The learning and implementation programme for finance leaders embedding sustainability.
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“The A4S Academy is a brilliant way for finance professionals to connect themselves to the latest thinking and a growing network of support.”
Gregor Alexander
FD, SSE

Contact us: academy@a4s.org

Attending the courses, listening to my peers and being involved in a specific project around sustainability has provided opportunities that will be valuable in my everyday life going forward.

Marco Marchini
Senior Vice President - EMEA Accounting, Moody’s

A4S Academy provided us a great forum to exchange thoughts with other professionals from various organizations working on climate and sustainability.

Supriya Sobti
Head of Regulatory Assurance, NatWest Group

Participation gave me clarity on the ‘how to’. Practical examples of different techniques were very useful – where people are using finance tools to make more sustainable decisions. One such technique that stuck with me was capitals budgeting – setting budgets in non-monetary terms.

Stephanie Crinnegan
Senior Investor Relations Manager, Burberry

“I attended several courses and I have taken away a deeper understanding of the integration of Sustainability into the existing financial framework. Being part of a project has helped us understand the integration of sustainability metrics into the existing financial framework.”

Peter Giddy
Head of Product Development, Co-operative Bank

Moody’s

BURBERRY
LONDON, ENGLAND
The A4S Academy is a learning and implementation programme for finance leaders to embed sustainability.

The programme empowers and equips finance teams with the skills needed for their businesses to succeed in the face of environmental and social risks and opportunities. The Academy is for senior finance professionals, sponsored by their CFOs. All sessions are being held online.

The Academy is focused on practical implementation, with structured support provided for participants. The programme draws on leading practice and helps participants to utilize the right tools and guidance developed for finance, including the A4S Essential Guide Series. Participants have access to a variety of knowledge-based materials, experienced practitioners and skills development sessions to support them.

"A finance team’s reputation is based on ‘know how’. The access and insights on offer from the A4S Academy are essential for any finance professionals looking at how to embed sustainability. It’s through initiatives like this that the profession will maintain relevance and shape the future.”

Mark Kaye
CFO, Moody’s
The A4S Academy experience commences with an introductory pre-work which helps participants become familiar with the topic of sustainability for finance. A Kick-off call will help establish organizational needs.

Participants are supported in the successful delivery of their plans through regular interaction and check-in calls. This will include access to new content, case studies and interactive webinars.

Having completed the interactive seminars, participants are supported to put what they have learned into practice through designing a personalised 12-month implementation plan, specific to their role and organization’s objectives. They must then agree these plans with their CFO.

Participants then take part in a series of mandatory and optional live seminars, delivered flexibly to accommodate different time zones and busy diaries. They include inspiration sessions with CFOs, technical tools and know-how seminars, and leadership and influence skills development.

Following graduation, participants will join our alumni network. The network provides ongoing support, and members have access to events and new content from A4S. More information on the network can be found on the academy alumni page of our website.
The Academy benefits both the participant and their organization. This is achieved through equipping participants with technical know how, empowering them with leadership and influencing skills, and connecting them to peer resources and networks.

**THE BENEFITS**

**EQUIPPING WITH TECHNICAL KNOW HOW**

Equipping finance professionals with new knowledge, tools and guidance is a key focus for the Academy. C-suite executives and industry leaders will provide insights into the challenges and opportunities for finance professionals to implement sustainable change.

86% of participants have said they gained the technical knowledge to lead on change.

**EMPOWERING WITH LEADERSHIP AND INFLUENCING SKILLS**

Strong leadership is vital to the success of any change programme. Embedding sustainability into finance is no different. Participation in the Academy will enhance leadership and influence skills, helping to empower participants to apply their new knowledge and drive the necessary change.

91% of participants have felt empowered to drive change as a result of the Academy.

**CONNECTING TO PEER RESOURCES AND NETWORKS**

Leading organizations and finance professionals have created the learning materials, case studies, presentations and webinars that make up the programme. The Academy provides a unique opportunity to network with peers, share best practice and exchange insights. The connections formed will provide active support as the participants progress through the programme and into the alumni network.

100% of participants reported that their participation made an impact on ESG integration in their company within a year.

**CONTINUED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT / EDUCATION (CPD / CPE)**

Developing the knowledge and skills to create sustainable value is vitally important for the profession. That’s why professional bodies are recognizing our programme as part of their CPD/CPE processes. Find out if you can earn CPD/CPE credits from your professional body through attendance.
ELIGIBILITY

Participants must be sponsored by their Chief Financial Officer (CFO).
Participants must have the capacity and aspiration to lead and/or influence change within the finance function.
CFOs are invited to nominate attendees with a level of seniority comparable with:
• For FTSE100, S&P 500 or equivalent, divisional CFO or functional head.
• For smaller organizations, roles directly reporting to the CFO.

Typical participants include: Divisional CFOs, Controllers, Treasurers, Head of Investor Relations, Head of Internal Audit, Financial, Planning & Analysis Leaders, Head of Financial Reporting.
Some knowledge of, and interest in, sustainability issues may be useful, but is not essential.

*Please note we have made provisions for subsidized attendances for representatives from emerging markets. Please get in touch with us via academy@a4s.org for further information.

COST

£4,500 per participant*

“I sponsored two of my employees to attend the A4S Academy, and I was delighted to see them return empowered, inspired and full of ideas about how we can make an impact.”

Kate Bowyer
CFO, The Crown Estate
PREVIOUS PARTICIPANTS

273 participants from 139 organizations have already taken part in the A4S Academy, including:

- 3i
- Allianz Global Investors
- Archos Daniels Midland (ADM)
- ARUP
- Autodesk
- Bank of America Merrill Lynch
- British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC)
- Brookfield Asset Management
- Burberry
- Capita
- Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec (CDPQ)
- Cantica
- Chanel
- Cisco Systems
- City of Vancouver
- Deutsche Post DHL
- Diageo
- Direct Line Group
- Equinix
- Fannie Mae
- Gap
- GSK
- Greggs
- Grosvenor
- Heathrow Airport
- IHG Hotels & Resorts
- Intel
- Landsec
- Legal & General Group
- LEGO
- Levi Strauss & Co.
- Mars, Inc.
- MassMutual
- McDonald’s
- Moody’s Corporation
- National Grid
- NatWest Group
- NU Mutual
- Olam International Limited
- OMERS
- Ontario Teachers’ Pension Plan
- Persimmon
- Procter & Gamble
- Royal DSM
- S&P Global
- Santosbury
- Salesforca.com
- SAP
- Schneider Electric
- Siemens
- Skira
- Sky TV
- SSE
- Sweco UK
- Tata Chemicals
- Telus Corporation
- Tamasek International
- Tesco
- The Co-operators Group
- The Crown Estate
- TIME
- Unilever
- Unitald Utilities Group
- Verizon
- West African Monetary Institute
- Zurich Insurance

Participation in the A4S Academy demonstrated to me the breadth of businesses that are dealing with these important questions and the breadth of solutions that are being considered, across different countries and sectors.

Mike Parr
Head of Corporate Finance, Crown Estate

Participation in the A4S Academy forced me to think beyond my current role and mandate – it made me seek out an idea, partner with others in my organization and incorporate Academy content. It prompted me to find opportunities for change and to make space for sustainability.

Hrag Kakousian,
Vice President, Financial Accounting Services
The Co-operators Group
HOW TO TAKE PART

To take part in the programme you will need to meet the criteria for joining.

Register your interest via our website.

Upcoming programmes will be advertised on our website and publicized in our newsletter. We look forward to welcoming you to the programme.

OUR WEBSITE
www.accountingforsustainability.org/academy

OUR EMAIL ADDRESS
academy@a4s.org

ABOUT A4S

Accounting for Sustainability (A4S) was established by HRH The Prince of Wales in 2004. Our aim is to make sustainable decision making business as usual.

We work with the finance and accounting community to:

- Inspire finance leaders to adopt sustainable and resilient business models.
- Transform financial decision making to enable an integrated approach, reflective of the opportunities and risks posed by environmental and social issues.
- Scale up action across the global finance and accounting community.

A4S has three global networks: the Chief Financial Officers Leadership Network, a group of CFOs from leading organizations seeking to transform finance and accounting; the Accounting Bodies Network whose members comprise approximately two thirds of the world’s accountants; and the Asset Owners Network which brings together Pension Fund Chairs to integrate sustainability into investment.

REGISTER FOR OUR NEWSLETTER:
www.accountingforsustainability.org/newsletter

“At Burberry we are passionate about making a positive contribution to our industry, our communities and the environment. Our finance team are essential to driving our values, which is why the A4S Academy is a perfect fit for us.”

Julie Brown
CFO, Burberry