

## Welcome to the HUB

### Welcome to the Autumn Edition of the HUB e-newsletter!

In this edition we update you on the last few months of the HUB's activities including the latest news on the Corporate Responsibility Index, the Good Business Register, the United Nations Global Compact and the Global Reporting Initiative. We also draw your attention to some important international and national events. We would also like to take this opportunity to welcome Victoria Coleman to the role of the Global Reporting Initiative, Network Manager Focal Point Australia and thank Lena Geraghty for important and significant contribution to the HUB and wish her all the luck for her impending bundle of joy.

The HUB is a consolidated space for engagement, interaction and connectivity to build communities of responsible business practice (RBP) in Australia. Funded by the Federal Government (Treasury) until mid 2010, St James Ethics Centre is currently reviewing the HUB's next phase of development. We are currently on track to complete all project deliverables for our current Treasury Funding agreement.

To keep you updated on the project we will be sending you this e-newsletter quarterly. Please feel free to send feedback and comments to [Amanda Armstrong](#).

To read more about the RBP Project, please click [here](#). To learn more about the work of St James Ethics Centre, please click [here](#).

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## United Nations Global Compact

### A commitment to a universal set of principles

Following a strong foundational year for the Global Compact Network Australia which has seen an increase in participating signatories in Australia by more than 50% we are on track to hold our first Annual Meeting with high level panel in Sydney, 4 June, 2010. Signatories will be sent an invitation in April.

June 8, Brisbane, 'The 10th Anniversary of the UN Global Compact and the Emerging Sustainable Enterprise Economy'. In the lead up to the celebrations of the 10th Anniversary in New York of the UN Global Compact the Asia Pacific Centre for Sustainable Enterprise, at Griffith Business School will host this session with panelists including UNGC signatories Allens Arthur Robinson and Rio Tinto, academic Sandra Waddock (Boston College), Focal Point Rosemary Sainty and Chair Professor Malcolm McIntosh. Supported by the United Nations Association of Australia and the Earth Charter Festival (Sept 2010, Brisbane). [Book here](#)

24-25 June, New York- [UN Global Compact Leaders Summit 2010](#) – by invitation. The Leaders Summit will convene chief executives with leaders from civil society, government and the UN to elevate the role of responsible business. This year the summit celebrates the 10 year anniversary of the Compact. An Australian delegation is currently being organised.

For further information please contact Rosemary Sainty, Focal Point, UN Global Compact Network Australia - [rsain@ethics.org.au](mailto:rsain@ethics.org.au)

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## Global Reporting Initiative

### International framework in sustainability reporting

Lena Geraghty, Focal Point Manager, left the role this month to welcome a new addition to her family. We would like to thank Lena for the tremendous job that she has done in getting the GRI Australia Focal Point to where it is, and wish her and her family all the best.

In her place we welcome Victoria Coleman. Victoria comes to the Focal Point position with almost 10 years of experience in sustainability, mostly in education and capacity building as well as policy and strategy for a variety of different organisations both in Australia and abroad.

Looking abroad, GRI will host its biannual conference in May Rethink, Rebuild, Report, The Amsterdam Global Conference on Transparency and Sustainability. The Focal Point will be hosting an Australian delegation at the conference.

Confirmed speakers include:

Dr. Stephen Davis, Chair of the Security and Exchange Commission's (SEC) Investor as Owner Advisory Committee (United States of America); Dr. Robert Eccles, Senior Lecturer, Harvard Business School (United States of America) Sonia Favaretto, Director of Sustainability at BM&FBOVESPA (Brazil); Eric Hespeneide, AERS Global Leader of Climate Change & Sustainability, Deloitte & Touch LLP (United States of America); Kumi Naidoo, Executive Director, Greenpeace International (The Netherlands); Pedro Ortún, European Commission Director, Directorate-General for Enterprise and Industry (European Union); Pavan Sukdhev, Study Leader TEEB (United Kingdom) Mathis Wackernagel, President of the Global Footprint Network (United States of America); Hans Wijers, CEO, AkzoNobel (The Netherlands).

To learn more about the conference, visit the conference website or contact Victoria Coleman, Australian GRI Focal Point Manager at [coleman@globalreporting.org.au](mailto:coleman@globalreporting.org.au)

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## Corporate Responsibility Index

### Robust management and benchmarking tool

Congratulations to all of our 2009 Public Index companies in Australia and New Zealand for successfully completing the 7th Annual survey! The validation of all 2009 CRI survey submissions has now been completed in cooperation with Business in the Community (UK) and PricewaterhouseCoopers (Aus/NZ).

2009 CRI Awards - Our participating companies will be receiving their confidential feedback reports in April, ahead of the 7th Annual CRI Awards. The CRI Awards will be presented on 27th May 2010 as part of the 11th National Business Leaders Forum on Sustainable Development.

2010 Private Index - For all new and continuing companies interested in participating in the Corporate Responsibility Index during 2010, please note that the 2010 Private Index is now open for registration.

### Key Dates

#### 2009-10 Public Index

April	Company Feedback Reports
May	Annual CRI Awards
May-June	CRI Results Media Release

#### 2010-11 Private Index

Mar - June	Introductory Meetings
Apr - June	Company Registration
	Survey Launch
	Training Workshops

For further information please contact Sarah Davidson, Manager, Corporate Responsibility Index - [sarah.davidson@ethics.org.au](mailto:sarah.davidson@ethics.org.au) or visit the [CRI website](#).

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## Small to Medium Enterprises

### National Garment Industry Sustainability Roundtable

On Friday 29 January 2010 in Melbourne, the Centre, Council of Textile & Fashion Industries of Australia Limited and Brotherhood of St Laurence convened a sustainability roundtable for the garment industry. 32 stakeholders across the industry representing business, industry, government and NGOs gathered to discuss the findings and recommendations stemming from the "Travelling textiles: a sustainability roadmap of natural fibre garments" report and garment product roadmap produced by the Brotherhood of St Laurence and the broader sustainability impacts in this industry. To find out more please [click here](#).

### Assisting SMEs in the Supply Chain: Good Business Register

[The Good Business Register](#), launched in December 2009, is a simple, free, online tool that helps a business create a sustainability report to be used in the tender processes and ensures they can communicate the unique aspects of their business to a variety of stakeholders. If you're a small business visit the website to register today and start building your sustainability profile. If you're a large business looking to green your supply chain why not tell your small business suppliers about this free online initiative, funded by the Federal Government (Treasury). <http://goodbusinessregister.com.au/>

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## Events

### Earth Hour

St James Ethics Centre is a strong supporter of [Earth Hour](#). Please remember to switch off your lights this Saturday 27 March at 8.30pm.

We have been working with WWF to support this great initiative and ensure that business is aware of the tools that can help them contribute to responsible business practices beyond the hour. For more information please visit the [Good Business Register](#).

### 11th National Business Leaders Forum on Sustainable Development

A leading annual sustainability leadership event

Please mark your diaries for the 11th National Business Leaders Forum on Sustainable Development (NBLF), to be held on Thursday 27th and Friday 28th May 2010 at Parliament House in Canberra.

The NBLF is a leadership event and the theme for this year is "Achieving the Great Transformation: Growing the Low Carbon Economy. As in previous years, the Annual CRI Awards will be presented as part of the Forum Dinner, to be held this year from 6.30pm on Thursday 27 May. Registration for the NBLF is available for either the full two day forum, one day of the forum or the forum dinner only. For further information and to register online please go to the [NBLF website](#).

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The National Responsible Business Practice Project is funded by the Federal Government, through Treasury to enable St James Ethics Centre to engage Australian businesses in identifying and adopting more responsible business practices.

St James Ethics Centre [www.ethics.org.au](http://www.ethics.org.au) 02 9299 9566