

Sustainability Assurance: An Introductory Workshop



AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF
Social and Ethical
Accountability

A rapidly growing number of organizations are seeking to account for and report on their sustainability performance. The Department of Heritage and Environment's funded 2004 survey of sustainability reporting in Australia identified 116 reports. Of these 28% were independently verified or assured.

But what does third party assurance add in terms of trust? Is there a difference between assurance and verification? Who is qualified to provide assurance? This workshop aims to provide participants with the knowledge to answer such questions in relation to their own needs. The AA1000 Assurance Standard is the primary standard used to illustrate sustainability assurance during the workshop with other approaches, such as ISAE 3000 also introduced and discussed.

Workshop's Themes

- Assuring sustainability reports – the business case
- Recent assurance trends and developments in Australia and internationally
- AA1000 Assurance Standard principles & application
- ISAE 3000 overview
- Choosing the right assurance for your organization

Workshop's Unique Aspects

Expert Practitioner Trainers

The workshop will be led by two experienced sustainability assurance practitioners working with the AA1000 Assurance Standard, Terence Jeyaretnam, Principal URS Australia and Richard Boele, Banarra Sustainability and Social Assurance. They will illustrate the concepts and theory of sustainability assurance with their own practical experiences.

Group Discussion & Exercises

Learning is facilitated through ample opportunities for smaller group discussion and exercises including group review of a sustainability report and an assurance statement.

Australia's Exclusive Trainer for AA1000AS

The Australian Institute of Social and Ethical Accountability is the exclusive licence holder for AccountAbility's AA1000AS training in Australia.

This is an approved course that is recognized as contributing to the training requirements of the AccountAbility/International Register of Certificated Auditors' Certified Sustainability Assurance Practitioner (CSAP) program.

See www.irca.org for more information.

CSAP program is a partnership between



Richard Boele

Richard has applied the AA1000AS with a number of clients including Westpac, Newmont, and Hydro Tasmania. His social auditing in the mining sector resulted in extensive international experience from Peru to Uzbekistan. He is currently completing his fifth reporting cycle, as social auditor, for the acknowledged banking sector corporate responsibility leader, Westpac. Richard was recently recognised as Australia's first Lead Certified Sustainability Assurance Practitioner.



Terence Jeyaretnam

Terence has undertaken over forty verification and assurance programs of environmental, social and sustainability reports as a lead assurance provider since 1997 in manufacturing, mining, water and finance sectors.

In addition, he is also an accredited environmental auditor by the Victorian Environmental Protection Authority as well as the Quality Society of Australasia. Terence is a Fellow of the Institute of Engineers Australia, and was recently recognised as one of the top 100 influential engineers in Australia for his contribution to the profession and sustainability. He has worked throughout Australia, New Zealand, Asia and South Africa.

**To find out more about the Australian Institute of Social and Ethical
Accountability visit www.accountability.org.au**

Workshop Details

SYDNEY

Date

Monday November 28

Time

8:30 Registration
9.00 – 17:00

Venue

Sydney Mechanics' School
of Arts, 280 Pitt Street, Sydney
www.sydneymsa.com.au/location.htm

MELBOURNE

Date

Friday December 2

Time

8:30 Registration
9.00 – 17:00

Venue

To be confirmed.

COST

\$395 ex GST

special rate for existing members of the
Australian Institute of Social and Ethical
Accountability

\$495 ex GST

for others

REGISTRATION

Places are strictly limited to 25 per
workshop. Register early to avoid
disappointment by emailing
info@accountability.org.au

Note, places will only be held for seven
days after the invoice is issued, to secure
you place ensure you pay promptly by
cheque or bank transfer.

Cancellation Policy

*All cancellations must be received in
writing. The amount paid less a 15%
processing fee will be refunded for
cancellations received prior to
Wednesday 15 November, 2005.*

*Following this date, refunds will only
be given in exceptional
circumstances, but substitutes may
be sent. AISEA reserves the right to
modify the workshop program or to
cancel or postpone the workshop.
AISEA is not responsible for any non-
refundable expenses incurred for
travel and accommodations
associated with these events.*

Who Should Attend?

Reporters and Future Reporters: Whether you're a seasoned reporter or just starting out, the workshop maps out the sustainability assurance territory as well as the benefits and risks the different approaches offer.

Assurance Providers and Future Assurance Providers: The workshop provides a good introduction to the area, providing a practitioner's view of what is involved and helping you decide the extent of your interest in the area.

Attendance should also be considered if you have responsibility for, or provide professional services in:

- Triple-bottom line and sustainability reports
- Corporate social responsibility
- Internal/external auditing
- Stakeholder relations/engagement

What's Included?

Registration fee includes:

- Comprehensive workshop binder
- Certificate confirming successful completion of workshop
- Lunch & refreshments

Attendees are asked to briefly look over the following documents prior to attending the Workshop (softcopies of which will be e-mailed after payment with registration confirmation): AA1000 Overview, AA1000AS and ISAE 3000.

All other material and resources are provided on the day of the course.



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Find out how to join the Institute at
www.accountability.org.au