

Is yours a University that Counts?

The Universities that Count Index has established itself as the leading UK benchmark for Environmental and Social Responsibility (ESR) in the Higher Education Sector.

Who is invited to participate?

All Universities and Colleges of Higher Education throughout the United Kingdom are warmly welcomed to join the Universities that Count (UTC) programme. For more information on how to sign-up please visit the EAUC website www.eauc.org.uk/utc

What are the benefits of participation?

- UTC is a supportive sector-led programme to help institutions integrate environmental and social responsibility into their corporate, administrative and academic activities.
- The process of completing the UTC Index survey brings different functions of an institution together to understand and manage key environmental and social issues for the sector.
- It challenges whether the institution is managing environmental and social activities in a systematic and integrated way and guides institutions through the process of integration.
- Each participant receives a detailed confidential feedback report, benchmarking their university against its peers and against the BITC CR Index for companies. This helps with gap-analysis, reinforcing good work that is already being done, while highlighting areas for further improvement.
- It provides a practical framework for improving performance and communicating progress.
- It provides credible, independently assessed information to both internal and external stakeholders, demonstrating the university's commitment to transparency.

Key stages and dates:

**INDEX SURVEY LAUNCHED
ONLINE**
30 November 2009

**GETTING STARTED
WORKSHOPS**
December 2009

**DEADLINE FOR
SUBMISSIONS**
26 February 2010

SUBMISSION REVIEWS
March 2010 to May 2010

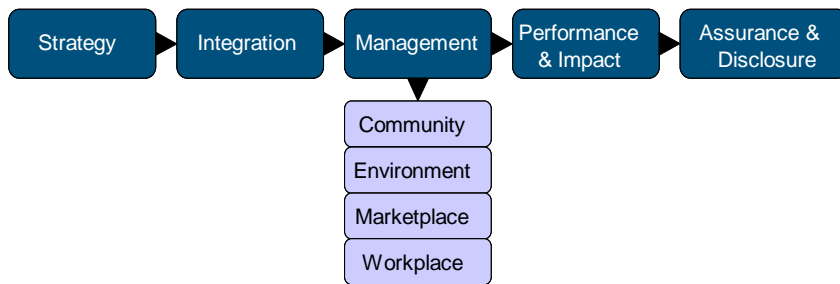
**FEEDBACK REPORTS
ISSUED TO PARTICIPANTS**
June 2010 (TBC)

**PUBLICATION OF THE
UNIVERSITIES THAT
COUNT REPORT 09-10**
September 2010

**RESULTS CELEBRATION
AT NEXT EAUC
CONFERENCE**
April 2011 (TBC)

Environment and Social Responsibility Benchmarking Programme

The UTC benchmarking programme was developed to help universities integrate and improve their environmental and social performance across their support and academic operations, whilst providing a systematic approach to managing, measuring and reporting the various impacts that universities have upon society and the environment. The Index is based on Business in the Community's Index for companies, using the following model:



This year participants have the opportunity to complete either the Environment Index or the more comprehensive ESR Index (the former CR Index). Both Indices now give universities the option to complete the newly developed Teaching, Learning and Research impact area.

Index workshops

CSR Consultancy is running four workshops in December 2009. Please see details on the back page. The objective of the workshops is to provide an in-depth understanding of the Index surveys and practical advice on how to complete them. They will cover benefits of participation, improvements to the surveys and Index process, approaches to completion, the scoring system, and presentation of results. The workshops also offer universities an opportunity to raise specific questions about their own submission and meet other participants.

Feedback reports

Following the submission reviews and validation process, each Index participant will receive a detailed feedback report, benchmarking their institution's performance against that of their peers in the sector and against the BITC CR Index of companies. This can be used for internal gap-analysis and action planning.

Annual Report

The detailed 2008/09 UTC Annual Report is available online at www.eauc.org.uk/utc

"We found the UTC benchmarking programme invaluable in highlighting the strengths and weaknesses of our ongoing work to develop the sustainability agenda at London Business School. The feedback from the programme has been an important tool in helping us to plan and implement a series of environmental initiatives over the coming year."

London Business School

"UTC has given the University an opportunity for the first time to review its social and environmental impact in a holistic and systematic way. External assessment has been vital in winning the hearts and minds of senior managers, getting them to focus on CSR and what it means and getting them to understand the importance of it for the university. UTC has been a positive leverage to initiate CSR development. UTC helps to streamline and structure various aspects of responsibility and environmental/social performance. UTC has raised the importance of CSR and it has propelled us to turn policies into actions."

University of Westminster

What makes a “University that Counts”?

- = **leadership** and **commitment** at the highest level
- = **policies** to ensure responsible behaviours across the HEI
- = environmental and social issues integrated into **strategic decision making**
- = objectives and targets set to drive **continuous improvement**
- = clear **responsibilities** defined at all levels
- = effective **communication** to share learning and knowledge
- = **training** for relevant staff to ensure delivery of objectives
- = process for stakeholder **consultation** and **engagement**
- = **monitoring systems** to assess and report progress
- = **public reporting** of key issues, targets and performance
- = willingness to **disclose information** and **share best practice**
- + **ESR integrated into teaching, learning, and research**

55 universities: **160,709** employees, **929,631** students.

70% of Russell Group universities participated in Universities that Count

32% of the Million + Group participated in Universities that Count

42% of the 1994 Group participated in Universities that Count

24% of Guild HE universities participated in Universities that Count

45% completed the full Corporate Responsibility Index

18% of participating universities have female Vice Chancellors

75% have carbon reduction targets

38% of participants have a formal Environmental Management System (or are working towards one)

39% include student environmental stewardship in their corporate strategy

48% have a sustainable procurement policy

100% of participants said they benefited from the UTC process

2008/9 UTC Participants:
Aberystwyth University
Anglia Ruskin University
Birmingham City University
Bishop Grosseteste University
College Lincoln
Bournemouth University
Canterbury Christ Church University
City University London
Coventry University
De Montfort University
Harper Adams University College
HEFCE
King's College London
Lancaster University
Leeds Metropolitan University
London Business School
Loughborough University
Napier University
Nottingham Trent University
Oxford Brookes University
Queen's University Belfast
Swansea Metropolitan University
The London School of Economics and Political Science
The University of Leeds
The University of Northampton
The University of Nottingham
The University of Sheffield
University College Falmouth
University College Marjon Plymouth
University of Aberdeen
University of Bath
University of Bedfordshire
University of Birmingham
University of Bradford
University of Bristol
University of Cambridge
University of Derby
University of East Anglia
University of Edinburgh
University of Exeter
University of Glamorgan
University of Gloucestershire
University of Hertfordshire
University of Leicester
University of Lincoln
University of Liverpool
University of Manchester
University of Plymouth
University of Southampton
University of St Andrews
University of Strathclyde
University of Sunderland
University of Warwick
University of West of England
University of Westminster
University of Worcester
University of York

Join us

Participants are encouraged to sign up for Year 2 of UTC as early as possible to get the full benefit of introductory workshops and other assistance.

By joining participants will receive:

- UTC Getting Started workshop for your team
- Secure access to the online survey and accompanying guidance notes
- Email and telephone support throughout the completion process
- Thorough review of your submission by UTC's experienced reviewers
- In depth interviews with the UTC team to add detail to the submission
- Opportunity to build learning links with other HEIs and businesses completing the Index
- Comprehensive Feedback Report sent to you and your Principal or Vice Chancellor
- Programme of Continuing Professional Development for Index practitioners and colleagues

For new participants, the fee is £1000 plus VAT, returning HEIs pay £1250 plus VAT. To take part contact utc@eauc.org.uk

Book your place at an Index workshop

The Index workshops will be hosted by five universities in London, Edinburgh, Bradford and Exeter in December. To confirm dates and to book a place, please complete the workshop booking form on line at www.eauc.org.uk/utc

Workshops are free of charge to UTC participants, however this year we are extending the invitation to all HEIs who are interested in finding out more. The cost for non-participants is £160 plus VAT (EAUC members) and £260 plus VAT (non members), this will be discounted from your joining fee when you sign up.

