



BCSD-UK UPDATE – December 07

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1. Energy slides from World Business Council Brussels meeting

Slides from a World Business Council meeting in Brussels in October which focussed on energy in buildings are available in the Members Area of the BCSD-UK website. They also give a good introduction to the WBCSD itself.

2. Report from European Network meeting of World Business Council

A meeting of the European Network of World Business Council branches was held in Brussels in October. A report from the meeting can be found in the Members Area of the BCSD-UK website.

3. Report from recent BCSD-UK Management Committee meeting + Planned BCSD-UK 08 programme

The BCSD-UK Management Committee recently mandated the CEO to develop a 2008 programme that will focus on:

- Supporting a major event in 08 being planned by CABE
- Staging “outreach events” around the country to promote our activity
- Deliver a programme of activity in Scotland which we hope to be sponsored and supported by Scottish Enterprise and staged in association with a number of Scottish business and government agencies.
- Programmes in the North, Midlands and London
- Report and listening events for the Sustainable Consumption and Production Business Taskforce
- Development of a European Portfolio of Case Studies
- Major link to the exciting BASE event planned for London
- Project work including:
 - WindSupply
 - Environmental Business Opportunities Programme
 - Energy Efficiency in Buildings – led by ARUP
 - Help portal for build and construction – led by WSP
 - Carbon Economy – led by AECOM/Faber Maunsell
 - Food Security

4. Visit to best practice example - Gussing in Austria

BCSD-UK and BCSD-Austria are combining forces for a visit to Gussing in Austria flying out from Birmingham on March 11th and returning March 13th. Gussing is the first community in the EU to cut carbon emissions by more than 90%. The small town has captured the attention of scientists, politicians, eco-tourists and the press due to its radical embracing of alternative energy. The International Herald Tribune headlined their article on Gussing's extraordinary achievements; 'Dead-end' Austrian town blossoms with green energy"

For more information contact Katie Hoare on 0121 693 9334.

5. "Best yet" BCSD-UK House of Commons Dinner

Our thanks to Gregory Barker, Shadow Minister for the Environment, for hosting and speaking at our Annual House of Commons Dinner. Gregory tempted fate by inviting questions after his pre-dinner presentation which ensured a vigorous debate ensued, lasting throughout the meal and fuelled in part by other guest politician, David Kidney, Labour member and keen environmentalist.

6. Report from meeting of Scottish Steering Group

The BCSD-UK's Scottish Steering Group under the Chairmanship of Andrew Bright of WSP met recently at the offices of the Sustainable Development Commission Scotland where the main topic was the BCSD-UK's programme of activity in Scotland for the forthcoming year (See 3 above).

7. Special Offer to BCSD-UK members from Acclimatise

Climate risk management specialist Acclimatise has extended a special offer to BCSD-UK members – see Members Area – for their business intelligence service "Insights".

8. Geo4 report sent to members

We got quite a reaction to the UNEP Geo4 report circulated to members. Not surprising in view of its startling content.

9. Have you registered on our website yet?

We are delighted with the response to the new BCSD-UK website and to the growing numbers of people who have registered so they can download material. Have you registered yet? If not, visit www.bcsd-uk.co.uk. If you encounter any problems registering speak to Katie Hoare on 0121 693 8334.

David Middleton
CEO
BCSD-UK

David Middleton is CEO of the two not-for-profit sustainable development business networks - the Business Council for Sustainable Development - United Kingdom, and the Midlands Environmental Business Company. Both are managed by Environmental Business Communications of which he is MD.