

# Sustainability Matters

22<sup>nd</sup> June 2017

A fortnightly selection of topical **news and views** about economic, social and environmental issues.  
Designed especially for accountants and those who use the services of accountants.

## Sustainability Matters is;

- Compiled and published by Ray Skinner of *Sustainability Matters*, providers of specialist services relating to sustainability and business support. **Business achieving a tomorrow for tomorrow's children.**

## Our Climate Declaration

"Our Climate Declaration is a declaration of our commitment to a different kind of future.

"A future based on respect, democracy and fairness, which takes care of people and of Nature. A future we create by acting together. A future where our climate is protected. We can create this future by opposing the damaging things that are happening, and inventing, creating and supporting the positive alternatives.

"This is not a petition. This is a Declaration of our commitment to a different kind of future.'

"A future based on respect, democracy and fairness, which takes care of people and of Nature. A future we create by acting together. A future where our climate is protected. We can create this future by opposing the damaging things that are happening, and inventing, creating and supporting the positive alternatives.

"It is time to take our future into our own hands. This Declaration is a tool for doing that.

"Please read the Declaration. If this describes the world you want, sign it and join us to make it happen. We can bring this about if enough people act in their communities, their workplaces, their local government, their schools, hospitals, churches, clubs. We can show that this is possible.

"As Naomi Klein said in her great book *This Changes Everything* To Change Everything, We Need Everyone.

"We'd love you to be part of that change.

Launched Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2017 with simultaneous events at Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin, joined together by video.

**More:** [www.ourclimatedeclaration.org.nz/the\\_declaration](http://www.ourclimatedeclaration.org.nz/the_declaration) where there is a 1hr 18min video including 'the hilarious Robyn Malcolm', plus [www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c\\_id=1&objectid=11878784](http://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c_id=1&objectid=11878784) and <http://business.scoop.co.nz/2017/06/16/our-climate-declaration-launch/>.

**Source:** *Tieke: ECO News and Alerts*, 14<sup>th</sup> June 2017. •

**Editor:** Two 'poster' versions at the website. ❖

## Do You Derive Benefits from *Sustainability Matters*?

If you do, you may wish to consider making a donation to support the back-office costs and hours of effort. Every contribution is much appreciated. How much? You choose. As a suggestion \$46 would be very welcome. GST receipts provided. Bank account details are;

Sustainability Matters

A/c No. 123 011 0249104 00

ASB Bank, Queen Street branch, Auckland.

## SUSTAINABILITY GROUP EVENTS

Next event – Date of webcast yet to be 'sorted'.



Announcements in 'due course'. ❖

## Sustainable Development for All – Delivering the Sustainable Development Goals

"The United Nations Association of New Zealand (UNANZ) Conference in 2017 seeks to consider New Zealand's engagement with the UN system and in particular with the SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals) which are the core work of the UN.

"The 17 Goals aim to mobilise global efforts to achieve these by 2030. How will the Goals work? What are the pitfalls? How will they be reviewed? What is the role of civil society?"

"At this Conference the aim is to provide a platform for promoting dialogue, providing thought-provoking discussion and mobilising efforts to achieve the SDGs in Aotearoa / New Zealand.

"Rt Hon Helen Clark as keynote speaker.

**Where/When:** Wellington 29<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> June

**More:** <http://unanz.org.nz/National/National-Conference>

**Source:** *Tieke: ECO Alerts & Events*, 21<sup>st</sup> June 2017. ❖

## Agribusiness Agenda 2017: The Recipe for Action

"Focus on consumers of food critical to the success of NZ economy

"The success of the agri-food sector is dependent on individuals across the industry placing consumers at the centre of everything they do, according to the *2017 KPMG Agribusiness Agenda: The Recipe for Action*.

"Based on contributions from more than 100 industry leaders, the Agenda explores what needs to be done to capture more of the quarter of a trillion dollars New Zealand products realise in-market and make a greater contribution to our nation's prosperity. This relies on the industry collectively shifting its focus towards the consumers of the food and beverage, fibre and timber products it produces.

"There is a simple unavoidable truth: no customers means there is no business', says Ian Proudfoot, Global Head of Agribusiness at KPMG. 'However, historically, we have placed the majority of our focus on maximising production.'

"When you are focused on the volume you can produce, the government shapes your future as it sets the rules. However, as organisations pivot towards markets and consumers, the rules that shape the future are no longer determined by the domestic government but by much tougher masters, the consumers to whom they sell". .....

"Only by the whole industry seeking ways to work collaboratively will the pivot from a producer-focused, volume-based culture to a market-focused, value-based culture be achieved sufficiently quickly to capture the opportunities available to it.' ....

**More:**

<https://home.kpmg.com/nz/en/home/insights/2017/06/agribusiness-agenda-2017-the-recipe-for-action.html>, 6.1Mb, 86 pages

**Source:** *Carbon News*, 21<sup>st</sup> June 2017

**Editor:** This is another of a series of recent NZ-centric documents and events which merits thoughtful consideration. It is part of a consistent and growing message to all NZ'ers and of course to the Government. *Pursuing sustainability first – no debate!* commences at page 40 and is part of a matrix of agri-sector issues. ❖

## GRI and Australian Government to Accelerate Investment in the Indo-Pacific

"Starting in June, GRI and Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) are launching a new program, 'Sustainable Trade and Investment through Reporting' in the Indo-Pacific (STIR Indo-Pacific). The STIR Indo-Pacific program will target five developing countries in Asia: Bangladesh, Indonesia, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Vietnam.

"The program will pursue two means of contributing to greater stability and poverty alleviation in the region: 1) fostering smart policies that increase market transparency and 2) promoting supply chain transparency by building domestic capacity for sustainability reporting. Through the program, GRI will also establish a network of Indo-Pacific organisations committed to leveraging transparency to help create the conditions for sustainable development. ....

"Through the STIR Indo-Pacific program, GRI will engage with policy makers and regulators to help create an environment conducive for more companies to start reporting their sustainability impacts. In particular, stock exchanges are well-positioned to promote sustainability reporting, in the form of listing requirements and recommendations. Also, as part of this program, GRI will focus on building reporting capacity among first and second tier companies which are part of the value chains of multi-national enterprises and increasingly demanding sustainability information from their suppliers.

**More:** [www.globalreporting.org/information/news-and-press-center/Pages/GRI-and-Australian-government-to-accelerate-investment-in-the-Indo-Pacific.aspx](http://www.globalreporting.org/information/news-and-press-center/Pages/GRI-and-Australian-government-to-accelerate-investment-in-the-Indo-Pacific.aspx)

**Source:** GRI, 8<sup>th</sup> June 2017. ❖

## Cambodia. November. Build With Me

"This November you can be part of changing a family's destiny... Just by building a home with them. I know it sounds a bit far-fetched, but it's true!

"I'm leading a team for the 2017 Cambodia Big Build. This will be the build of a lifetime, and it would be great if you could join me!

"For Say Phal, this Big Build will mean the difference between continued hardship and hope. A widow, Say has lived in an informal settlement for the past 24 years. She raised her children there and now she is raising two of her grandchildren.

"Life here is not easy. She does not have running water supply. Her house is in a bad condition and she is constantly facing threats of eviction.

"With a secure, decent, affordable home, Say and her family will have peace of mind. They will also have hope for the future, as Say has somewhere stable, where she can to set up a small business.

"A home is so much more than a building.

"A decent, healthy home is a place where families like Say's can thrive. This year, you get to be part of that for 20 families!

"I have seen first-hand the difference these Global Village Builds can make for a family in need and even their communities. Since joining my first build with Habitat in Cambodia, back in 2009, I've been on a build in Nepal, and been back to Cambodia twice. And I can tell you, the difference is huge.

"From the 10<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> November you will be travelling with a team of 100 like-minded kiwis to Battambang Province in Northwest Cambodia. We will be joining 200 other volunteers from around the world, building alongside families in need.

"Whether you're a seasoned carpenter or have never been on a building site before, your help is equally valued. There is space for everyone and you will have the opportunity to try new things you didn't think were possible.

"A Global Village Build with Habitat is a unique experience. Seeing the joy in the families as they step into their new home is indescribable - there are not many experiences like it!

"Habitat changed my life. Why don't you let it change yours?

"If these dates don't work for you, check out our other Global Village Builds throughout 2017 and 2018.

**More:** [www.habitat.org.nz](http://www.habitat.org.nz)

**Source:** Habitat for Humanity, 7<sup>th</sup> June 2017. ❖

## 16<sup>th</sup> Australasian CSEAR Conference – CALL FOR PAPERS

"The conference will provide an important forum for interaction between academicians and practitioners, in order to enhance understanding of social and environmental accounting issues in various countries.

"The theme is 'Accountability, Climate Change and Social Enterprise'. All submissions must be received by 31<sup>st</sup> Aug.

"We invite ..... presentations on any aspect of social and environmental accounting. Topics of interest include, but are not limited to: ...

**Where/When:** Denarau, Fiji, 7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> December, 2017

**More:** [www.usp.ac.fj/acsear](http://www.usp.ac.fj/acsear)

**Source:** CSEAR, 9<sup>th</sup> June 2017. ❖

## Yoga Pants, Fleece Jackets and the Microplastics Dilemma

".... Microfibres are a huge source of pollution, but are they dangerous? It's seriously doubtful we're going to see a scientific study that demonstrates that animals eating plastic is a good thing. As such, many scientists agree there is cause for alarm and a solution must be found.

"What we do know is that plankton, mussels and clams eat fibres and can cause gut impaction and other serious digestive tract problems. We know one in four fish procured from a fish market in California has evidence of microfibre ingestion. We also know microfibres will attract and concentrate (up to a million times greater toxicity) other chemical pollutants present in water, and that after ingestion these toxins can leach from the plastic into an organism's tissues. Some clothing is also treated with dangerous chemicals that will desorb into water over time as well.

"So, although we don't know the ultimate human health connection implications yet from eating sea life, we know larger organisms eat smaller ones, and that pollutants thus magnify up the food chain.

"So what are clothing brands doing about it? Forward-thinking brands have acknowledged microfibre pollution is real, and apparel company Patagonia has commissioned a study to look at their products' contributions to the problem. But few brands have made any significant progress on mitigating their products' impact on the environment.

"In the six years since the first seminal study demonstrating microfibre pollution was published, no clothing company has abandoned synthetic fibres for use in their products. Instead, we've seen an increased use of synthetic textiles, especially polyester. Brands love polyester and other synthetics for their performance attributes: they repel water, wick sweat, and the fabric stretches without getting stretched out. Although cheap to produce, polyester is twice as carbon-intensive than the next most carbon-intensive material, cotton. ....

**More:** [www.greenbiz.com/article/yoga-pants-fleece-jackets-and-microplastics-dilemma](http://www.greenbiz.com/article/yoga-pants-fleece-jackets-and-microplastics-dilemma)

**Source:** The Good Stuff, 1<sup>st</sup> May 2017

**Editor:** Perhaps there's an opportunity here for NZ's wool! ❖

## How to Craft a Winning Sustainability Report

"It seems that the most successful sustainability reports are creative, educational, engaging, easy to read, and include elements like colourful infographics, based on the winners of the Corporate Register Reporting Awards. The Corporate Register reviewed 160 corporate responsibility and sustainability reports from 76 global organisations, evaluating factors such as creativity, whether its message was communicated well for its particular audience, and whether it was easy to read.

"Carnival Corporation's 100-page 2015 *Sustainability from Ship to Shore* report ranked first in the 'Creativity in Communication' category for its 'colourful and educational infographics and easy-to-understand messaging'; the report focused on its newly established 2020 sustainability goals and the progress the corporation has made so far.

**More:** [www.environmentalleader.com/2017/06/craft-winning-sustainability-report/](http://www.environmentalleader.com/2017/06/craft-winning-sustainability-report/)

**Source:** *Environmental Leader*, 13<sup>th</sup> June 2017. ❖

## TRANSPORT – Grand Coalition to Electrify New Zealand’s Company Car Fleets

“The New Zealand government and leading sustainable business organisations are working together to boost electric vehicles numbers in company fleets.

“The Electric Vehicles Partnership Programme was announced last May. It aims to develop the electric vehicle market and EV infrastructure in New Zealand. It has set a target to double the number of electric vehicles in New Zealand every year. This would mean reaching approximately 64,000 by 2021. According to the Ministry of Transport there are currently 3,576 EVs registered in New Zealand. That represents a 157% increase from 1,394 this time last year.

“The Electric Vehicle Secondary Procurement Process is part of this programme. It is a collaboration between the Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment, the Sustainable Business Network and the Sustainable Business Council (SBC). The aim is to show strong demand by uniting businesses and government procurers, with the aim of improving the pricing on electric vehicles. Expressions of interest have now gone out to an initial group of businesses and government agencies, many of which are SBN members.

“Phil Jones, SBN project lead, explains how it works. ....

**More:** <http://sustainable.org.nz/sustainability-news/transport-grand-coalition-to-electrify-new-zealands-company-car-fleets>

**Source:** SBN, 20<sup>th</sup> June 2017. ❖

## OECD (Again) Tells Us to Clean Up Our Climate Act

“New Zealand needs to set strong environmental limits and make polluters pay for the damage they do to the environment, the OECD says.

“This includes putting a realistic price on carbon and making farmers pay for biological emissions, it says.

“It’s the second time this year the organisation has criticised New Zealand’s failure to manage the environmental impact of economic growth.

“In March, in its 10-year environmental review of New Zealand, the OECD called for a price on greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture and warned that the country was running up against its environmental limits. .... [More. Copyrighted.]

Especially pertinent segments include;

- Page 62: Making growth more environmental sustainable
- Page 63: Addressing water quality and quantity challenges
- Page 64: Addressing threats of biodiversity
- Page 65: Reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

**More:** [www.oecd.org/newzealand/economic-survey-new-zealand.htm](http://www.oecd.org/newzealand/economic-survey-new-zealand.htm) plus [www.keepeek.com/Digital-Asset-Management/oecd/economics/oecd-economic-surveys-new-zealand-2017\\_eco\\_surveys-nzl-2017-en](http://www.keepeek.com/Digital-Asset-Management/oecd/economics/oecd-economic-surveys-new-zealand-2017_eco_surveys-nzl-2017-en) and [http://img.scoop.co.nz/media/pdfs/1706/OECD\\_Survey\\_2017\\_recommendations\\_for\\_release.pdf](http://img.scoop.co.nz/media/pdfs/1706/OECD_Survey_2017_recommendations_for_release.pdf) 176 pages, 4.06Mb

**Source:** *Carbon News*, 16<sup>th</sup> June 2017. ❖

## No More Business-as-Usual: Where to Now for International Trade?

“Chaired by AUT Adjunct Professor Rod Oram, this is the first of a series of conversations about the future of Aotearoa New Zealand in a global economy.

“This event will coincide with the launch of a discussion paper by the same name, which explores the future of trade in light of setbacks for TTIP and the TPP, the re-emergence of nationalist populism, and the signing of the Paris Agreement. Contributors to the report will participate in a discussion about where trade policy is heading, and where it should head, to contribute to long-term prosperity.

**When/Where:** 5:30-7:00pm, 13<sup>th</sup> July 2017, AUT, Auckland

**More:** <http://sustainable.org.nz/sustainable-business-events/auckland/no-more-business-as-usual-where-to-now-for-international-trade>

**Source:** SBN 15<sup>th</sup> June 2017. ❖

## Can Corporate Reporting Help End Poverty?

“Companies impact poverty, and poverty, in turn, impacts them. Businesses, therefore, have an important role to play in eradicating poverty and supporting sustainable development. The benefit is mutual – stronger economies and stable societies create vast opportunities for growth in new markets.

“Transparency is a key success factor in private sector efforts towards eradicating poverty. Businesses must have a way of measuring, monitoring, and communicating their commitment and impact on poverty alleviation.

“In September last year, GRI embarked on a research project to uncover the concrete connections between sustainability reporting and poverty alleviation, through a series of focus groups, interviews, a deep-dive case study by the Overseas Development Institute (ODI), and an extensive analysis of sustainability reports. The research project, ..... has culminated in a new GRI publication *Can corporate reporting help end poverty?* The publication presents vital findings from this research project, such as the need for companies to move beyond philanthropy and community engagement, towards strategies with large-scale impacts.

“The research revealed that companies do report on their efforts to alleviate poverty: of the 107 reports analysed, 72% included information about the company’s impact on ending poverty. ...

“With businesses under pressure to drive sustainable economic development, it is important to understand the motivations that drive private sector actions towards fighting poverty, and to identify areas that need attention. Sustainability reporting provides insights into the predominant thinking of businesses and presents the context in which the bulk of their activities occur. Next to helping companies optimise and communicate their impacts on poverty, sustainability reporting also allows policy makers, investors, civil society and other stakeholders to gauge the commitment of companies towards poverty, and take action.

**More:** [www.globalreporting.org/information/news-and-press-center/Pages/Can-corporate-reporting-help-end-poverty.aspx](http://www.globalreporting.org/information/news-and-press-center/Pages/Can-corporate-reporting-help-end-poverty.aspx) plus [www.globalreporting.org/resource/library/GRI-Poverty-Study-Publication.pdf](http://www.globalreporting.org/resource/library/GRI-Poverty-Study-Publication.pdf), 55 pages, 2.4Mb

**Source:** GRI, 8<sup>th</sup> June 2017. ❖

## Why Companies in the Chemicals Industry Are Mixing

“As spring arrives, the hills of Languedoc in southern France turn green with the leaves of grapevines. This is helped along by chemicals – lots of them, confides a winemaker based near the town of Thuir in the Pyrenees. In their absence, vineyards would need natural fertilisers and to be weeded by hand, both costly. French farmers use more chemicals than anyone else in Europe: 65,000 tonnes of pesticides alone each year.

“Even the smallest of vine-growers has an interest in a series of takeovers proposed between their chemicals suppliers. After a decade without any big deals, since 2015 three mega-mergers, collectively worth around \$240bn, have been proposed. When they were first announced, many doubted regulators would allow the mergers because of competition worries. If all three proceed, as now seems likely, four companies will produce 70% of the world’s pesticides instead of six today.

“The first mega-merger, announced in Dec. 2015, was between Dow Chemical and DuPont, the world’s 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> most valuable chemicals firms, in a \$130bn deal. It was the largest-ever tie-up in the industry, and triggered other liaisons ....

“But farmers are also fearful. They don’t want to become over-dependent on a set of seeds and chemicals made by a single firm. All three of the mega-mergers are between one firm focused on seeds and another on agrichemicals. Many farmers are worried this will mean they will be forced to use pesticides made by the same firm that produces the seeds they buy.....

**More:** [www.economist.com/news/business/21722701-farmers-chagrin-deal-mania-has-seized-chemicals-suppliers-why-companies-chemicals](http://www.economist.com/news/business/21722701-farmers-chagrin-deal-mania-has-seized-chemicals-suppliers-why-companies-chemicals)

**Source:** SumOfUs, 13<sup>th</sup> June 2017. ❖

## Stop Insuring Climate Disaster

By [Bill McKibben](#)

“Last month [April], the United Kingdom enjoyed its first full day without the need for coal power since the Industrial Revolution began. That’s remarkable news – and a sign of the future to come as the country that began humanity’s centuries-long romance with burning black rocks is now moving on.

“Just as the fax gave way to email and whale oil gave way to kerosene, so is coal giving way to cleaner forms of energy. And that handover will happen faster – perhaps fast enough to let us at least slow down the pace of climate change – if the massive and mighty insurance industry would play its part.

“By underwriting the development of our industrial society and the coal that has powered it, the insurance industry was one of the Industrial Revolution’s crucial but often overlooked enablers.

“This has only been made possible by the insurers’, said Henry Ford, looking at the New York skyline: ‘With no insurance, there would be no skyscrapers. No investor would finance buildings that one cigarette butt could burn to the ground.’

“Through their ability to spread risk across broad portfolios, insurers have enabled high-risk activities for centuries. And that is also true of activities that contribute to the highest risk in human history: global warming.

“While insurance industry representatives declare their intent and passion to rein in climate change and ensure a liveable planet, in the back rooms their agents are still busy working their financial magic to underwrite new coal-fired power stations, oil rigs, tar sands projects, gas pipelines, and other polluting projects. Many of these projects would not be viable without the services provided by insurance companies around the world.....

“On moral and economic grounds, the time has come for others to follow AXA’s lead and recognise fossil fuels are uninsurable. For these companies – and for the rest of us – the best insurance is to keep fossil fuels where they belong: in the ground.

**More:** [www.eco-business.com/opinion/stop-insuring-climate-disaster](http://www.eco-business.com/opinion/stop-insuring-climate-disaster)

**Source:** eco-Business.com, 9<sup>th</sup> May 2017. ❖

## e-Calc™ – ‘Know the Payback’

“After four years in development, Energy and Technical Services of Wellington has launched the latest software of their offering known as e-Calc™.

“e-Calc™ is a comprehensive business improvement tool, with a focus on energy and sustainability. It has been built to bring financial transparency to the implementation of energy and sustainability actions. In other words knowing the payback that comes from a sustainability programme.

“That sustainability pays is without any doubt. It is where many efficiencies can be found and an efficient business should be rewarded with increased profitability.

“There are 22 different categories available in e-Calc™ where we see a business can measure efficiencies. The software is based on a benefits protocol designed in-house, based on the IPMVP.

**More:** [www.energyts.com](http://www.energyts.com), plus <http://mnv.lbl.gov/keyMnVDocs/ipmvp> also [www.environmentalleader.com/2017/04/nearly-half-fortune-500-goals-cut-greenhouse-gases/](http://www.environmentalleader.com/2017/04/nearly-half-fortune-500-goals-cut-greenhouse-gases/) and [www.environmentalleader.com/2017/02/sustainable-procurement-increases-revenue-growth-study-says/](http://www.environmentalleader.com/2017/02/sustainable-procurement-increases-revenue-growth-study-says/)

**Source:** Geoff Bennett, ETS, 15<sup>th</sup> June 2017

**Editor:** ETS were 2<sup>nd</sup> place winners in the ‘Outstanding performance for a smaller organisation’ in the Enviro-Mark awards, reducing their own GHG footprint by 67%. ETS has also developed a *Benefits Protocol* which outlines the rationale, categories and calculations for savings and cost avoidance for energy and sustainability management improvements. ❖

## Enviro-Mark Solutions Awards Celebrate Massive Carbon Reductions

“The award winners have achieved a net reduction of 10,385 tonnes of carbon over the past year – that’s the equivalent of driving from Cape Reinga to Bluff more than 20,000 times or flying from Auckland to London more than 1300 times or burning 5000 tonnes of coal.

“Enviro-Mark Solutions CEO Dr Ann Smith says tonight’s [6<sup>th</sup> June 2017] awards celebrate the best of the best when it comes to carbon emissions reduction and environmental management. ‘Tonight’s award winners have embraced the reality of the current business and consumer landscape and are reaping the benefits of their environmental programmes’, she says. ‘It’s not just about winning awards but reducing costs and gaining new business as well.’

“Dr Smith says consumers increasingly want credibility and transparency and expect businesses to take responsibility for the environmental impacts of their products and services. ‘Environmental certification helps enhance brand value and stakeholder perception. All participants in environmental certification programmes can talk credibly about their achievements but the winners of these awards have some great stories to tell.’

“Auckland graphic design agency gardyneHOLT was the winner in the Outstanding Performance in Carbon Management, Small Organisation, while Auckland War Memorial Museum took out the award in the Outstanding Performance in Carbon Management, Medium Organisation.

“Kapiti Coast District Council won the Outstanding Performance in Carbon Management, Large Organisation award. The Outstanding Performance in Carbon Product Footprint Management went to Ricoh New Zealand while Recreational Services Ltd took out the Outstanding Performance in Environmental Management Award. ....

**More:** <https://nzbusiness.co.nz/news-items/enviro-mark-solutions-awards-celebrate-massive-carbon-reductions>, plus <http://idealog.co.nz/etc/2017/06/check-out-winners-enviro-mark-solutions-awards>

**Source:** Bronwyn Cook, Enviro-Mark, 8<sup>th</sup> June 2017.

## World’s Largest Tidal Power Project Approved for Construction in Indonesia

“The \$550m project has been welcomed as an alternative energy source to coal. The Indonesian government has given the green light for the development of the Palmerah Tidal Bridge, the world’s largest tidal power plant, located off the island of Flores.

“The project includes construction of an 800m-long floating bridge which encompasses the plant and crosses the Larantuka Strait, connecting the islands of Flores and Andonara. The first phase, which has a contract value of up to \$200 million and is expected to be completed by the end of 2019, will deliver power capacity of 18 to 23 MW, providing enough electricity for 100,000 people in the area. The project will later be extended and finalised, so the installed capacity will reach 90 MW to 115 MW, providing energy for more than half a million people. The total project duration is expected to span four years, with a contract value of up to \$550 million.

“Although it is a relatively uncommon form of renewable energy, tidal power is a potentially more reliable power source than wind or the sun and Indonesia is an ideal location for such projects, due to the strong ocean currents that move between the thousands of islands in the world’s largest archipelago.

**More:** [www.thecivilengineer.org/news-center/latest-news/item/1307-world-s-largest-tidal-power-project-approved-for-construction-in-indonesia](http://www.thecivilengineer.org/news-center/latest-news/item/1307-world-s-largest-tidal-power-project-approved-for-construction-in-indonesia)

**Source:** Eva Karouki LinkedIn, Environmental Consulting Professionals, 4<sup>th</sup> June 2017. ❖

Contributions and feedback are welcomed.

Send your news items, handy hints, case studies, suggestions, comments and questions to Ray Skinner of *Sustainability Matters*.  
eMail: [ray@sustainabilitymatters.co.nz](mailto:ray@sustainabilitymatters.co.nz) Phone: +64 (09) 443 0773 Web: [www.sustainabilitymatters.co.nz](http://www.sustainabilitymatters.co.nz)