

**United Nations Global Compact**

# **Futureye Communication on Progress 2006**



**Futureye**  
Real eye openers®

Futureye is a strategic advisory firm that helps organisations proactively meet the challenges of sustainable development. We work to develop proactive organisations that will succeed in the new stakeholder era. Our proposition is that sustainable development will never be realised without people inside organisations and communities being willing to explore and apply new concepts and change the ways in which things have always been done.

In the five years since Futureye started, we have been fortunate enough to work with a large number of organisations in Australia and overseas on complex and demanding sustainable development issues. We have extensive experience working in a range of sectors such as mining, forestry, construction, banking and finance, pharmaceuticals, manufacturing and at different levels of government.

By virtue of what we do and the services we provide, our mandate is to help organisations operate by the principles of the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) and our major contribution to this is through our client work. At the same time, our operation does have a small impact on the economy, society and environment and we believe in doing all we can to minimise our negative impacts and enhance our positive contribution.

Futureye's progress on the principles of the Global Compact can be divided into three sections:

- **'Outer'** – how we work with organisations to help them develop into proactive, sustainable organisations that meet and go beyond the requirements of the Global Compact;
- **'Inner'** – how we operate, our internal processes and the ways we are trying to minimise the impact our operations have on the environment and society at large; and
- **'Targets for 2007'** – how we will strive to improve our performance in 2007.

In 2006 we began work with the United Nations Global Compact office on building the United Nations Global Compact Australian network. We have made a significant contribution to this by meeting with the Australian Government, Opposition and a network of Australian signatories to discuss shaping the network and developing getting momentum.

We feel it is our role and responsibility to work towards sustainable development. We are proud to present our Communication on Progress for 2006 and look forward to assessing the viability of working closely with the United Nations Global Compact Australian network in 2007.



Katherine Teh-White  
Managing Director  
Futureye Pty Ltd



# 'Outer'

Futureye is working towards a world where organisations that embrace sustainable development are successful by any measure. In 2006, Futureye undertook a number of significant projects which have helped us to achieve this vision. Following are a few examples of how we help companies achieve the principles of the Global Compact.

- Futureye was engaged by the International Council on Mining and Metals (ICMM) to undertake a summary of the major human rights issues and challenges facing the mineral resources industry as well as an assessment of the current approaches and capacity of ICMM member companies to effectively manage these issues. Our report was an input into the ICMM's submission to the inquiry into standards of corporate responsibility and accountability for transnational corporations with regard to human rights by the United Nations Secretary General of a Special Representative, Professor John Ruggie.
- Futureye conducted a review of 'social licence to operate' (SLO) issues for the minerals sector. The project was conducted for the Victorian Department of Primary Industries (DPI) and the CSIRO and sought to understand the role of government in managing complex interactions between mining companies and local communities. The project has assisted the Victorian Government in understanding how to improve its own performance or influence the performance of others to work better with local communities.
- Futureye facilitated a three-day national forum for "2050", an Australian not-for-profit organisation that represents the "young future leaders of the built environment" in Australia that is working towards a sustainable future. Our involvement helped drive the event toward practical outcomes, including the establishment of six new taskforces to drive a new sustainability agenda within its network and with the broader community.
- In partnership with Perspectives Coaching, Managing Director Katherine Teh-White delivered a leadership training program to the committee of the Victorian Immigrant and Refugee Women's Coalition (on a pro-bono basis).

## Our Client Work

## Our Affiliations

In addition to being a signatory to the UN Global Compact, Futureye is affiliated with the following organisations that reflect our ethics and values:

- Partner of the Watermark program (run by the Victorian Women's Trust)
- Partner of the Castan Centre for Human Rights Law
- Member of the Australian Institute of Social and Ethical Accountability
- Member of the Deakin University Corporate Citizenship Research Unit (CCRU)
- Participant in the Swinburne University Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) self-assessment 'sustainability tool' pilot program.

# Our Members' Circle

Futureye has created a network of sustainability practitioners to share knowledge and exchange ideas, and inspire each other to address the challenges of sustainable development. This sustainability 'learning circle' is called the Members' Circle program. Our program in 2006 involved preparation of quarterly newsletters and the presentation of a number of thought-provoking briefings and forums. Some of the speakers and topics of our 2006 program included:

- Sustainable Asset Management's Francis Grey provided a review of the first year of the Australian SAM Sustainability Index;
- Interface's Sustainability Manager (Asia-Pacific) Edward Warcaba spoke about how sustainability is driving innovation, growth and cost-savings at Interface;
- Two leading legal lights, Brian Walters and Richard Meeran, discussed corporate legal manoeuvres and the importance of human rights; and
- Internationally-renowned Professor Steve Salbu spoke on the ethics challenges facing business.

Futureye also hosted a number of briefings where we discussed sustainability reporting trends, provided a wrap-up of the Australian Davos Connection (ADC) 2006 Future Summit and gave a summary of the key sustainability events for 2006.

Futureye is committed to helping generate a deeper understanding in the growing and important field of sustainable development strategy, policy and communication. We therefore actively seek to contribute to public forums and conferences. In 2006, Futureye employees spoke at and facilitated a number of high-profile sustainability events.

- Managing Director, Katherine Teh-White spoke at the City of Subiaco's 2006 Sustainability series on emotional intelligence and why connectivity is vital for life. She also presented at the Melbourne Business School's Net Impact Speaker Series on the topic "whose business is sustainability?" and at the launch of the Perspectives Coaching Women and Success Survey.
- Michelle MacDonald, General Manager Stakeholder Engagement and Communication, presented a workshop on Leadership at the Victorian Labor Women's Network Conference.
- Scott Houston, General Manager Sustainable Development Research, Policy and Reporting spoke about social licence to operate (SLO) issues facing the minerals sector at the Minerals Council of Australia's (MCA) Victorian Division annual Environment and Communities seminar.
- Stephen McGrail, Futureye Consultant, prepared a special ADC Future Summit presentation of alternative future 2026 scenarios for Australia's national identity.
- Katherine Teh-White has also contributed to the sustainable development debate through writing newspaper columns on corporate ethics for The Age newspaper.

# Our Public Face

# 'Inner'

Futureye has:

- A Code of Conduct Kit which specifies our behavioural and ethical standards;
- An Equal Opportunity and Harassment Policy which outlines Futureye's commitment to creating a diverse and harassment-free environment; and
- A Sustainability Commitment to demonstrate how we strive to achieve economic, environmental and social objectives for ourselves, our peers and clients and the communities in which we operate.

Futureye has a commitment to enhancing the professional development of its team through individual and group sessions. In 2006, employees attended workshops on communications and on emotional intelligence.

## Our Commitment to a Fair, Equitable & Sustainable Workplace

## Our Operations & Processes

As a niche professional services firm, Futureye's impact on the environment is minimal. However, we believe in minimising our negative impacts and enhancing our positive contribution. We do this in a number of ways:

- We purchase 100% recycled paper for the fax machine and for printing internal documents;
- All paper products are recycled;
- We use double-sided printing where possible. In addition, our printer has a counter so that monthly paper usage can be monitored and reported;
- Our office windows are able to be opened for staff comfort and to decrease the use of air conditioning;
- We encourage staff to turn off lights in rooms that are not in use;
- We encourage staff to walk or take public transport to client meetings;
- We offset the greenhouse gas emissions of the company cars and air travel at the end of the year;
- 100% of the chemicals in the products used to clean the office decompose in 11 days, far exceeding the Australian standard;
- Staff are encouraged to be involved in community and not-for-profit work through flexible workplace arrangements; and
- 2% of Futureye's gross profit is donated to progress human rights and support the arts. In 2006, Futureye donated to Oxfam Australia, Reconciliation Australia, the Castan Centre for Human Rights Law and the Australian Ballet.
- Futureye supported the United Nations' International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, White Ribbon Day on 25th November, 2006.

# ‘Our Targets for 2007’

We have set a number of targets for ourselves to ensure that we are continuously improving on our journey towards sustainability. In 2007, Futureye plans to:

- Review our Code of Conduct to incorporate principles of Global Compact;
- Develop a Reconciliation Action Plan for Indigenous Australia in accordance with Reconciliation Australia’s guidelines;
- Install 5-star energy efficient lighting in our office;
- Develop an action plan to become a carbon neutral organisation; and
- Promote the UNGC in Australia.

