme.
- Shell is pushed to explain its role in \$1.1bn Nigerian corruption scandal: The British-Dutch group paid a huge fee to develop an offshore oil block. Wherever the money ended up, the loser is Nigeria.
- The 5th Steering Committee meeting of the Multilateral Environment Agreements and Information Knowledge Management (MEA IKM) Initiative Montreux, has taken place. Four UN agencies, in collaboration with the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and other key partners, concluded a week of meetings to promote new tools and better access to information to assist Parties to more effectively implement obligations under 18 Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEA).
- The CDP has released its *Supply Chain Report 2013–14; Collaborative Action on Climate Risk*. It has also released its **State by State report 2014 The business response to climate change across America.**
- At the GreenBiz Forum 2014, one of the most buzzed-about topics at the table was natural capital. As natural resources become increasingly scarce, more companies are discussing and embracing ways to value assets such as clean water and soil. Fittingly, the conference kicked off with a sit-down discussion about this topic featuring Joel Makower, GreenBiz executive editor and chairman; John Davies, GreenBiz VP; and Richard Mattison, CEO of <u>Trucost</u>, an organization that helps companies measure such impacts.
- GreenBiz NGO Report: For years, we've seen corporations rated, ranked and reviewed by a wide range of NGOs. GreenBiz decided to turn the tables. In this report, sustainability executives from large corporations rate and rank 30 leading NGOs.
- The United Nations Global Compact and BSR today released a first-of-itskind guide on traceability to help companies and stakeholders worldwide address the evolving landscape of supply chain sustainability and meet their broader sustainability goals. A Guide to Traceability: A Practical Approach to Advance Sustainability in Global Supply Chains provides an overview of the importance of traceability for corporate sustainability objectives, outlines the global opportunities and challenges it represents, and summarizes practical steps for implementing traceability programmes within companies.

http://www.theguardian.com/sustainablebusiness/finance-nature-no-value-naturalcapital?CMP=new_1194

http://www.theguardian.com/sustainablebusiness/breakthrough-batteries-lithium-sulphurgraphene?CMP=new_1194

http://www.theguardian.com/sustainablebusiness/bhutan-organic-nation-gross-nationalhappiness-programme?CMP=new_1194

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http://www.unep.org/newscentre/Default.asp x?DocumentID=2791&ArticleID=10889&l=en#st hash.85r0xYqK.dpuf http://www.unep.org/newscentre/Default.asp x?DocumentID=2791&ArticleID=10889&l=en

https://www.cdp.net/CDPResults/CDP-Supply-Chain-Report-2014.pdf https://www.cdp.net/CDPResults/CDP-state-by-state-report-2014.pdf

http://www.greenbiz.com/video/2014/04/ 14/greenbiz-forum-2014-natural-capitaltrucost

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report.pdf?mkt_tok=3RkMMJWWfF9wsRols6zMZKXo njHpfsX66OQoXq%2B2IMI%2F0ER3fOvrPUfGjI4CScJmI %2BSLDwEYGJIv6SgFSLHEMa5qw7gMXRQ%3D

http://www.unglobalcompact.org/docs/iss ues_doc/supply_chain/Traceability/Guide_ to_Traceability.pdf

 New palm oil maps mark a milestone in transparency: A new initiative from WRI and the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil aims to shed light on how individual oil palm concessions affect forests, information that can empower companies to manage their forests and supply chains more sustainably. Global Forest Watch Commodities combines the RSPO's maps of certified sustainable palm oil production sites with global forest data like tree cover loss alerts, locations of primary forests, and legal land classifications.

Please also take the time to read:

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• Kellogg's journey towards sustainable palm oil

http://www.ethicalcorp.com/supply-chains/palm-oil-debate-part-1-kellogg%E2%80%99s-journey-towards-sustainable-palm-

oil?utm_source=http%3a%2f%2fuk.ethicalcorp.com%2ffc_ethicalcorporationlz%2f&utm_medium=e mail&utm_campaign=EC+News+160414&utm_term=When+do+you+reward+a+company+for+refor ming%3f&utm_content=434583&gator_td=wqTL1LAkwI7B9ydZEgCfkpOkFhslQp2q5LysiJOrvFTL8h5U FqxTtZSGuul60OhzsB4mRPyBOg72Ld99CNu2g3zofYBzi5eRu5cJvaq9ipPHegjjBuEc9P%2fLMXqtgk7LrT DXAKoXnAn444l0yIBncTb66Z7YIPjsbrabQGp3CdPama1vhx%2bdnY8e8Jj5PBF3vWd%2fCNYbhuxlGz8U zLV8m2U7wIIUEKr9%2f710mKybLQ4%3d

and

• The next stage for palm oil reform

http://www.ethicalcorp.com/supply-chains/palm-oil-debate-part-3-next-stage-palm-oilreform?utm_source=http%3a%2f%2fuk.ethicalcorp.com%2ffc_ethicalcorporationlz%2f&utm_mediu m=email&utm_campaign=EC+News+160414&utm_term=When+do+you+reward+a+company+for+re forming%3f&utm_content=434583&gator_td=wqTL1LAkwI7B9ydZEgCfkpOkFhsIQp2q5LysiJOrvFTL8h 5UFqxTtZSGuul60OhzsB4mRPyBOg72Ld99CNu2g3zofYBzi5eRu5cJvaq9ipPHegjjBuEc9P%2fLMXqtgk7L rTDXAKoXnAn444I0yIBncTb66Z7YIPjsbrabQGp3CdPama1vhx%2bdnY8e8Jj5PBF3vWd%2fCNYbhuxIGz 8UzLV8m2U7wIIUEKr9%2f710mKybLQ4%3d

Contact

CSEAR, School of Management, University of St Andrews The Gateway, St Andrews KY16 9RJ Fife, UK Tel:- +44(0) 1334 462805, Fax:- +44(0) 1334 462812 Email: <u>csear@st-andrews.ac.uk</u> URL: <u>www.csear.co.uk</u> The University of St Andrews is a charity registered in Scotland: No SC013532

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http://www.greenbiz.com/blog/2014/06/1 7/new-palm-oil-maps-mark-milestonetransparency http://commodities.globalforestwatch.org /#v=suitability http://www.rspo.org/