



SAN: SOCIAL AUDIT NETWORK SEPTEMBER 2010

Welcome to the September edition of the circular newsletter from the Social Audit Network. These are exciting times for SAN with the coming launch of a new manual for social accounting and busy preparations for the network conference in December.

The new guide, called 'Accounting for Change: the next generation of social accounting and audit', will contain a broad based framework for social accounting and social reporting by organisations in the social economy and voluntary sector

It will effectively contain a 'road map' through the increasingly complex world of social reporting, offering a framework within which tools such as SROI, IIP, etc can be used in the management of your organisation. December 3rd will see the 2010 SAN conference, in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, with further details in this newsletter. 'Accounting for Change' will be launched at this conference, and key speakers from the enterprise and community sector will lead discussion about the future of the reporting of performance and impact. The event will also include stories from enterprises in north-east England, and theme based workshops for those who want to know more about the theory and practice of social accounting. Further information about the conference, and a booking form, will be circulated shortly – be sure to return yours promptly as places are limited.

SAN is planning further training workshops and master classes across the UK and beyond – please keep checking this newsletter or our website for further information. You can also contact your regional co-ordinator or the SAN office direct at info@socialauditnetwork.org.uk for further information – or you think that there is a need for training or support in your area.

There's lots to look forward to over the coming months, and developments internationally... read on for more about San India and activities in Australia. Also two UK enterprises wanting to share their social accounts with fellow SAN members.

Anne Lythgoe

In this Edition

ARTICLES

[Update SA in India](#)
[Australia calling](#)
[New Social Accounts](#)
[SAN Conference](#)

NEWS & DEVELOPMENTS

[Training](#)
[Case Studies](#)
[Register](#)
[Manual & CD](#)
[Adrian Ashton](#)

STOP PRESS

CONTACTS

ARTICLES

UPDATE ON SOCIAL AUDIT NETWORK INDIA

Colleagues from SAN India have sent a progress report which can be found on the SAN website. The report describes how activities in India continues to expand, with a second round of workshops for the second social accounting cluster starting on 28th of July for with DesiCrew, a rural organisation at their office in Chennai. The workshop was facilitated by Mrinalini Shastri and further workshops followed on 19th and 26th of August.

The SAN India website is soon to be launched by the first week of September. The website will include pertinent information about the Social Accounting and Auditing framework, the activities taking place in India, social auditing, case studies of the organizations in the first cluster and current events and updates.

The quarterly newsletter for SAN India "Prove and Improve" is ready to be launched and has articles, news items, interviews with both a Social Accountant as well as a Social Auditor. Furthermore four people are going through the process of certification to be a social auditor.

Finally, SAN India is also working with a private sector company in order to improve their Corporate Social Responsibility reporting.

[Read more.....](#)

AUSTRALIA CALLING

In August 2008, John Pearce came along to a small workshop with food-based community enterprises from different parts of Australia. At the workshop John made a big impact talking about how we don't think twice about keeping financial accounts, but generally don't have a systematic way of tracking what's probably far more important to community and social enterprises --- our social impact and progress.

[Read more.....](#)

UPDATE ON NEW SOCIAL ACCOUNTS

Congratulations to two social organisations in England who have recently published their audited social accounts. Available at the SAN website, the reports from Bradford Community Environment Project and Unlimited Potential from Salford provide a detailed insight into the values, social, environmental, and economic aspects of the operation of these enterprises.

Bradford Community Environment Project (BCEP) has been operational for 14 years and has during that time delivered many significant local food production related programmes for the benefit of the people of Bradford District, including "Growing 4 All", "Sho Nirbhor", "Sustainable Futures", "Plant Cultures" and "Health through Food". However, this was their first set of social accounts and focused on the 'Grow Organic' programmes. In the social audit statement, the Panel found the 'first draft to be clear, concise, 'thoughtful' and logically presented.... Setting a good foundation and structure on which to build and report future activity'

The 2009-10 social accounts from Unlimited Potential are this organisation's second set of accounts, and show how this enterprise has fully embraced the concept of social accounting, embedding their preparation within the operational framework of the business. Unlimited Potential are one of the fastest growing health social enterprises in the country, recently being awarded the social enterprise mark and listed in the SE100 for social reporting.

[Read More.....](#)

THE SAN CONFERENCE 2010

Accounting for Change – a new era in social accounting and audit

Friday 3 December at Castlegate, Newcastle-upon-Tyne

Welcome to the SAN Conference 2010 heralding a new era in social accounting and audit.

The new manual "Accounting for change" will be a roadmap to the social accounting and audit process, with a new focus on helping organizations through the maze of tools and methods which have been and continue to be developed.

It is clear that there is a need for an integrated and common sense framework which can help organizations to understand what they do and how they do it. We hope that "Accounting for Change" will help organizations find their own way of accounting and reporting, and to develop their strategic planning.

The conference is bringing together practitioners of social accounting and social reporting partly to celebrate the new manual, but also to discuss how it can be used across the sector and how it can be enhanced in the future.

This is your opportunity to join with us in discussion and debate about where social accounting and audit is going in the current political and economic climate, and of course to be part of the launch of "Accounting for Change".

NEWS & DEVELOPMENTS

SAN Training Programme

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,

[Read More.....](#)

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....

[Read More.....](#)

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

[Read more.....](#)

SAN Manual & CD

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.

Adrian Ashton writes...

I would like to share my latest article to appear in print with SAN colleagues, this time concerning SROI (social return on investment); there's been a lot of hype and encouragement for groups to start using it, as well as some recent research that's suggested many groups simply aren't able to use it, but my thinking is that perhaps when groups do use it, they're highlighting possible damage to the wider economy...

The full original article is on-line at - <http://thirdsectorexper.blogspot.com/2010/07/is-sroi-damaging-our-economy.html>

happy to take your comments to this, or any other issues

<http://twitter.com/AdrianAshton2>
<http://uk.linkedin.com/in/adrianashto>



STOPPRESSSTOPPRESSSTOPPRESSSTOPPRESSSTOPPRESSSTOPPRESS

London Masterclass planned

SAN are planning to hold a two-day Masterclass in Social Accounting in London during November. If you are interested, please contact us via info@socialaccountingnetwork.org.uk.

'Garbage' Text Problem

We understand that some subscribers may have been experiencing 'garbage text': articles that are marred by the presence of unexplained rogue symbols, often dollars and pounds, especially where inverted commas and apostrophes are meant to appear.

We believe that this error is only met by Mac users, and that it may be confined to those viewing via Entourage. We would appreciate it if anyone experiencing this problem would contact us at san@ceulld.co.uk. A screen shot would be a great help. Apologies for any inconvenience.

CO-ORDINATORS & CONTACTS

London Mike Gordon (pro tem) mike@mgc13.plus.com

South East Mike Gordon (pro tem)
mike@mgc13.plus.com

East Midlands Mike Swain Mike.S@asan.org.uk

West Midlands West Midlands Social Accounting Cluster
Mike.S@asan.org.uk

Scotland: SAN in Scotland info@cbs-network.org.uk

South West England Community Enterprise Unit
lorna@ceulld.co.uk

East of England Mike Gordon - mike@mgc13.plus.com

Wales Cylch in partnership with the Development Trusts Association Wales (DTAW)
sarah.germain@cylch.org.uk

North West England contact either Graham Waterhouse - graham.waterhouse@ntlworld.com or Liz Brooks Allen lizbrooks-allen@theconnectives.com

Yorks and Humber Contact in the first instance Mary McGarry mary@punchthehorse.karoo.co.uk

North East England Community Campus 87
lawrence@cc87.co.uk

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.