





Sd3's sustainability snippets end '05 to Apr '06, sorted from various sources.

What's in the press?

-  **Green Futures:** Externalities and mushrooms www.greenfutures.org.uk/
-  **The Ecologist Magazine:** Link between poor nutrition and crime www.theecologist.org/
-  **Fast Company:** Biggest Change Facing Business www.fastcompany.com/magazine/



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Go to, in this document...

[Carbon management](#) | [Auto sector](#) | [Financial services sector](#) | [Sustainability management](#) | [Environment & climate change](#) | [Reporting/Assurance](#) | [Construction](#) | [Extractive industry](#) | [Food & drink sector](#)

Snippet	Source, Go to	Date
Carbon management		
Carbon market booms as Kyoto Protocol celebrates first birthday The Protocol took effect in Feb '05 after much diplomatic wrangling & the walkout of the US. However the carbon market is seeing "tremendous growth this year" says Point Carbon, a firm that monitors the fast-growing business.	http://www.wbcsd.org/plugins/DocSearch/details.asp?type=DocDet&Objectid=MTqxMJU	Feb 14
UK urged to lead the world on carbon capture A UK parliamentary committee says the UK should lead in demonstrating the viability of carbon capture and storage.	ENDS 2036	Feb 16
Carbon Disclosure Project's Fourth Round 211 investors with \$31 trillion of assets under management, i.e. more than 50% of the world's invested assets, have invited 1,800 companies worldwide to disclose investment-relevant information concerning their greenhouse gas emissions.	UNEP FI & www.cdproject.net	Feb 16
US utilities bowed to shareholder pressure & agreed to disclose their carbon dioxide emissions, as well as their potential liability to future regulation.	http://www.wbcsd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=MTqyMzI from Environmental Finance	Feb 27
Earth's temperature could rise to levels far higher than previously predicted, according to the United Nations' influential Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). Severe consequences include the collapse of the Greenland ice sheet and disruption of the Gulf Stream ocean current. Latest data show CO2 levels now stand at 381 parts per million (ppm) - 100ppm above the pre-industrial average.	www.guardian.co.uk & http://news.bbc.co.uk/go/pr/fr/-/1/hi/sci/tech/4803460.stm	Feb 28
€9.4 billion worth of carbon was traded on the international market last year, up from an estimated €377 million in 2004, according to "Carbon 2006" report by Point Carbon. That's around 362 million tonnes (Mt) of CO2 and contracts were signed for reductions of 397 Mt of CO2e from Clean Development Mechanism projects. The figures for 2004 were 17 Mt and 188 Mt respectively.	http://www.wbcsd.org/plugins/DocSearch/details.asp?type=DocDet&Objectid=MTqzMDU	Mar 6
Aviation likely to lead to carbon price hike Including aviation in the EU's emission trading scheme (ETS) might prompt a big increase in the price of carbon allowances. The finding contradicts suggestions made in a report for the British government last month that aviation's effect on the scheme would be "insignificant".	www.wbcsd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=MTgzODE	Mar 15
Automotive sector and sustainable mobility		
<<		
Ford's first Sustainability Report is tightly focused on the company's most material issues (mobility, climate change and human rights). Their Climate Change Report - an industry first - addresses business implications of climate change, carbon dioxide emissions and global energy concerns.	Ethical Performance & www.ford.com/go/sustainability & www.wbcsd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=MTc3ODk & SocialFunds.com	Oct 18/05
N.Y.'s new emissions standards From 2009 all models of cars sold in New York will have to meet higher fuel efficiency standards, under new carbon dioxide emissions guidelines approved by the state Environmental Board.	http://www.wbcsd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=MTcyMjg	Nov 11/05
SUVs are "No safer" says US hospital study This undermines the common American belief that "bigger is safer" when it comes to SUVs.	http://motoring.reuters.com/vocmain.jsp?lnk=101&id=1507 & http://www.verdictoncars.com/	Jan 3
Hybrid drivers cash in on premium insurance rates A major motor insurer, St Paul Travelers insurance group, gives hybrid drivers a 10% discount on their premiums in the USA.	http://www.edie.net/news/news_story.asp?id=10937&channel=1#	Jan 6
Europe seeks to boost biofuel drive, warning that soaring oil prices and the recent Russian gas highlight the risks of relying on traditional power sources.	www.wbcsd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=MTgwOTI , ENDS 2054 &	Feb 8, Mar 9 & Mar 13

European car manufacturers and fuel supply companies have launched a new alliance to promote the use of synthetic fuels for transport.	www.wbcsd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=MTqzNTc	
EU to boost biofuels production amid green concerns of their use Critics of a proposal to make biofuel use count towards carbon dioxide emission targets for new cars, insisted that "this outrageous idea" is removed, as well as calling for more environmental safeguards.	ENDS Daily	16 Feb
Ford's ground-breaking report into climate change and what the company plans to do about it meet mixed welcome: Ceres and ICCR disappointed in the lack of targets for reductions in product-related greenhouse gas emissions but accept that Ford has taken "an important step". They hope that, where Ford leads, others will follow. Others agree but also add that Ford is suing to stop California and other states enacting GHG vehicle emissions regulations, stating that Ford is "claiming to be responsible, while acting irresponsibly".	http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=4113 <small>[subscription required]</small>	Feb 28
GM says hydrogen emission-free cars should be available for sale in the next 4-9 years	http://www.wbcsd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=MTqzMzI	Mar 9
Tax on 'Chelsea tractors' called tokenism Gordon Brown's increased car tax on fuel-hungry 4x4s has been dismissed as too little too late by NGOs who claim the plans let down the environment.	http://www.edie.net/news/news_story.asp?id=11217&channel=1	Mar 24
'Alarming' traffic-related pollution in EU cities according to a new report from the European Environment Agency. EU agency warns of failure to decouple transport from economic growth and calls for demand reduction policies.	www.alg-europe.gov.uk/webroot/EuroNews/27Mar06/trafficpollution.htm & www.wbcsd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=MTq2MjY	Mar 29
More mobile society makes bigger footprint on environment. Our increasingly mobile lifestyles come with a cost and as the number of journeys made by Europeans continues to rise causes more damage. Low-cost airlines are one of the key areas that needs looking at if efforts to improve air quality are not to be thwarted.	http://reports.eea.eu.int/eea_report_2006_3/en	Apr 3
Financial services sector		<<
HSBC operations will be carbon neutral for the final quarter of this year - three months ahead of the bank's original target date for carbon neutrality.	http://www.wbcsd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=16787 Environmental Finance	Oct 13/05
UK Fiduciary Duty redefined to allow/require environmental, social and governance considerations in institutional investment decisions.	SocialFunds.com http://www.socialfunds.com/news/article.cgi/article1851.html	Nov 8/10
Food & drink sector and sustainability		<<
Wetherspoon attacked on drinking and smoking UK pub chain stigmatised with binge drinking also suffers the impact of a unilateral smoking ban. The company introduce a smoking ban at some of its pubs which resulted in a 7% drop in turnover and a decline in profit margins in the pubs affected.	Business Respect - CSR Dispatches No#86 http://www.mallenbaker.net/csr/nl/86.html .	Sep 18/05
India: Coca Cola ordered to close Kerala plant after several years of protests against the plant by local campaigners. Coke was accused of depleting local groundwater and producing other local pollution.	Business Respect - CSR Dispatches No#86	Oct 2005
Anheuser-busch highest ranked in food sector for sustainability reporting in the Roberts Environmental Centre survey.	Sustainability News Services sustainability-news@lb.bcentral.com	Jan 1
Sustainability management in business, CSR		<<
Up the stakeholder voice Very few companies on either side of the Atlantic provide space in their Corporate Responsibility reports for stakeholder voices. This and other trends are analysed at www.econtext.co.uk	Ethical Performance www.ethicalcorp.com	Oct 12/05
Body Shop would pay their director of values £150k-£200k. The Body Shop figure is an exception in the corporate responsibility jobs market, but it is indicative of a change that cannot be overlooked. Body Shop wants to understand better how CSR is beneficial for its business in the long term.	Ethical Performance www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=3924 <small>[subscription only]</small>	Oct 18/05
China's leaders want their economy to grow not only fast but also green. State planners are to develop a new indicator for the country's growth, a 'green GDP', to account for environmental impact and resource consumption.	http://www.wbcsd.org/plugins/DocSearch/details.asp?type=DocDet&ObjectID=17127	Nov 2/05
Water giant Severn Trent is under criminal investigation by the Serious Fraud Office following accusations of a multi-million pound accounting fudge.	http://www.edie.net/news/news_story.asp?id=10730&channel=1	Nov 3
Executives' motivations 70% of managers believe large companies can improve how they anticipate and respond to social pressure and criticism, according to The McKinsey Quarterly. 4,238 executives were questioned.	http://www.wbcsd.org/plugins/DocSearch/details.asp?type=DocDet&ObjectID=MTc5NzM	Jan 26
The ISO 26000 standard on social responsibility: can social responsibility be institutionalised? What should standards mechanisms be like? See an online review for the implications for social responsibility.	http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=4074 <small>[subscription]</small>	Feb 9
For two years, Unilever has allowed Oxfam to analyse the socio-economic impacts of its activities in Indonesia, where it sells soap, soy sauce, ice cream	Ethical Corporation (subscription required)	Feb 14

and mosquito coils to people, 50% of whom live on less than \$2 a day.		
Corporate Citizenship Self-Assessment tool launched by the UK NHS and the Sustainable Development Commission. It's designed to help NHS organisations to buy goods and services, build and manage buildings and land, manage their waste and transport, employ people and work in partnership in a way that promotes local economies, community cohesion and a healthy environment.	www.corporatecitizen.nhs.uk & localstustuk	Feb 13
OFR Friends of the Earth claimed victory after forcing UK government to rethink abolishing the new corporate social and environmental reporting rules. It's under new consultation ending 24 March. Meanwhile, there's evidence that organisations are still committed to the OFR.	ENDS 2030 & Forum Business Programme	Feb 16/20
New tool evaluates Corporate Sustainability - sdEffect takes the next step in establishing metrics to value sustainable development.	http://www.wbcscd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=MTqxODU	Feb 16
Four current & former KPMG auditors settled a lawsuit by the Securities and Exchange Commission that accused them of helping Stamford-based Xerox Corp. overstate revenue by \$3 billion.	http://corpwatch.org/article.php?id=13327	Feb 28
Trade associations should be adopting a more professional attitude , promoting ethical business to their members	http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=4116	Feb 28
The 10-K Wizard search engine of corporate financial filings through the Securities and Exchange Commission EDGAR databases, announced its addition of CSR reports to its datamix.	http://www.10kwizard.com/ & http://www.sec.gov/edgar.shtml	Mar 8
British standard on sustainability management BS8900 has been out for public comment. It's anticipated that it will be published in May 06.	ENDS Daily	
Ceres releases first-ever ranking of 100 global companies on climate change strategies. Company scores, profiles, and the summary report are available.	http://www.ceres.org	Mar 21
Boycott Body Shop? Its sale to L'Oreal may mean long term benefits for all. L'Oreal appears to test some of their products on animals and has sold 24% of its stock to Nestle. Roddick's reasoning behind the sale: more ethical products likely to be sold in more stores and more money to campaign with.	http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=4172	Mar 28
Environment & climate change		<<
Canada: Nine out of ten Canadians want climate disclosure A recent survey of public opinion has found that 89% of Canadians want companies to be forced to talk about what they are doing to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	Business Respect - CSR Dispatches No#86	Oct 4/05
Greener buildings shown to be more market friendly by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) et al. They earn higher rents and prices; attract tenants and buyers more quickly; cut tenant turnover; cost less to operate.	http://www.edie.net/news/news_story.asp?id=10695&channel=1	Oct 28/05
UK: Nuclear power is a renewable energy source said government minister Lord Sainsbury in response to concern about the UK's energy deficit.	http://www.wbcscd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=17103	Nov 4/05
Most of Europe set to miss Kyoto goals. After criticising the United States over its stance on global warming, Europe looks set to miss a set of goals to cut greenhouse gases under the Kyoto Protocol.	http://www.wbcscd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=MTc3ODg	Jan 5
UK Ministers pledged to cut UK carbon dioxide emissions by 20% by 2010: Defra wants companies to cut emissions by eight million tonnes but the DTI wants a three million tonne cut, to protect firms' competitiveness. How the policy eventually shapes up may affect our nations' policies world-wide.	http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/sci/tech/4672964.stm	Feb 2
Royal Dutch Shell CEO agrees with scientists that human activities are causing climate change and calls for less carbon-intensive ways to use traditional energy rather than aggressive moves toward alternatives.	http://www.wbcscd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=MTqxMDA	Feb 9
Sweden is to take the biggest energy step of any advanced western economy by trying to wean itself off oil completely within 15 years - without building a new generation of nuclear power stations.	SPN UK	Feb 12
UK MPs back the call to stop 'clone town Britain'. The New Economics Foundation (nef) claims that choking local diversity on our high streets creates economic losses, crises of local identity and the dissolving of the social glue that holds communities together.	NEF news bulletin	Feb 23
A European initiative to save tropical forests is noble but naive according to environmentalists who say the greed for timber in fast-growing Asia is so great it no longer sees the forest for the trees. For some products, much of the wood used is illegal, even if it carries a certification. "With laser printers today, you can forge any certificate you want," according to one source, who said China and Vietnam were the worst offenders.	http://www.wbcscd.org/plugins/DocSearch/details.asp?type=DocDet&ObjectID=MTqxOTU	Feb 23
Illegal logging and corruption in Papua New Guinea are destroying the largest remaining tract of primary tropical forest in the Asia-Pacific region. Palm oil: key enemy of Indonesia's rainforests , used in margarine, lipstick, ice cream, shampoo, chocolate, sees booming demand. The plantations are swallowing up the forests.	http://www.wbcscd.org/plugins/DocSearch/details.asp?type=DocDet&ObjectID=MTqyODY & http://www.wbcscd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=MTqzMDA	Mar 2
Olives as energy More than 300 buildings in Madrid now run on energy extracted from olive cores.	http://www.wbcscd.org/plugins/DocSearch/details.asp?type=DocDet&ObjectID=MTqzMzE	Mar 6
France applies polluter pays principle to junk mail Distributors of	ENDS Daily 2053	Mar 13

unsolicited mail in France will have to help pay for recycling of the resultant waste under a decree agreed by the Council of Ministers last week.		
In 2004 there were approximately 82,000 microgeneration installations in the UK. The DTI (and Energy Saving Trust) suggest that by 2050, microgeneration could provide 30-40% of the UK's electricity needs and help reduce household carbon emissions by 15% per annum.	http://www.dti.gov.uk/energy/environment/microgeneration/microgeneration-strategy.pdf	Mar 31
Reporting/Assurance		<<
Global Reporting Initiative's "G3" is the 3rd generation of GRI Sustainability Reporting Guidelines. Its Structured Feedback process (closed 31 Mar) aimed to make reporting easier and focused on how to use the Reporting Principles. Generally the guidelines appear to be going in the right direction.	SocialFunds.com & http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=4100	Oct 4/05 and Feb 28
The Operating and Financial Review merry-go-round Some companies were always likely to produce OFRs despite the OFR's official demise Nov 05. FoE launched a legal challenge to the cull. Defra and the DTI went on PR offensive to convince a dubious business world that scrapping the OFR did not mean that Government had stopped caring about companies reporting on environmental performance. Then the chancellor agreed to put the plans back on the table, consulting on whether to include them in the draft Company Law Reform Bill.	Ethical Corporation newsletters & www.environmental-finance.com/onlinews/12janfoe.htm & http://www.edie.net/news/news_story.asp?id=11005&channel=1 & http://www.edie.net/news/news_story.asp?id=11036&channel=1	Jan 4 & 12 & 27 Feb 2
Free tool showing non-financial reports produced in the past 60 days.	http://www.environmental-finance.com/envfin/report.htm	Jan 13
Wal-Mart Faces Host of Shareowner Resolutions which suggests that the sustainability commitments announced by Wal-Mart last year did not convince shareholders that the company has solved all its challenges.	http://www.socialfunds.com/news/article.cqj/article1899.html	Jan 17
Trucost's and Henderson Global Investor's <i>Carbon 100</i> evaluates the total carbon emissions of the FTSE 100. Shell is the biggest emitter of greenhouse gases in the UK, and is responsible for 23% of all emissions from FTSE 100 companies, closely followed by BP & Scottish Power who account for 17% each.	http://www.edie.net/news/news_story.asp?id=10094&channel=0#	Jan 06
Direct global carbon emissions from the UK's 100 largest companies amounted to 480 million tonnes of CO ₂ equivalent - about 73% of the UK total. This is equivalent to 1.6% of the global total of greenhouse gas emissions.	http://www.edie.net/news/news_story.asp?id=10094&channel=0#	Jan 06
Oil at the movies Award winning film <i>Syriana</i> raises consciousness about the consequences of global oil addiction. Also the film is the first-ever 100% "carbon-neutral" movie.	http://syrianamovie.warnerbrosc.com/ & CSRWire	25 Jan
Ceres and others devise tool that helps companies address the strategic and financial challenges of climate change: assess climate risks and opportunities and implement policies and action plans to capitalize on opportunities.	http://www.ceres.org/pub/docs/Ceres_corporate_toolkit_012006.pdf	Feb 7
Targeted sustainability reports Concerns are growing that it may be impossible for a company adequately to address the diverse concerns of NGOs and institutional investors in a single sustainability report.	Environmental Finance	Feb 10
ACCA reporting winners: Sustainability Report joint 1 st - BT and Anglo American; Environment Report - Unilever; Social Report - Traidcraft; Electronic Media - BHP Billiton.	http://www.accaglobal.com/sustainability/awards/susra/uk05_jud.pdf	Feb 24
SC Johnson's site www.dowhatsright.com provides fast, easy access to a wide range of information on SC Johnson's global work in creating environmental, economic and social value.	CSRWire.com	Mar 3
CSR podcast anyone? Download "Corporate Responsibility: Myth or Reality?"	http://www.csrwire.com/article.cqj/5228.html	Mar 17
Extractive Industry		<<
BHP Billiton's "horrendous crimes" in India Although BHP Billiton allegedly plans to invest \$3 million in sustainable development projects in Orissa, local ecology and communities are now facing unprecedented threats from mining companies who want to open bauxite and iron ore mines in wildlife-rich areas. BHP is alleged to be one such company whose mining plans will be environmentally disastrous, e.g. for tiger habitats. Giant companies like BHP can allegedly influence politicians who encourage harmful activities without caring for wildlife concerns. The \$3m green plans are cited as "greenwash".	http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=3956 <small>[subscription only]</small> & www.wildlifeorissa.org	Nov 8/05
Do Anglo American and Rio Tinto deliver on what they promise? Roger Moody, Managing Editor of Mines and Communities thinks not.	www.minesandcommunities.org	Jan 17
Digging deep: mining faces up to the cost of showing a cleaner image. Mining has an image problem - currently seen as dirty, dangerous and disruptive - however the growth in demand for mining products means that a challenge to that caricature is becoming more urgent. The industry is fighting back.	FT http://www.wbcds.org/plugins/DocSearch/details.asp?type=DocDet&ObjectID=MTc5MTQ	Jan 17
Fourth-largest gold-mining company Gold Fields emphasises its sustainable	http://www.wbcds.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=MTc5Mz	Jan 26

development policies in Ghana, where its operations produced exceptional operational performance results in 2005.	g	
Newmont Mining's alleged inadequate waste management in Indonesia A star government witness in a criminal trial against Newmont told a court that the company's mine wastes were deposited in the sea at too shallow a depth, causing the contamination of fish.	Socialfunds.com	Feb 3
Newmont again... they've agreed to pay \$30 million to Indonesia in a settlement of a civil lawsuit in which the government argued that the company had polluted another bay with arsenic and mercury.	http://corpwatch.org/article.php?id=13271	Feb 16
Barrick Gold gets go-ahead Environmental authorities in Chile approved the Pascua Lama gold mining project on the Argentine border despite claims that the decision-making process was not totally accountable and transparent.	http://corpwatch.org/article.php?id=13286	Feb 15
Rio Tinto come out strongly in Citigroup's "Towards Sustainable Mining" analysis.	heath.jansen@citigroup.com	Mar 14
BHP Billiton & Alcan lead their sectors in sustainability reporting according to the Roberts Environmental Center in its 2006 analysis of environmental and sustainability reporting in the metals, mining, and crude-oil sectors.	http://www.wbcsd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=MTq0MDE	Mar 16
Construction		<<
Draft Strategy for Sustainable Construction Report 2006 is out to consultation until 26 April. It aims to revise the 2000 Strategy for Sustainable Construction, consider achievements over the past five years, and guide future Government policies where they are relevant to construction.	http://www.info4local.gov.uk/searchreport.asp?id=27954&heading=e-mail+alert	Feb 6
UNEP, Lafarge, Skanska and Arcelor have founded the Sustainable Building and Construction Initiative (SBCI) aimed at "greening" the building business, seeking to cut waste and use of energy and resources in the construction and lifespan of a building.	AFP in http://www.wbcsd.org/plugins/DocSearch/details.asp?type=DocDet&Objectid=MTqyMTg	Feb 21
Top global companies join with WBCSD to make energy self-sufficient buildings a reality.	http://www.wbcsd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=MTq2MTU	Mar 29

Explore sustainability with Sd3's knowledge centre at <http://www.sd3.co.uk>