



Social accounting and audit for the community sector



SAN: SOCIAL AUDIT NETWORK

Mike Swain - Chair of SAN

I am pleased to send you the first edition of the new format
SAN Newsletter

Check out the website for news, information about social accounting, case studies and articles, and training opportunities and back editions of this circular!

Click on the links on this page to read more about our training programme, a case study feature from Cheshire Crossroads, and also news of the Total Place Initiative a new public sector project about which all should know.

Social Audit Network Limited (SAN) promotes the use of Social Accounting and Audit as an accessible tool to prove the value of activities carried out by organisations in the social economy. Social accounting and audit helps an organisation to **'prove and improve'**.

SAN is a not-for-profit company limited by guarantee based in the UK with an international membership including associate members based in Australia, India and mainland Europe.

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ARTICLES

An Introduction to Social Accounting

Wednesday 14th April - 10am to 4pm

Venue Mearns Community Centre, 148 High Street, Laurencekirk (on mainline train route)

Delivered by Kevin McDermott who is an approved auditor with the Social Audit Network.

This one day course will explain the process of social accounting which allows an organisation to measure how well it is doing in relation to its social, economic and environmental performance (the triple-bottom line) At the end of the session participants will:

- Understand the principles and values behind social accounting
- Understand the stages of social accounting.
- Be able to identify whether or not social accounting is suitable for their organisation.
- Have identified the range of performance and impact information they currently keep and where the gaps are.

We are grateful to Mearns Area Partnership for hosting this event.

Cost: Voluntary/Community Sector £42

Statutory Sector £56

This includes a copy of the Social Audit Network's manual. (Second representatives from the same voluntary/community organisation can attend the course at a cost of £10 without provision of a manual)

Closing Date 6th April 2010

Please contact Diane/Shirley on 01358 722205 or email admin@cvstraininginitiative.org.uk to book these courses.

SA Case Study Feature - South Cheshire

Crossroads Caring for Carers

'We help people to have a better life'
(*Carer Support Worker*)

Crossroads Caring for Carers is a specialist voluntary organisation providing practical and emotional support to carers and people with care needs in their own homes and in the community.

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SAN Training Programme 2010

SAN runs two types of training event: the two day **Social Accounting 'master-class'** and the one day **Social Auditor Workshop**.

The '**master-class**' (MC) works through the Three Steps of the Social Accounting and Audit process and is designed for people who either wish to use social accounting in their own organisation or wish to assist other organisations prepare social accounts..... for more information and list of upcoming events,

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SAN practice Case Studies

SAN is always looking for organisations to feature as Case Studies in both this newsletter and on the SAN website. A number of these have been prepared following the SAN research project.

There are now 23 Case studies on the SAN website, and these will shortly be accompanied by a handy directory feature to help you select the best for your needs.

To visit the Case Studies page.....

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Total Place - a reason to measure social, environmental and economic benefit...

Total Place is a new public sector initiative which everyone in the social economy in England should know about.

Promoted by the Department for Communities and Local Government following the 2009 budget, Total Place is a new initiative that looks at how a 'whole area' approach to public services can lead to better services at less cost. It seeks to identify and avoid overlap and duplication between organisations operating in the public and third sectors, aiming to deliver service improvement and efficiency at the local level. To continue this article please

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NEWS & DEVELOPMENTS

Register of Social Auditors

Anyone wishing to become approved as a SAN Social Auditor should contact their Regional Co-ordinator in the first instance - see end of Circular. Prospective auditors are required to attend a SAN Social Auditor workshop and to have attended at least two social audit panels and written a set of notes before being mentored, when they chair a first panel for themselves. To see more about Social Auditing

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SAN Manual

Should you wish to purchase a copy of the interactive Manual and CD, please contact your Regional Co-ordinator in the first instance, who may have some in stock. Larger orders should be placed via the SAN office in Exeter - contact details at the end of this newsletter.

SAN Wallchart poster.....

The popular SAN wallchart poster has been updated and reprinted. The new version includes the changes made to the SAA Three Step process following the *Really Telling Accounts!* research, revised diagrams and new case-studies. These include The Wise Group, Highland Home Carers, Pembrokeshire Frame and the Neuro Muscular Centre. To obtain a copy simply send an A4 self-addressed envelope with large stamp to the SAN office.

Contributing to this circular...

The SAN newsletter reaches some 1500 people in the UK and all around the world. If you know of other people who are interested in social accounting please invite them to join the network via the website or simply email us their address. Please remember the network is there not only to send out information but also to be used as a way of contacting other people and spreading information about what you are doing.

If you are willing to share your experiences of social accounting and audit in order to help inform others, you do not need to write the whole article - we are happy to help. However, the information and opinion must come from you and your organisation - it's your story that is being told! Please contact Anne Lythgoe alythgoe420@btinternet.com to discuss how your story can be included on our website.

SAN - a global organisation

Social Audit Network is a truly global organisation. Thanks mainly to the activities of some of SAN's key members, the reach of the organisation has expanded across the world.

In terms of SAN Social Auditors, there is now representation from all parts of the UK - England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, as well as Germany, Australia, New Zealand and India.

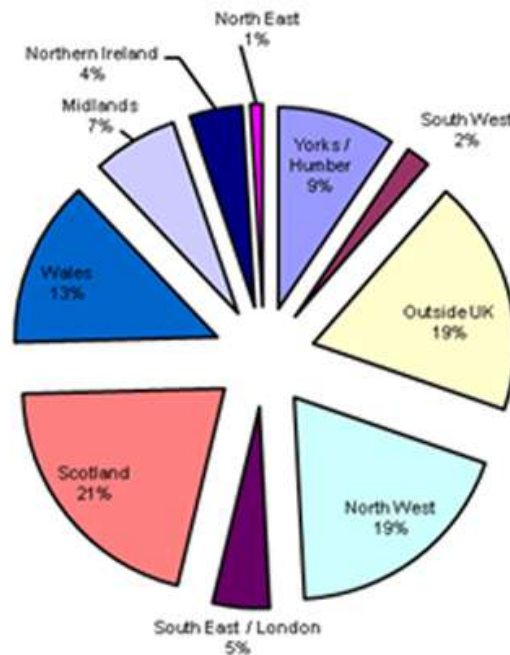
An analysis of SAN Manual sales shows that, although the bulk goes to UK organisations in our own social economy, nearly 20% have been sold to countries like South Korea, Finland, Ireland, Nepal, Australia, USA, New Zealand, Sri Lanka, Denmark and Japan.

The 2009 SAN Conference was attended by Social Accountants from Canada, India, New Zealand, Finland, Australia and Nepal, as well as from across the UK.

Even within the UK, our reach to the Highlands and Islands of Scotland is particularly strong following work by the regional enterprise agency.

So membership of the Social Audit Network allows you to share a wide variety of experience in social accounting and audit, with representatives of organisations from a wide variety of countries. Contact your regional co-ordinator (UK) or the SAN office for details of what's going on in your part of the world.

Analysis of Manual Sales since May 2006



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mary@punchthehorse.karoo.co.uk

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Northern Ireland Vacant We are still seeking to identify people willing to serve as Regional Co-ordinators in Northern Ireland and the South of England.

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