

# Learning's from the GRI Conference on Sustainability and Transparency

**Presentation to the Engaging Stakeholders Membership**

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Member Webinar  
Learning's from the GRI  
Agenda

1. Overall impressions
  - Agenda
  - Attendance
  - Atmosphere
2. GRI's three challenges
3. Notable sessions
  - Transparent Economy
  - Carbon disclosure
  - Assurance
4. Outlines and further information

## REBUILD – RETHINK – REPORT

### 1. Agenda

- Multi-panelist plenary
- Introduction learning
- Forward-looking “Shaping the Future”
- Academic
- Light lunch lectures

### 2. Attendance

- A lot of consultants
- Omnipresent software providers
- Reporters
- Academics
- Enthusiastic GRI staff

### 3. Atmosphere

- Einstein's “No problem can be solved from the same level of consciousness that created it”
- Kumi Naidoo's closing remarks

- 1. All large/SME companies should publicly report on material social, environmental and governance issues by 2015.**  
*Do ES members think this is visionary?*
- 2. There should be a formal standard for integrated reporting by 2020.**  
*How do members think this will translate to BRIC countries?  
Ultimately, what role can/should GRI play in drafting/developing integrated reporting?*
- 3. What would GR4 look like and do GRI stakeholders see the need?**  
*Is that the right question?*

One “academic” session, one “learning” session

- Practitioner’s challenge: Assuring data or leading initiatives
- Assurance processes diverge in efficiency and effectiveness.  
“You pay for what you get”
- Need for a common standard and principle-based assurance...
- ... but disagreement on audience or objective of assurance
- Two views: stakeholder centric vs data verification
- *ISAE3000* (and *ISAE3401* for ghg), *AA1000AS*, *GRI* (?)
- Frustration around GRI “+”

Member Webinar  
Learning's from the GRI  
Notable Sessions – The Transparent Economy



**T**raceability

**I**ntegrated Reporting

**G**overnment Leadership

**E**nvironmental Boundaries

**R**ating & Ranking

**S**hadow Economies

## Learning's from the GRI

### Notable Sessions – Carbon Performance and Measurement

- Clear outline of what the new SEC guidelines entail
- Robust discussion covering the larger voluntary reporting programmes and what is included
- Hands-on coverage of carbon-related jargon
- Tobias Hahn covered the “sustainable value” methodology, showing how they account for return on capital, while still valuing multiple “sustainability” indicators
  - Case studies completed for the chemical and automotive sectors
  - Very academic, but provides useful insight into how ESG information can be better used to make valuations on company performance

## Member Webinar Learning's from the GRI Published Reports

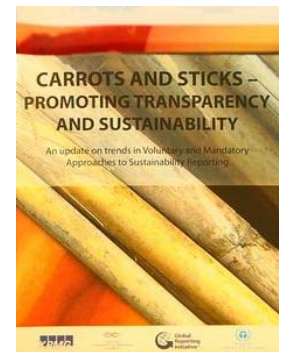
The Transparent Economy (Volans, GRI):  
— <http://www.globalreporting.org/GRIPortal/GRI/ESHop/Catalog.aspx>

Carrots and Sticks (KPMG, UNEP, GRI):  
— <http://www.globalreporting.org/NR/rdonlyres/20F03459-4104-4B6D-AC3C-3C100F307EA2/4198/Carrots2010final.pdf>

Reader's Choice Award and Survey  
(SustainAbility, Futerra, KPMG)  
— <http://www.globalreporting.org/NewsEventsPress/ReadersChoiceAwards/>

Online Reporting (Radley Yeldar and GRI)

SustainAbility



**Official Sources:**

<http://www.youtube.com/GRITV>

**Unofficial Opinions:**

Green Biz

— <http://www.greenbiz.com/blog/2010/06/01/gri-conference-lays-out-rules-road>

Elaine Cohen's "GRI Barmitzvah"

— <http://csr-reporting.blogspot.com/2010/05/gri-barmitzvah.html>

Antonio Vives' critical view on RCA awards (in Spanish)

— <http://bit.ly/cPBq6U>

June 1st entry on key highlights of the conference

— <http://corpgov.net/wordpress/>

**Sustain Ability**