

Shell, Rio Tinto, Chevron, Anglo American and De Beers to Discuss CSR Risk in the Extractive Industry

The Dow Chemical Company (NYSE: DOW) today announced its recommitment to Habitat for Humanity International, which marks the company's 30th anniversary of financial, volunteer and product contributions to Habitat to support the goal of creating safe, affordable housing in partnership with low-income families around the world.

Dow was one of Habitat's first corporate partners, and over its three-plus decades has been instrumental in the construction of nearly 39,000 homes in 24 countries on six continents, including in Ghana, Africa, for the first time in 2013.

"Dow and Habitat understand the importance of providing safe, affordable housing and giving families that much needed hand up toward a better future," said Bo Miller, global director for Corporate Citizenship at Dow. "Our 30-year partnership illustrates this commitment and passion for improving lives, and we are proud that our efforts are truly making a difference."

Since 1983, thousands of Dow volunteers have helped families realize the dream of home ownership. In addition to financial and product contributions, Dow provides subject matter experts in energy efficiency and conservation in the construction of homes.

"We are so grateful to Dow for reaching out to Habitat to become one of our first national corporate partners and for helping to build thousands of homes during the last 30 years," said Jonathan Reckford, CEO of Habitat for Humanity International. "I have had the privilege of working with Dow associates all over the world and so appreciate the contributions both of the organization and the individual supporters. Dow helped us create the model for developing crucial corporate partnerships and has been pivotal in helping us building homes, communities and hope."

Dow and Habitat share a goal to develop communities by building, repairing and rehabilitating houses. Dow's partnership with Habitat focuses on finding creative ways to leverage its products, experience in energy efficiency and conservation, and people to have a positive impact on the need for affordable housing. Dow also works with Habitat by providing personnel who serve as board members at the local and international levels.

Dow engages a holistic approach with Habitat, contributing not only funds and energy saving insulation products, but significant volunteer support that is needed to bring construction projects and the homeowners' dreams to life. This approach aligns with a number of Dow's 2015 Sustainability Goals, including those related to energy efficiency, community success and local protection of human health and the environment.

As part of its anniversary commitment, Dow volunteers are helping to build homes in 30 communities and the company has pledged more than \$1.3 million in funding. Additionally, Dow anticipates gift-in-kind contributions of STYROFOAMTM brand insulation products of \$4 million. To date, Dow has contributed \$56.9 million in cumulative giving to Habitat.

About Dow

Ethical Corporation, the leading business intelligence company for sustainability, today announced that 25+ foremost oil, gas and mining companies will meet at a two day summit this April to debate the future of CSR in their industry.

‘Risk’ not ‘responsibility’ is the watchword of 2013, says Tom Burke, Climate Change Advisor to Rio Tinto. ‘Business needs to wake up to the interconnected nature of risks such as resource security and climate change.’

A lot has changed in the last 12 months for companies operating in this industry: the emergence of SEC regulations on conflict minerals, requirements for more financial transparency, the EU Accounting and Transparency Directives and John Ruggie’s Principles on Human Rights, among others. The frequent lack of clarity on what these laws and guidelines mean in practice is driving the extractive sector to re-think the way they operate.

More than ever, social performance and community engagement are key to securing a social license to operate, as echoed by Anglo American’s Head of Social Performance, Jon Samuel. When asked what the firm’s priorities were, he said: ‘Boosting community development impact through leveraging our core business more effectively, implementing ways to get good social performance widely recognised by key external stakeholders, managing social risks in our capital project pipeline, and ensuring that we are fully compliant with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.’

Toby Webb, Ethical Corporations Founder said: ‘This event is the meeting place for all social/environmental/CSR departments in the extractive industry – this year is looking better than ever, we’re introducing new conference formats including round tables and focused panel debates to generate more robust, in-depth discussion on these key topics. We’re looking forward to it!’

Scheduled to speak at the event are:

* Anglo American* *Shell * *Anglo Gold Ashanti* *Arcelor Mittal* *Chevron* * IPIECA* *Calvert* * De Beers Group* *Ethical Corporation* *Fauna and Flora International* *First Peoples* *Care* *ICMM* *Global Witness* *Institute for Human Rights & Business* *Fundacion Chile* *Centerra Gold* *Nordic Mining* *Publish What You Pay* *Repsol* *Rio Tinto* *Trafigura*

Ethical Corporation’s summit will focus on a variety of CSR topics and address the social and environmental risks affecting large extractive corporations.

It will tackle human rights, regulations on transparency and conflict minerals, stakeholder and community engagement as well as environmental performance, biodiversity and more.

To have a full run down of the conference, please visit the 4th annual CSR for Extractives Industries Summit.

For more information please contact Elina Yumasheva at elina.yumasheva@ethicalcorp.com or +44 (0) 20 7375 7573.

Ethical Corporation provides business intelligence for sustainability to more than 3,000 multinational companies every year. We publish the leading responsible business magazine, website, and research reports. Our conferences are widely recognised as the best in the field of corporate responsibility and sustainability.

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