

Sustainability Issues & Fairtrade Task Group (SIFTG) – Agenda

Task Group of the Sustainability & Environmental Advisory Group

Twenty-second Meeting: Tues 3 November 2009 - 3.00pm in Rm 2.04, 13 Infirmary St

Members:

Karen Bowman (Convener)	Director of Procurement	KB
Daniel Abrahams	People & Planet co-Convener	DA
Evelyn Bain	Procurement Manager	EB
John Blair-Fish	IT Unix Systems, Information Services	JBF
Ruth Cape	People and Planet co-Convener	RC
Philippa Faulkner	Ethics and Environment officer	PF
Thomas Graham	EUSA President	TG
Non Jones	Student	NJ
Kristofer Keane	Ethics and Environment officer	KK
Ronnie Kerr	Press and PR Manager, Communication & Marketing	RK
Angela Lewthwaite (Secretary)	Estates and Buildings Office	AL
Ian Macaulay	Asst. Director of Accommodation Services, Catering	IM
David Somervell	Sustainability Advisor	DS
James Wallace	EUSA Vice-President - Services	JW

www.fairtrade.org.uk

Corresponding:	VP Professor Mary Bownes, Professor Pete Higgins; Mr Nigel Paul; Prof Jan Webb; Rev Di Williams; Prof Tim Hayward; Dr Graham Russell; Stewart Russell	
Welcome:	EUSA Member – Philippa Faulkner and Kristopher Keane, John Blair-Fish	
Apologies:	Thomas Graham (EUSA President)	
1	The minute of meeting held on 11th August 2009 was agreed as an accurate record. http://www.seagsiftg.estates.ed.ac.uk http://www.pps.ed.ac.uk/about/green/fair_trade/index.htm	Attached
1.1	Matters Arising: All covered in the agenda	
1.2	Drinking Water Policy	Item 1.2
1.3	FT Application 2009 http://www.fairtrade.org.uk/annual_review/?dm_i=605314102	KB
1.4	Transition Edinburgh University (TEU) – Update	Item 1.4
1.5	iTunesU channel – Now up and running	Item 1.5
2	SEAG-Operations Group - Revised Remit and Membership	Paper 2
3	Edinburgh Fairtrade City Initiative (EFCI) – Update	KB
4	Fairtrade Strategy Document final – 5 yr vision – To be approved, owned by SIFTG and published online in the new Semester.	Item 4 KB
5	Fairtrade Fortnight 2010: 22 February – 7 March 2010 – Update	Item 5.1
6	Report from EUSA – Note AGM – Tuesday 17th November 2009 • Clothing – update http://www.bishopstontrading.co.uk/shop/article.php?category_id=12&article_id=47 No further update.	TG
7	Report from EAUC-S (Environmental Association of Universities and College-Scotland) • Advanced Procurement for Universities & Colleges / Public Procurement Reform:	KB
8	Report from People & Planet, Edinburgh University – Update	DA
9	Report from Accommodation Services – Update	IM
Dates of next SIFTG meetings – Venue Rm 2.04, 13 Infirmary St unless otherwise notified. 2010: Tuesday 19 January – 3.00 pm; Tuesday 25 May – 3.00 pm; Tuesday 10 August – 3.00 pm Tuesday 2 November – 3.00 pm		All please note

Sustainability Issues & Fairtrade Task Group (SIFTG) – MINUTE of Meeting**Task Group of the Sustainability & Environmental Advisory Group****Twenty-first Meeting: Tues 11th Aug 2009 - 3.00pm in Rm 2.04, 13 Infirmary St****Members:**

Karen Bowman (Convener)	Director of Procurement	KB
Daniel Abrahams	People & Planet co-Convener	DA
Evelyn Bain	Procurement Manager	EB
John Blair-Fish	IT Unix Systems, Information Services	JBF
Ruth Cape	People and Planet co-Convener	RC
Philippa Faulkner	Ethics and Environment officer	PF
Thomas Graham	EUSA President	TG
Non Jones	Student	NJ
Kristofer Keane	Ethics and Environment officer	KK
Ronnie Kerr	Press and PR Manager, Communication & Marketing	RK
Angela Lewthwaite (Secretary)	Estates and Buildings Office	AL
Ian Macaulay	Asst. Director of Accommodation Services, Catering	IM
David Somervell	Sustainability Advisor	DS
James Wallace	EUSA Vice-President - Services	JW

www.fairtrade.org.uk

Corresponding: VP Professor Mary Bownes, Professor Pete Higgins; Mr Nigel Paul; Prof Jan Webb; Rev Di Williams; Prof Tim Hayward; Dr Graham Russell; Stewart Russell

Welcome: EUSA Member – Philippa Faulkner and Kristofer Keane, John Blair-Fish, Natalie Czaban

Apologies: Evelyn Bain; Ruth Cape; Philippa Faulkner; Kristofer Keane; Ronnie Kerr; Non Jones; Angela Lewthwaite

	The minute of meeting held on 26th May 2009 Minute was agreed as an accurate record. http://www.seagsiftg.estates.ed.ac.uk http://www.pps.ed.ac.uk/about/green/fair_trade/index.htm	Circulated
1	Matters Arising: <i>All covered in the agenda</i>	
2	Membership & Remit Review The Group agreed that Thomas and James would take a back seat and allow Philippa and Kristofer take the reigns with regards to the SIFTG Group. As sabbaticals they would still be on hand to help out if needed. The Group endorsed Philippa and Kristofer as a EUSA presence from now on. Non Jones has since intimated her interest in attending the Group and would attend future meetings.	
2.1	Drinking Water Policy The Policy had been passed and a document detailing the Drinking Water Policy would be issued throughout the University in the Director of Corporate Services's name on behalf of Corporate Services. Posters to be circulated for display in all buildings –EUSA would not display these particular notices but agreed to display notices showing access to drinking water. EUSA would consult George Boag on this matter. KB – This initiative likely to save the UoE £80k per year JW – Noted that Leeds Student Union had removed bottled water from their shops etc – EUSA felt that a blanket ban would be inappropriate –better to install water fountains or make access to drinking water available this would encourage students to fill up their own water bottles. In the interim, EUSA would look to stocking locally sourced bottled water. EUSA to promote their 'lug-a-mug' for use for drinking water as well as coffee. Works Division staff have almost completed water tests for all University buildings. Staff and students should be no more than 3 minutes away from a source of drinking water. If this was not the case, Works Division would assist with providing an appropriate water source. It was emphasised that all water from cold water taps was of drinking quality.	Paper 2.1 TG TG TG

2.2	<p>FT Application 2009</p> <p>KB – There was no reason to doubt that the application would be successful – KB would distribute feedback to the Group when known.</p> <p>http://www.fairtrade.org.uk/annual_review/?dm_i=605314102</p>	KB
2.3	<p>Transition Edinburgh University (TEU) – Update</p> <p>Natalie Czaban, one of the Summer Interns, introduced the TEU initiative</p> <p>A funding (£500k) bid for Phase 2 should be determined in Oct –funding would support a 16 month project to take forward the findings from the initial feasibility study – the application would fund 6 full-time members of staff rolling out at least 6 initiatives.</p> <p>JW agreed to discuss with TEU to try to complement the initiatives and their engagement. EUSA would promote student volunteering in such initiatives. Consultation necessary with ‘University Settlement’.</p>	Paper 3 NC / JW
3	<p>Shaping our Future : Thurs 1 October 2009 Events Day</p> <p>DS advised the format for a special event day – where morning session would focus on practical issues, afternoon on people and academic issues and the evening would be a formal launch of the Transition University Study with informal networking on how to take it forward.</p> <p>Prior to the event day an SRS meeting had been setup up for the 27th Aug to bring together and discuss all initiatives and identify a vision for 2020.</p> <p>The Group noted that the Government had set up a consumption target of 42% by 2020.</p> <p>The University had been invited along with others to sign up to 10:10 – an initiative promoting a 10% emissions reduction in 2010. This may be achievable by including TEU and other parties in the push to make the 10% reduction. DS noted that the Switch and Save Campaign had an impact on consumption with a 5% reduction instead of a 5% increase year-on-year.</p> <p>KB recommended any 10:10 initiative be coordinated with the planning round which would commence in November. Short time scale if this is the plan. The Group endorsed this recommendation as crucial to educate all colleagues through our policies and our actions.</p> <p>Student Engagement: JW suggested students feel detached from Switch and Save campaign at the moment – seems like it is a University initiative and not for personal life. TG – If students see Climate Change as priority it may become of more importance. Need to make it easier for students to get on board with the initiatives. Posters and leaflets were not effective enough. The TEU initiative should improve the situation.</p>	DS
4	<p>Edinburgh Fairtrade City Initiative (EFCI)</p> <p>KB & EB were thanked for leading on this and representing the University. KB would like to invite others to come along to the meetings. KB would update at next meeting.</p>	Paper 4 KB
5	<p>Fairtrade Strategy Document final - 5 yr vision – To be approved, owned by SIFTG and published online in the new Semester.</p> <p>Feedback from the submission to the Fairtrade foundation was awaited. The document would be operational and also used as a reference.</p> <p>KB – would like to see this embedded within Procurements Strategy and pushed through senior management as a result. There were useful elements of the document which could be built into their strategy. The document would be a working document and be merged with the report back from Fairtrade Foundation – The Group agreed to leave the document as it is and review at the meeting in Nov after the October Day and Fairtrade Foundation have given feedback.</p>	Paper 6 KB KB
6	<p>Fairtrade Fortnight 2010: 22 February – 7 March 2010</p> <p>EUSA representatives agreed that they were prepared to host an all-Scotland Universities & Colleges Fairtrade Conference. Action : TG agreed to get idea of availability of Teviot rooms and numbers they can take and rough quotes. Betsy Reid from Scottish Fairtrade Forum keen to organize the event, with a possibility of partnering with Edinburgh Napier University. Conference needs to be focused and action based in order to get greater involvement. Content must be attractive to students. Agreed that an action meeting needs to be setup with Betsy and has to come from the students.</p> <p>KB – Action –to call a meeting with EUSA, DS, EAUC-S (Andrew Chamberlain and Sarah Lee be involved) JBF – Suggested that the conference go beyond putting the message across about just buying Fairtrade goods and taking it further into the understanding of Trade Justice as a whole, not only with students but also to get academics to participate.</p> <p>Possible title – “Making Scotland a Fair Trade Country” – possible date for this is w/c 22nd Feb 2010 – need to make a start on planning soon.</p>	TG KB / EUSA

7	<p>Report from CAM - Developing a Fairtrade presence on iTunes U KB – Should we be promoting Fairtrade through itunes? Bearing in mind that quality is not great. Action – speak with Ronnie Kerr and see if he could come up with a strategy for this.</p>	Paper 8 KB/RK
8	<p>Report from EUSA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clothing - update <p>http://www.bishopstontrading.co.uk/shop/article.php?category_id=12&article_id=47 No further update.</p>	TG
9	<p>Report from EAUC-S (<i>Environmental Association of Universities and College-Scotland</i>) It was noted that John Forster had stepped down from managing the DFID-funded Poverty Aware Procurement on Campus project – which is moving to its final stages. It was proposed that 1 member of staff & 1 student attend next programmed meeting. Contact KB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advanced Procurement for Universities & Colleges / Public Procurement Reform: The University has adopted the APUC procurement manual and training received by key staff. 	KB
10	<p>Report from People & Planet, Edinburgh University New events;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fairtrade on Fringe • Fairtrade Picnic • Initiative involving Primary and Secondary Schools in local area to promote Fairtrade. KB – will raise this at city group – encourage community outreach. 	DA
11	<p>Report from Accommodation Services – Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IM reported slow progress with Waste Management Licensing for the composter at Pollock Halls. Now composting green waste and awaiting license for food waste. • Vending machines – meetings with suppliers – Update next meeting • Cardboard compactor working well with high volume throughput. 	IM, EB
<p>Dates of next SITFG meetings - Venue Rm 2.04, 13 Infirmary St unless otherwise notified. 3.00 pm Tuesday 3rd November 2009 2010: Tuesday 19 January – 3.00 pm; Tuesday 25 May – 3.00 pm; Tuesday 10 August – 3.00 pm Tuesday 2 November – 3.00 pm.</p>		All please note

Item 1.2

Drinking Water Policy 2009 – Communication sent out on 31 Aug 09 To heads of School and Support Units plus their administrators. Full copy of briefing note and poster at [url:-](#) below

EUSA report from Vice-President Services– Drinking water fountains installed by EUSA in all local shops and Union buildings. Any School who feel justified in having a water fountain installed must be prepared to pay for the facility and discuss the matter with Works Division.

www.estates.ed.ac.uk/Works/Guidelines/Drinking%20Water%20Circular%20090817.doc

TRANSITION EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY (TEU)

Item 1.4

From: owner-teu@lists.ed.ac.uk on behalf of Transition Edinburgh University [info@transitionedinburghuni.org.uk]

Sent: 12 October 2009 17:13

To: TEU@lists.ed.ac.uk

Subject: ...In Transition, no.2 - in the wake of the Launch, our energetic new working groups, and the Psychology of Change.

Hello and welcome to the second (full) edition of ...IN TRANSITION, the bulletin of the Transition Edinburgh University group: your one-stop shop for local practical eco-action on campus!

>>What is Transition all about?<<

Transition is an international network of community groups looking to re-localise their economies and reduce carbon emissions through collective practical action (<http://www.transitiontowns.org/>). The Edinburgh Uni group started work on Transition last year and we're excited to be going bigger and better this year. With support from the University People & Planet Society, University Energy and Sustainability Office, and the Climate Challenge Fund, five staff have had the opportunity to spend the summer researching ideas for new big-scale projects we can run at Edinburgh, and now is the time for everyone to get involved and make the Transition happen!

** NEWS **

***** ...what's been happenin'?

>>Launching the Transition in Style<<

Our 1st October 'Footprints and Handprints' Event was a great success, attended by more than 150 members of the university and wider Edinburgh community, including EUSA sabbaticals, fifteen graduates of the world-leading 'Carbon Management' MSc, high ranking academics and even three parliamentarians! Individuals from all backgrounds and academic disciplines exchanged ideas and discussed plans for action on education, food, energy, transport, equity and business. The Launch demonstrated that people all over the University are keen to dig in and make this happen so it was a phenomenally exciting evening. Many attendees are now working on making those plans into a reality – so if you want to join them, get in touch or come to one of our planning meetings (see below).

>>Transition across Britain<<

People & Planet have just launched their UK-wide Transition Universities campaign, meaning the lessons and ideas of the journey we've all been beginning here at Edinburgh will be used as a model for universities all over the UK. This is great news for spreading positive, action-orientated solutions to thousands more people. See [<http://peopleandplanet.org/goinggreener>] for the full Transition Universities guide, and come along to Shared Planet in Manchester for the official launch (see below)

** EVENTS **

***** ...things you can go to this month

>>Transition Planning<<

Our next fortnightly planning meetings are Tuesday 20th October and Tuesday 3rd November, both in David Hume Tower Faculty Room South, 6-8.30pm: time to come together, find out more... join a working group... start a practical project... get involved!

>>Handprint Socials<<

This Wednesday marks the third of our "Handprint Socials" offering you the chance to learn about sustainability in its various guises and the various methods of increasing our 'handprints'-what we do to create positive solutions. Free food and thought provoking chat:

Wed 14th October; Psychology of Change. DHT Conference Room 5-8.30pm.

The role of identity, psychology, beliefs and world view in the move towards sustainability. Case studies from pioneering new projects. Insights aplenty!

Wed 28th October; Glimpses of Sustainable Universities-the future at Edinburgh. DHT Faculty Room North 5-8.30pm. A facilitated 'backcasting' exercise by university academics; imagining what the university will look like in the sustainable future and building our ideas of how to get there. A great chance to learn and be a part of innovative new planning techniques

>>Shared Planet conference 2009, 20-22nd November<<

Shared Planet is the largest student activist conference in Europe and will host the launch of People & Planet's Transition Universities "Going Greener" campaign. It's an amazing opportunity to meet other people involved in climate change and transition action and get skilled up on different issues. A group from Edinburgh is going and anyone interested is invited. Return tickets to Manchester cost £25, and you can go free if you steward or go on behalf of the group. Full details at [<http://peopleandplanet.org/shared-planet-09>] and email [ric@transitionedinburghuni.org.uk] if you're interested in going.

** PROJECTS **

***** ...get more involved

>>Working Group Meetings<<

Transition Edinburgh University now has a series of working groups, all getting on with their own aspects of Transition. All groups would love more members so get to [<http://www.nearbuyme.com/node/1727>] to find out times and venues for working groups or read the People & Planet Weekly Email (email [edinbpandp@riseup.net] with a request to join) to hear meeting announcements.

>>Transition work-together time<<

All are welcome to join the interns downstairs at the Hugh Robson Building, George Sq. (aka All Night Labs) for advice, support, work-space, and ideas for development projects people could take on.

This is a great opportunity to talk in further depth about your how you'd like to get involved and get support in planning your activities. It should also be a fun social atmosphere-you'll not even notice you're working!

Weds 10am-2pm

Thurs 4-8pm

If lost, phone Sion on 07725 229 152

Our Working Groups have set to in earnest on a number of Exciting Developments, a few snippets of which are included below. To find out more details of working group meeting times and get links to their specific planning pages visit [<http://www.nearbuyme.com/node/1727>].

>>Inter-halls Energy Saving Competition<<

November 1st will see the start of a fantastic new inter-house energy saving competition at Pollock Halls to encourage residents to reduce their electricity usage and win a load of fantastic prizes! To make the competition a success we need as much help as possible with publicity, finding sponsorship, running events, writing articles etc.

- anything you can contribute would be greatly appreciated!

Get in touch with Sion who's helping to co-ordinate the project at sion@transitionedinburghuni.org.uk.

>>Measuring Carbon Reductions<<

We now have a kick-ass research working group, planning how we're going to make sure that we're making those vital cuts, and doing pioneering carbon management research into the bargain!

>>Food and Allotments<<

We have a thriving group of backyard farmers and gardeners, working out how to green the campus and put local food into student and staff mouths. There are plans to learn from expert growers, link up with Edinburgh food co-ops, work with existing allotments as well as creating new ones and do 'Abundance' projects all over the city; collecting unwanted fruit and redistributing it to those who will use it. Something foody for everyone!

** COMMUNICATE **

***** ...how to keep in contact

Transition Ed Uni uses the Nearbuyme site to organise and share ideas.
It's free to join and you can find our page at [<http://www.nearbuyme.com/node/958>].

Here's also some simple instructions on how to sign-up: 1. Go to [<http://www.nearbuyme.com/>] and click on 'Create new account' (right hand side below the 'Log in' button). 2. Fill in your details, making sure you have ticked the box 'Join Transition Edinburgh University'. 3. Click the 'Create new account' button and wait a bit while you are sent your confirmation email with login details (tip: if the email doesn't turn up within 5 minutes, check your spam folder). 4. Follow the instructions in the email. Once logged in, click on the link 'Groups' on the left hand side click on 'Transition Edinburgh University'.

You can also keep abreast of working group meetings and events with the People & Planet Weekly Email by sending a request to [edinbpandp@riseup.net] and become a "fan" of us on Facebook at [<http://www.facebook.com/transitioneduni>].

Thanks for reading, and we hope to see you very soon.
Ric, Natalie and Sion
-Transition Ed Uni Interns

Transition Edinburgh University - Campus Community Carbon Crash
0131 651 4289 / info@transitionedinburghuni.org.uk / www.transitionedinburghuni.org.uk c/o Energy & Sustainability Office, 13 Infirmary St, Edinburgh EH1 1LT

Supported by People & Planet (<http://peopleandplanet.org/>) and Edinburgh University (<http://www.eso.ed.ac.uk/>).

Item 1.5

iTunesU channel – Now up and running.

You can search iTunes you, or you can open the channel using the following link in your web browser (assuming you have the itunes software installed):

<http://deimos3.apple.com/WebObjects/Core.woa/Browse/ed.ac.uk>

The primary purpose of the iTunes channel is for users of iTunes to discover the University of Edinburgh. However, we will shortly be launching a new audio/video section of the website which will feature our iTunes channel among other things.

Sustainability & Environmental Advisory Group (SEAG)

7 October 2009

Revised Remit and Membership for SEAG-Operations

Brief description of the paper

The original brief for the Utilities Steering Group (2005) and the revised remit and membership of SEAG (2008) were reviewed by the Utilities Steering Group at their meeting of 7th October.

A re-focused draft remit for the Utilities Steering Group (USG) as a SEAG-Operations Group was recommended to ensure that the University maintained a formal mechanism for overseeing the practical work – mainly delivered by the Corporate Services and Information Services Groups.

It was recommended that the new group – emerging out of the Utilities Steering Group – should report to SEAG or Estates Committee as required.

Action requested

The Group is invited to

- **comment** on new draft remit for USG and bring changes / improvements to the meeting
- **agree** formal establishment of a standing group which will keep SEAG informed of delivery progress on all operational issues
- **agree** the name for the group and reporting line to SEAG and / or Estates Committee as appropriate.

Resource implications

Does the paper have resource implications?

No. N/A

Risk assessment

Does the paper include a risk analysis?

No.

Equality and diversity

Does the paper have equality and diversity implications?

No

Freedom of information

Can this paper be included in open business?

Yes

Originator of the paper

David Somervell
Sustainability Adviser

8 October 2009

The paper will be presented by

David Somervell

Revised Remit and Membership for SEAG-Operations

The following text was offered as a draft remit and membership of a slightly re-focussed group. Tracked Changes record the decisions of USG.

A revised Objective for the SEAG-Operations Group

“To deliver all aspects of the University’s climate action plans and programmes, seeking to continuously improve the environmental performance of all operational areas of the University”.

A revised Remit for the SEAG-Operations Group

To provide the Sustainability & Environmental Advisory Group, and the Estates Committee where required, with the practical solutions necessary to operationalise the projects and programmes identified in the Social Responsibility, Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy, the Climate Action Plan and the Estates Strategy, and any related strategies emerging from the University’s Strategic Plan(s) and to effect positive change in operational activities through the introduction and application of environmentally sustainable business practices throughout the University community:

1. Direct the devolution of utility budgets (electricity, gas, oil and water etc) and costs, and resolve the policy and practical issues that arise on implementation
2. Benchmark the University’s social responsibility initiatives and its progress towards a more sustainable campus against other relevant organisations – through Universities that Count, Green Gowns Awards and P&P Green League – and report its findings annually
3. Identify critical success factors which incorporate sustainability and monitor annual and strategic planning processes for sustainability integration
4. Encourage initiatives that raise the profile of environmental management and sustainability in the University’s learning & teaching, research and community engagement programmes and staff development, valuing stakeholder involvement and promoting equity and social inclusion
5. Ensure implementation of practice standards which meet or surpass requirements of environmental legislation, commit to a process of continual environmental improvement and maximise the efficient use of energy and materials, prevent pollution and increase use of low and zero carbon energy resources
6. Oversee Waste Minimisation and recycling from campus activity and encourage repair, reuse and recycling ahead of the responsible disposal of surplus materials and promotion of Sustainable Active Travel measures to reduce impact of business travel and travel to / between university sites
7. Extend responsible procurement procedures with all elements of the supply chain to ensure social, ethical and environmental criteria are integrated with whole life costing to achieve best value overall
8. Provide a conduit between the broader campus community and SEAG on these operational issues, including the duty to promote Biodiversity and investigate grant and other support mechanisms related to development of a sustainable campus
9. Conduct reviews of relevant University management performance standards and operations against internal sustainability targets and best practice standards and make the results of social, environmental and sustainability audits and impact assessments carried out by or for the University available to all stakeholders.

The membership should be kept under review but may include professional staff engaged directly in delivering these policies on campus, together with academic colleagues who bring specific expertise.

SEAG is now invited to **comment** on the above Objective and Remit and make amendments and **agree** a revised remit for the Operations Group.

David Somervell
Sustainability Adviser
8th October 2009

Fairtrade University Strategy proposal – DRAFT – May 2009

1. Background

Since being formally awarded Fairtrade University status in 2004, the University of Edinburgh has continued to build upon and support the enthusiasm for Fairtrade that has been shown by both students and staff. In the last five years, members of the Fairtrade steering group have worked together on a whole range of activities designed to increase awareness of the issues and access to Fairtrade products. Many new product lines have been brought to University and EUSA shops and catering. Ever more ambitious Fairtrade Fortnight programmes have been organised to engage the whole university with the idea of a Fairtrade University: an institution of our size and stature making a sizeable impact on the key issues of trade justice and world poverty. It is fair to say that this University has often pushed the boundaries by bringing in new ideas before they caught on (FT cotton clothing) and lobbying for bulk catering options at an industry level.

A lot has been achieved in five years. The story goes that when Edinburgh became only the 4th university in the UK to achieve the status, the size of our hot beverage switch had an impact that increased total UK Fairtrade consumption by 2% almost overnight. Now there are over seventy Fairtrade universities and the Fairtrade movement has become a mainstream force in certain sectors. In 2006 the First Minister of Scotland announced plans for Scotland to be a 'Fair Trade Nation'. The Scottish Fair Trade Forum (SFTF) was set up in 2007 to take forward this campaign.

What could we achieve in the next five years? The People & Planet society at this university has consistently agitated for more to be done to push the boundaries so that we maintain our leading example. However, all along we have agreed and acknowledged that the Fairtrade campaign has been most successful when the University, EUSA and student societies work together so that everyone benefits and has ownership of the successes and positive impacts.

In this briefing, we simply lay out some possible areas that we hope the Fairtrade steering group may look at as we celebrate our 5th birthday and ask the question 'what next?'

2. Outreach

All of the participants in the Fairtrade steering group have a good deal of experience in their area in respect of Fairtrade. One way we could build on the successes at UofE would be to use this expertise and experience to help other institutions along a similar path.

2 Schools

In FT14 2009, Edinburgh saw its first Fairtrade school, St Thomas of Aquin's, receive official recognition from the Fairtrade Foundation. Across the UK People & Planet has been at the forefront of the new Fairtrade schools initiative, which now has more resources at <http://www.fairtrade.org.uk/schools/>

P&P in Edinburgh has ambitious plans to contribute to this campaign and try and grow the number of Fairtrade schools in the city. The group envisages occasional assemblies or other activities starting in academic year 2009/10. Jenny Fausset from City of Edinburgh Council has provided P&P with contact details for four schools that the Council already has links with through the Eco Schools scheme.

These are:

- James Gillespies Primary School, Marchmont
- Roseburn Primary School (has links with Ghana)
- Drummond Community High School, New Town (links with Kenya)
- St Thomas of Aquin's High School, Lauriston

Once P&P has a more detailed plan, Jenny has said she will make sure it aligns with the curriculum and will then help get cooperation going.

3 Universities

The Fair Trade Nation campaign has a specific target to have 60% of Scottish higher education institutions working towards Fairtrade status (this translates to 13 out of 22). Currently there are only a handful and UofE could play a greater role in helping other Scottish universities and colleges, particularly those in Edinburgh. The tea party that we hosted in FT14 brought together representatives from ECA, QMU, Heriot-Watt and Napier and it would be fantastic if could help them more in the future in the areas of campaigning, procurement, catering and other areas.

One proposal that has been brought up by both SFTF and campaigners in recent years is a desire to see a Scottish specific conference for universities. UofE could offer to host or members of SIFTF could contribute content to workshops and talks.

Recommendations: SIFTF should support any outreach efforts with local schools, colleges and universities. Aim to have done at least one event in 4 schools in the next academic year and to work with SFTF to hold a Fairtrade Scottish Universities conference within the next year.

3. Catering

The stance taken by both Accommodation Services/Edinburgh First and EUSA to provide Fairtrade hot beverages by default is a highly effective way of getting the volumes of Fairtrade that will make a massive difference to producer communities.

In the next few years universities must push for more Fairtrade products to be available at affordable prices for our shops and at sensible catering quantities for kitchens.

Here are some suggestions for further moves that this University can aspire to:

Malawian products

Scotland's historic links with Malawi have gained prominence since devolution and in recent months a brand new Fair Trade venture has been set up to bring fairly-traded Malawian goods to Scotland. Just Trading Scotland (www.justtradingscotland.co.uk) has just got its first shipment of rice and is looking for institutions such as this university to take a batch to get the business going. *25kg bags are currently available through Green City wholesalers.*

Bananas

Getting a consistent flow of Fairtrade bananas in catering quantities has proved difficult in recent years. However, as part of the 'Go Bananas' drive in Fairtrade Fortnight, the Fairtrade Foundation recommends Compass (<http://www.compass-group.com/>) or 3663 as fruit wholesalers able to supply universities. The Fairtrade Foundation has a target to increase market share of Fairtrade bananas from one in every four to one in every two bananas sold in the UK.

Wines and beers

Somewhat surprisingly Fairtrade alcohol continues to play a pretty small part in the Fairtrade product range. If EUSA could work with NUSSL to get better deals on Fairtrade wines and even a Fairtrade real ale on tap then it would again be a leading student union in this area.

Westerham Brewery currently produces a 'Freedom Ale' with Fairtrade sugar, supplied in bottles or on tap. There are hundreds of Fairtrade wines now available. Perhaps a suitable Fairtrade wine could be chosen as the house wine for Edinburgh First and EUSA functions.

Ubuntu cola, which uses sugar from Malawi and Zambia, is now available in an 'alcopop' bottle suitable for bars and mixers. Could EUSA investigate getting these behind bars as well?

Tea and Coffee

There is a growing distinction between those companies that simply buy from Fairtrade-certified producers and those 100% Fair Trade companies who continue to pioneer a completely new way of doing business. Obviously there will be price considerations, but People & Planet would like to start a discussion on whether EUSA and even the University might consider switching its hot beverages suppliers at the next opportunity to support a 100% brand such as Cafedirect or Equal Exchange. These pioneers are struggling as the supermarkets take over and they deserve support.

Cafedirect was set up by trade justice campaigners and it goes much further than the minimum Fairtrade requirements, often working with producers for years to build their structures and capacity before even buying anything from them. They invest over 50% of their profits directly back in producer organisations. More about this here: http://www.cafedirect.co.uk/our_business/ppp/

Equal Exchange was set up by University of Edinburgh students in 1979 and is currently based in Leith. They have a whole range of innovative Fairtrade products, coffees and teas but also peanut butter, oils, honey and other nuts. At the moment there are no Equal Exchange products on campus but it would be great to support our local Fairtrade company (<http://www.equalexchange.co.uk>).

Recommendation: SIFTG to continue to investigate all new areas to increase Fairtrade sales on campus in shops and in catering.

4. Vending

Following the survey carried out in Summer 2008, we've been trying to make progress on the issue of university vending machines. Despite a longstanding Nestle product ban passed by a EUSA AGM, there are a number of Nescafe and Kitkat vending machines around campus and hardly any Fairtrade products available in snack vending or drinks vending.

Fairtrade Vending Scotland (<http://www.fairtradevendingscotland.co.uk>) offers a range of hot drinks machines and also an Ubuntu cola machine. As a minimum, could the University procurement department require all departments requiring new or replacement machines to take Fairtrade ones where possible? Could the University centrally tender for a good deal on Fairtrade vending that could be promoted to schools? Could EUSA investigate getting some Fairtrade vending in the Unions?

Recommendations: SIFTG could draw up a strategy incorporating the results of the survey and with the expertise from procurement and catering operations. Aim to have a significant number of Fairtrade vending machines installed in the next two years.

5. Redress Fashion campaign

Since 2007, People & Planet has been running a national campaign aimed at tackling abuses in the clothing industry. The campaign recognises that Fair Trade can't just be about the farmers of cotton (for which Fairtrade-certification exists) but must extend all the way down the supply chain through the garment factories.

P&P is campaigning for student unions and universities to ensure that all of their branded clothing, staff uniforms and other cotton products are 'sweat-free' and made with Fairtrade cotton if possible.

In the last few months there has been a specific campaign to boycott Fruit of the Loom, who have been implicated in aggressive anti-union and violent activities against Honduran workers. **P&P has had talks with EUSA and it has been agreed to phase out Fruit of the Loom clothing and to increase the number of Fairtrade-certified clothing lines.**

Recommendations: SIFTG should put pressure on the University gift outlets to convert its t-shirts and hoodies to Fairtrade-certified cotton. The University should make a commitment to sourcing sweat-free clothing, perhaps by making it compulsory for suppliers to provide details about their suppliers.

Conclusion

The next five years will be crucial for Fairtrade and universities can play a leading role. SIFTG should continue to do what it has done so well in the last five years: promoting Fairtrade on campus and working behind the scenes to increase Fairtrade availability. This report has suggested some ways in which our contribution could have maximum impact and maintain our status as Scotland's leading Fairtrade University.

Fairtrade Conference – 26 February 2010 Requested James Wallace to prov book wrote all room in Teviot with the exception of the Library Bar or the Mezz. Also new Informatics Centre prov booked. (Contact Amanda.McDonald@eusa.ed.ac.uk to firm up bookings) – Amanda advised can also supply a sandwich lunch for cost price **£1.80. Tea, coffee and biscuits cost £0.45 per head.**

Teviot Buffet Menus

Costs

2009/ 10

Please choose a menu from the selection below to suit your function need and budget. To make sure your catering order is confirmed a catering booking form will have to be completed prior to your event.

Finger Buffet Selector 1

Selection of buffet sandwiches
Cocktail sausage rolls
Mini vegetable spring rolls with dip (v)
Breaded vegetable nuggets (V)
Chicken satay

£5.00 Cost £1.75

Finger Buffet Selector 2

Selection of open sandwiches
Honey and sesame coated chipolatas
Mini assorted quiche (V)
BBQ glazed chicken drumsticks
Mini Indian pastries with dips (v)
Garlic bread topped with mozzarella & cherry tomato

£5.75 Cost £2.25

Fork Buffet 3

Warm scampi tartar
Julienne of gammon
Mini mushroom quiche
Mixed salad leaves
Mixed pepper and sweetcorn salad
New potato & red onion salad
Chunky chef's own coleslaw
Individual chocolate mousse
Crusty bread & butter
Dressings

£11.00 Cost £4.40

Fork buffet 4

Sliced breast of chicken with tarragon dressing
Beef scrolls with asparagus tips
Tuna, mayonnaise and cucumber dressing
Chef's quiche provencale
Mixed salad leaves
Minted cauliflower salad
Three bean salad
Waldorf salad
Assorted cheese cakes
Crusty bread & butter
Dressings

£12.95 Cost £5.18

Knife & Fork buffet 5

Honey roast gammon
Hand carved breast of chicken
Roast topside of beef
Chef's recipe Spanish quiche
Chunky chef's own coleslaw
Pasta salad with sliced smoked sausage
Mediterranean vegetable and cherry tomato salad with olive oil and basil
Hot new potatoes with butter and sea salt & pepper
Crusty bread & butter
Assorted cheesecake and gateaux with fresh cream
Dressings

£14.95 Cost £5.98

Extra charges

Tea and coffee & mints

£1.25 Cost £0.45

All prices are per person and are exclusive of VAT

If your event is educational then please ask for a vat exemption form. This form will have to be completed and returned prior to your event.