
CALL for PAPERS

Deadline for submissions: **18 March 2009**

CORE Conference IV – The potential of CSR to support the integration of core EU strategies

Organised by Öko-Institut e.V.

Supported by the EU Marie Curie Series of Conferences

Berlin, 15 – 16 June 2009

We are pleased to announce the fourth event in the CORE series of Conferences on ‘The potential of CSR to contribute to the implementation and integration of key EU strategies’.

Corporate Social Responsibility in Europe

In recent years the EU has committed itself to some core strategies to shape Europe's future, mainly the Lisbon strategy on growth and jobs, the Gothenburg strategy on sustainable development and the Enlargement strategy on the integration of an enlarged Union. These strategies can only be successful if their implementation involves adequately and effectively economic actors (business actors), non-profit partnerships and networks, stakeholders, local communities and civil society. In this setting, Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) holds the potential to stimulate corporate contributions to the implementation and integration of core EU strategies. CSR is an integral part of the debate on globalisation and sustainable development within the EU and is regarded by the European Commission as “a means of defending solidarity, cohesion and equal opportunities against a backdrop of increasing global competition”. With this wide array of goals and expectations in mind, the question how CSR can contribute to the successful integration and implementation of the above mentioned strategies is crucial.

The CORE Conference Series

The CORE Conference series reaches out to young researchers and provides a platform to discuss the potential of CSR to contribute to policy integration at the interface of competitiveness and sustainability strategies, as well as the continuous enlargement of the European Union. CORE is an opportunity to test how CSR, being a voluntary initiative, can represent a means to contribute to the successful integration and implementation of core EU strategies.

The fourth CORE Conference represents a unique opportunity for young researchers to learn about the potential of CSR in an interdisciplinary and stimulating setting. This call is targeted to early-stage researchers, mid-career researchers and also to European researchers active outside the Union (see Funding Application for further details). The design of the Conference which balances keynote speeches, paper presentations, discussions and roundtable sessions, is explicitly aimed at maximizing interactions and learning opportunities for younger researchers on CSR and related public policy issues. Feedback will be given by fellow scholars and internationally renowned researchers.

Call for Papers

Researchers and graduate students are encouraged to hand in paper abstracts and applications for one of the 40 grants available. Based on the incoming abstracts, a limited number of papers will be selected for presentation in parallel workshop sessions. Each paper will be given 10-15 minutes for presentation, followed by joint discussion and questions among the group. The call is open for researchers coming from different scientific disciplines, including but not limited to Business Administration, Economics, Political and Social Sciences, and Law. The CORE Conference strives for a broad geographical coverage and especially encourages applications from the new EU Member states.

Contributions may address any of the following tracks and questions:

Track 1: Companies and policy integration: external prerequisites, internal obstacles and driving forces

- How does CSR contribute to the integration of core EU strategies, i.e. sustainability, competitiveness and/or EU enlargement? Does CSR help to bridge target conflicts?
- What factors internal to companies foster the contribution of CSR to policy integration? Such factors might be: strategic or moral considerations, corporate culture, corporate organisation, brand positioning.
- What factors external to companies foster the contribution of CSR to policy integration? Such factors might be: national business systems, policy systems, civil society organisations, sector, or region.
- What role can CSR play in achieving policy integration as regards developing countries? The achievement of CSR can be analysed with a view to policy goals such as greater respect for human rights, environmental protection and core labour standards in developing countries.

Track 2: The potential of CSR to reconcile competitiveness and sustainability

- What types of public policies promote the integrative potential of CSR, e.g. “responsible competitiveness”? Such public policies might be: regulatory instruments, economic incentives, voluntary initiatives (e.g. private, regional or sector initiatives)
- How can public policies on national or EU level better foster CSR performance, thus contributing to policy integration? CSR performance might include innovations that address environmental and societal problems?

Track 3: The potential of CSR to reconcile the integration of the EU-27 with competitiveness and/or sustainability

- How does CSR contribute to the integration of accession countries and new Member States in the EU? How can it help to improve their overall sustainability performance?
- How can public policies on national or EU level better foster CSR performance in new Member States, thus contributing to policy integration?

In order to allow in-depth discussions in the different panels, attendance to the CORE conference will be limited. A total of **40 grants** covering travel costs and attendance of the CORE conference are available for applicants who hand in scientific paper proposals. For more information and eligibility criteria please see the Funding Application Form below.

If you are interested in attending the conference and presenting a paper, please hand in:

- (1) A 500-700 words abstract. Please indicate the name(s) of the lead author and co-authors, affiliation and e-mail address of the corresponding author(s), paper title and max 5 keywords.
- (2) A completed Funding Application Form (see below)
- (3) A letter of intent and a one page CV of the applicant(s)

And send your application to Ms Katharina Schmitt at k.schmitt@oeko.de or fax to 0049 – 30 280 486 - 88 mentioning CORE Conference IV. Closing date is **18 March 2009**. Incoming abstracts will be screened and the most promising abstracts will be reviewed by the Scientific Committee. Successful applicants will be notified until **16 April 2009** and will be requested to hand in their complete papers, consisting of a maximum of 3.000 words, by **08 June 2009**. The papers with the best reviews will be chosen for discussion in one of the parallel workshop sessions of the conference.

The **CORE Scientific Committee** consists of:

- Regine Barth, Head of Environmental Law & Governance Division, Öko-Institut e.V., Germany
- Carlo Carraro, Professor of Environmental Economics and Econometrics, University of Venice, Italy
- Dirk Matten, Hewlett-Packard Chair in Corporate Social Responsibility, Schulich School of Business, York University, Canada
- Jeremy Moon, Professor of Corporate Social Responsibility, University of Nottingham Business School, UK
- Jon Birger Skjaeseth, Senior Research Fellow, Fridtjof Nansen Institute, Finland.
- Jorgen Wettestad, Director of European Programme, Fridtjof Nansen Institute, Finland
- Laszlo Zsolnai, Director of the Business Ethics Center, Corvinus University of Budapest, Hungary

For more **background information** please refer to [CORE website](#) & [Öko-Institut website](#)

FUNDING APPLICATION

CORE Conference IV

The potential of CSR to support the integration of core EU strategies

Berlin, 15 – 16 June 2009

Applying for grants: There are several grants available for the Conference. Grants cover living expenses (up to a max of EUR 150.00 Euro per day) and travel expenses (up to a maximum amount established on the basis of travel distance). Please note that paper submissions are not automatically considered as an application for the grant – the Funding Application Form has to be completed in order to be eligible for a grant. Researchers that intend to participate at the Conference, but do not have a paper to submit, may apply expressly for the grant. Grants will be preferably awarded to researchers who hand in a paper.

Applications can be made in the form of an e-mail addressed to Ms. Katharina Schmitt at k.schmitt@oeko.de reference line: “CORE Conference IV – grant”. Please also attach (1) the Funding Application Form, (2) a brief letter of intent, and (3) a one-page CV. All researchers who obtain a grant may be asked to discuss one of the papers presented at the conference.

I would like to apply for funding to attend the fourth CORE conference:

First Name, Last Name:
Title/Position:
Organisation:
Contact Address:
Telephone:
E-mail:
Dietary requirements:

Please provide the following **additional details** to enable us to identify if you are eligible for funding:

Category of researcher (Please tick one group) ¹	Group 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	Group 2 <input type="checkbox"/>	Group 3 <input type="checkbox"/>
Nationality			
Gender (Please tick one group)	Male <input type="checkbox"/>	Female <input type="checkbox"/>	

¹ Please see eligibility criteria on the following page

I am also submitting a paper:

Paper title:

Papers are invited from the following three categories of researchers

Group 1 - Early-stage researchers (max 20 grants available). Researchers attending the event for training purposes, who have, at the time of their attendance no more than 4 years (full-time equivalent) research experience since obtaining the diploma which gives them direct access to doctoral studies in the country in which the diploma was obtained and who do not have a doctoral degree.

Group 2 – Mid-career researchers (max 18 grants available). Researchers attending the event for training purposes, who have, at the time of their attendance, a doctoral degree or 4-10 years of (full-time equivalent) research experience since obtaining the diploma which gives them direct access to doctoral studies in the country in which the diploma was obtained.

Group 3 – European Researchers active outside the Union (max 2 grants available). Researchers attending the event for training purposes, who have, at the time of their attendance, more than 10 years of (full-time equivalent) research experience since obtaining the diploma which gives them direct access to doctoral studies in the country in which the diploma was obtained, who are nationals of Member States or Associated Member States and who are active in research outside the Member States and Associated Member States at the time of the event.