



STRATEGIC THEME TWO  
Help to achieve the UN's Sustainable  
Development Goals

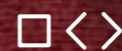
# ADVANCING OUR JOURNEY TO SUSTAINABILITY

Pam has spoken at our events and worked with Net Zero Now to measure her firm's carbon footprint.  
**Pam Tuckett FCA, CTA, DChA**  
Audit Partner and Head of Education, Bishop Fleming

Mark Gough was one of the partners of the We Value Nature Project.  
**Mark Gough**  
CEO, Capitals Coalition



Read more at: [icaew.com/climate](https://icaew.com/climate)



## STRATEGIC THEME TWO

### Help to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

We started new initiatives to help our members and others begin and advance their sustainability journeys and continued to demonstrate leadership in our own conduct as a business and an employer.

#### SUSTAINABILITY CERTIFICATE

Launched in August, our [Sustainability Certificate](#) is an introductory course offering the practical knowledge and skills needed to integrate sustainability performance into risk management, financial planning and analysis, business decision-making and ESG and sustainability reporting.

It also helps teach how to reach out to specialists where the subject matter extends beyond your technical reach.

550 people had signed up to the course by the end of 2022.

#### SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAMME FOR STUDENTS

In October 2022, we launched a trial of a new sustainability programme for students, with around 460 students across the world taking part.

Feedback from our events, together with our own research, has highlighted that while younger people have a strong interest in this area, there is a lack of technical knowledge, particularly regarding the role of the finance profession.

The programme consists of four modules, developed in collaboration with Lancaster University and the Pentland Centre for Sustainable Business and each comprising a mix of written and video content: introducing sustainability key concepts and literacy; examining major sustainability risks; accounting and sustainability issues; and a case study applying knowledge learned.

Feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, with 88% of participants rating the programme 8 and above out of 10, and 35% rating a full 10 out of 10.

We have also reflected on recommendations as to how the programme could be improved and we will be making some minor changes ahead of the official launch in March 2023.

Several universities around the world have expressed their interest in incorporating the programme into their courses.

#### FINANCE FOR THE FUTURE AWARDS

2022 saw the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the [Finance for the Future Awards](#), which ICAEW hosts in partnership with Deloitte and the Accounting for Sustainability (A4S) project, set up by the then-Prince of Wales in 2004.

The awards were held in October, with a physical ceremony in London which was livestreamed to reach a global audience.

The quality of entries was once again extremely strong, so much so that the award for embedding an integrated approach was split into listed and non-listed companies.

You can view a recording of event highlights and details of all winners and finalists, [here](#).

#### ICAEW CLIMATE CHAMPIONS

Our [Climate Champions](#) initiative celebrates and supports individual members, students and firms who have made a commitment to tackle the climate crisis in their organisations or with their clients.

It showcases those making an impact, whether in an advocacy role, embedding climate resilience, tackling nature loss or climate justice.



Rosie developed our Sustainability Certificate and is an ICAEW Climate Champion.  
**Rosie Dunscombe FCA**  
 Sustainability Contractor, ICAEW  
 Director and Founder, Blue Crane Consulting Ltd

Kate is a Co-Chair of the Secretariat of the Transition Plan Taskforce.  
**Kate Levick**  
 Associate Director, Sustainable Finance, E3G

Sophie is an ICAEW Climate Champion and a member of the ICAEW Practice Committee.  
**Sophie Parkhouse FCA, PGCE**  
 Partner Technical and Training, Albert Goodman LLP

Successful applicants are listed in our [honour roll](#), which features their stories as case studies. They are also spotlighted in our Sustainability and Climate Change Community quarterly newsletter.

#### ICAEW CLIMATE SUMMIT

In November, 1,300 delegates joined our second virtual Climate Summit, which took place over five days.

The programme covered the role of the profession, embedding resilience, climate finance, financial reporting and assurance, and the transition to net zero.

The event is available to [view on-demand](#) and is free for both ICAEW members and non-members.

#### WE VALUE NATURE CAMPAIGN

The [We Value Nature](#) campaign concluded its four-year run in October 2022, to high acclaim.

Funded by the [EU's Horizon 2020](#) programme, ICAEW is proud to have delivered the campaign alongside the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, the World Business Council for Sustainable Development and Oppla.

The campaign encouraged businesses to take account of nature in their decision-making: how they depend on it and how they can mitigate the associated risks.

It engaged in three principal activities:

- supporting the natural capital community and sharing research, resources and best practice;
- helping businesses improve their risk management, communication with investors, stakeholder engagement and anticipation of future legislation; and
- targeting businesses and barriers where we expected to make the greatest impact.

As part of the campaign, in 2022 we facilitated a virtual Q&A session, featuring expert insight on the operational landscape for the transition to "nature-positive" business.

The European Commission's Project Review Report stated that the project "has delivered exceptional results with significant immediate or potential impact. *Overall, the project has been a great success, delivering upon virtually all its objectives, deliverables, and milestones*".

#### INDONESIA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR SUSTAINABLE FINANCE AND ECONOMY

We co-hosted the second Indonesia International Conference for Sustainable Finance and Economy, together with the Indonesia Ministry of Finance and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The conference aims to review policies and efforts to build a stronger Indonesian financial sector by accelerating the transition

to sustainable finance. Experts from the Indonesia Ministry of Finance, The Indonesia Financial Services Authority, IFC, Sustainable Finance Institute Asia, Monash University, UNPRI, Mongolian Stock Exchange and the UK Financial Conduct Authority took part. The event featured keynote speeches from Andrew Griffith, the UK Economic Secretary to the Treasury, and Sri Mulyani, the Indonesia Minister of Finance.

#### TRANSITION PLAN TASKFORCE

HM Treasury launched the [UK Transition Plan Taskforce](#) in April, to develop a "gold standard" for private sector climate transition plans and tackle greenwashing.

ICAEW Chief Executive, Michael Izza, sits on the Taskforce's Steering Group, together with the Economic Secretary to the Treasury and other senior executives from business, finance and the environmental sector. ICAEW's Director, Sustainability, Richard Spencer, also sits on the Taskforce's working group.

We are the only accountancy body to hold a place on the Taskforce, highlighting the important leadership role ICAEW Chartered Accountants are playing in embedding sustainability within the finance profession.

Michael spoke at the launch of the Taskforce, expressing his view that corporate transition planning is one of the key issues for 2022. Both he and Richard attended meetings with government ministers and others throughout the year to support and promote the Taskforce's work.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE (ESG) REPORTING

In October, ICAEW's Director, Sustainability, Richard Spencer, gave evidence to the UK Parliament's BEIS Committee, as part of their inquiry into ESG reporting. Richard stressed its importance and advocated ICAEW's efforts to promote quality ESG reporting among businesses, but also highlighted the challenges that firms face when attempting to implement them.

#### EVENTS

ICAEW Middle East member and COO at American University of Sharjah, Dr Jeannette Vinke, participated in our panel discussion, *From COP27 to COP28: the role of finance in charting course for success*, held during the two-day Accounting for Sustainability (A4S) Summit. The A4S summit is a global gathering to catalyse action on sustainability in the finance community.

A joint webinar with the Institute of Indonesia Chartered Accountants (IAI) looked at Indonesia's carbon tax policy, featuring panellists from EY, WWF and the Indonesia Ministry of Finance. Over 400 participants attended from audit firms, universities, the mining industry, financial institutions and the public sector.