

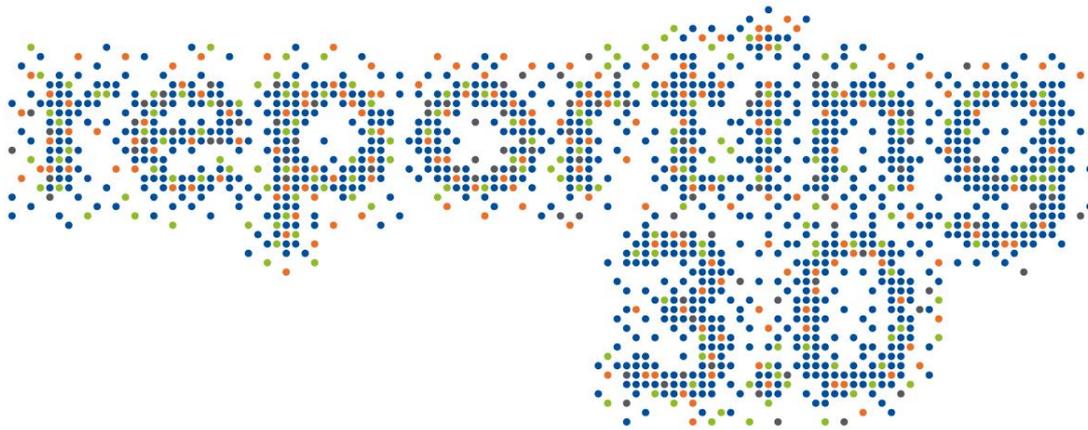
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Series of events on the Future of Sustainability Reporting

Transition Lab 1 – Bridging the Sustainability Context Gap

Improvement of Context-Based Information as a prerequisite for meaningful sustainability reports

April 29, 2014, 1pm – 6pm, Berlin, GIZ House, Reichpietschufer 20, 10785 Berlin

Language: German/English (simultaneous translation available)

Introduction

In September 2013, BSD Germany organized the sold-out conference '*The Future of Sustainability Reporting*' – a critical reflection of the ongoing developments of Sustainability Reporting in the European and international context.' The event did cover a plethora of issues and trends that influence the future of non-financial reporting, e.g. the move to integrated reporting, the confusion of the current standards on non-financial reporting, the further internalization of external effects, the implications of planetary boundaries and social developments on corporate growth paradigms, as well as the growing trend of companies to deliver against 'North Stars' and commit to 'net-positive' targets.

Reporting 3.0 will be continuing as a platform concept in 2014 through a set of minimally 3 Transition Labs and a two-day International Conference. The success of the 2013 conference will be continued with the intention to further deepen the discussion and align interested institutional, corporate and academic, as well as non-governmental and non-profit constituencies, around the most important issues that need more clarity and alignment. The first Transition Lab on April 29 will be focusing on the gap closure around the so-called '*Sustainability Context Gap*'. Each Transition Lab will be supported by a '*Thematic Mapping*', a short and visualized mind-map on the main areas for elaboration during the Lab.

Focus areas to close the '*Sustainability Context Gap*'

Modern market based mainstream has been determined by the paradigm of ever-growing economies, consumerism and individual optimization. Product optimization, efficiency increases and market development are mainly just focusing on selling more with less effort. Positive effects, such as in the field of resource efficiency are frequently overlapped by so-called rebound effects. The propagated in past conferences at the UN level "Green & Inclusive Economy" intends to offer in the spirit of sustainability a counter-model to this developments. It involves the recognition of planetary boundaries and places the desire for human well-being at the center. But can we already measure progress and how much of the journey towards a Green & Inclusive Economy is yet to come? Starting from the goal-state of a Green & Inclusive Economy, will the first Transition Lab deepen significant challenges in the context of an interactive and structured discussion and suggest possible solutions. One focus is on the role of reporting for the necessary change processes.

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Agenda

- 12:30 – 13:00 Welcome
- 13:00 – 13:30 **Transition launch**
Ralph Thurm (BSD Germany) – 'Steered by the stars – an overview about the main Sustainability Context Gap issue areas'
- 13.30 – 15:00 **Transition Space 1: Science-based goals, Sustainable Development Goals – how to define Long-Term Goals?**
Input:
Dr. Rodney Irwin (World Business Council for Sustainable Development);
Dr. Nicole Grunewald (Global Footprint Network)
Followed by an interactive plenary discussion and solution mapping
- 15:00 – 15:30 Coffee Break
- 15:30 – 17:00 **Transition Space 2: Net-positive Impact – the ultimate business case of sustainability?**
Input:
Geanne van Arkel (Interface);
Tobias Hartmann (Global Nature Fund)
Followed by an interactive plenary discussion and solution mapping
- 17:00 – 17:30 **From outcome mapping towards next steps**
- 17:30 – 18:00 Finale of the event

Speaker



Dr Rodney Irwin is the Managing Director of Redefining Value and Education at the World Business Council for Sustainable Development in Geneva. In this role, Rodney is responsible for a portfolio of projects designed to advance the measurement and valuation of externalities to take sustainable development into the mainstream reporting of an organization. He is the link between WBCSD members and standard / regulation setters and he is leading projects in risk management, integrated and mandatory reporting and is developing education programs designed for senior finance staff. He holds a degree in Economics, a master's degree in management and a Doctorate where he researched comparative corporate governance and its interrelationship with ethical decision making and reporting at ISM Paris. Rodney has also completed the Masters in Sustainability Leadership at Cambridge University as a member of the inaugural cohort in 2012 and is now lecturing and supervising on this course.



Geanne van Arkel is responsible for Sustainable Business Development at Interface in the Netherlands. Geanne has a creative, strategic approach for embedding sustainability within organizations and is working for Interface for over eleven years. She sees sustainable development as a key driver for innovation, believing full product transparency based on life cycle assessments to be the driving force. Geanne believes in cross-sectoral cooperations in the circular and biobased economy. Creating sustainable value by addressing both ecological and societal issues in inclusive business models, related to the core business of a company is the only way to thrive. Therefore she is using the principles of both biomimicry, The Natural Step and The Blue Economy. In her opinion sustainability is about applying a new set of values so you can start to see success through a fresh pair of eyes. It's about redefining the long game while being more efficient in the short - building a better, smarter business



Tobias Hartmann is program manager at the Global Nature Fund (GNF), an international foundation for the protection of environment and nature based in Germany. The GNF is the coordinator of the European Business & Biodiversity Campaign aiming to strengthen private sector commitment for biodiversity and ecosystem services. Tobias currently leads GNF's work related to natural capital accounting and ecosystem valuation. He has a MSc in environmental economics from the University of Mannheim and Heidelberg.

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Nicole Grunewald is a research economist and project manager at Global Footprint Network in Geneva. She is responsible for the analysis of how economic policies affect the ecological footprint and how resource overuse affects the economy. Her focus is methodological improvements of the Ecological Footprint through the use of Multi-Regional Input-Output modelling. Currently she is working on a Computable General Equilibrium model to assess the impact of economic policies on a country's footprint. Prior to joining Global Footprint Network, Nicole Grunewald worked for the IPCC as a chapter scientist for the Fifth Assessment Report on Climate Change. She assessed climate change mitigation projects for the World Bank with an emphasis on Latin America and Asia. Nicole Grunewald holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Göttingen, where she taught as a teaching assistant. She published articles in peer-reviewed Journals such as Ecological Economics. Her major research interests are environmental policy analysis and sustainable development. She was a visiting scholar at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

Thematic Mapping

The thematic mapping for Transition Lab 1 will be sent to registered participants by April 24th, to allow for additional preparation and thoughts for the plenary discussions. A summary of the event will be sent and made available 2 weeks after the event.

Registration

The Transition labs are limited to a maximum of 50 participants. Early registration is recommended and can be done at <https://t-lab1-2014-en.eventbrite.de> The participation fee is 145,- € plus 19% VAT (MwSt).

More Reporting 3.0 platform events in 2014

- 27.06.2014 **Transition Lab 2:** ‚Standards Confusion‘, focusing at a) Materiality: what, for whom, and how?, b) Capitals – now what? , b) a new generation of rankings & ratings – what’s coming?
- 06/07.10.14 **International Annual Conference Reporting 3.0 Platform:** a kaleidoscope of new developments that influence reporting regime setting globally
- 05.12.2014 **Transition Lab 3:** ‚Sustainable Business Models‘, focusing at a) strongly sustainable innovation – what is it?, b) the sustainable ‚Business Model Canvas‘, c) international collaborations for sustainable business models.

Event Organizer

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