

# Maya Forstater

[hiyamaya@gmail.com](mailto:hiyamaya@gmail.com) @mforstater  
[www.hiyamaya.wordpress.com](http://www.hiyamaya.wordpress.com)

## Overview

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I am a researcher, writer and advisor working on the role of the private sector in sustainable development, and a Visiting Fellow at the Centre for Global Development. I have worked as an independent consultant and has worked with businesses, governments, NGOs, International Organisations and multi-sector collaborations over the past 20 years in setting up, supporting and researching initiatives aimed at reshaping the landscape for governments, business and citizen participation, towards sustainable development.

Most recently I have been the Senior Researcher for the UNEP Inquiry into The Design of a Sustainable Financial System. Previously I have worked on projects with organisations including AccountAbility, the Center for Global Development, Overseas Development Institute, International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD), UNIDO and UNICEF ; companies including General Electric, Anglo Gold Ashanti and Westfield and business organisations the International Council on Mining and Minerals and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development; and multi-sector collaborations such as the Global Green Growth Initiative (3GF), Open Government Partnership, and the Ethical Trading Initiative. I also helped to set up the UK campaign 'Let Toys Be Toys'.

## Experience

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### Visiting Fellow, Center for Global Development

November 2016 -

### Senior Researcher, UNEP Inquiry into the Design of a Sustainable Financial System

(consultant) Jan 2014 – July 2016

Managing pipeline of Inquiry research outputs (70+ reports) plus a global report launched at the IMF Annual Meetings in Lima in 2015. Now working on the ongoing work of the Inquiry, including supporting the G20 Green Finance Study Group.

### Independent Advisor and Researcher

2000 – present

Working with research institutions including the Center for Global Development, Overseas Development Institute, Oxford Climate Policy and Project Catalyst; companies including General Electric, Anglo Gold Ashanti and Westfield; international organisations including UNIDO and UNICEF; and multi-sector collaborations such as the Global Green Growth Initiative, Open Government Partnership, International Council on Mining and Minerals and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development both independently and as an associate of Simon Zadek.

### Developer and editor, Open Government Guide

(consultant) 2012-2014

Developed and established the online Open Government Guide resource for the Transparency and Accountability Initiative and Open Government Partnership –working with over 30 organisations as expert contributors.

### Senior Researcher, South African Renewable Initiative

(consultant) 2010 – 2012

Led and managed policy and economic research in the development of this international partnership to enable the scaling up of renewables in South Africa.

### Senior Associate, Institute for Social and Ethical AccountAbility

(consultant) 2003- 2009

Led research on advancing sustainability practices in business and economies.

### Researcher, development coordinator, New Economics Foundation

1996-1999

Research and development in support of the Ethical Trading Initiative and other areas of corporate social responsibility.



## Research and Writing

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- Forstater, Maya (2016) Illicit Financial Flows and Trade Misinvoicing: Are We Looking Under the Wrong Lamppost?, CMI Insights Briefing, Chr Michelson Institute, Bergen (forthcoming).
- Forstater, Maya, Mark Halle and Simon Zadek (2016) Green Finance for Developing Countries: Needs, Concerns and Innovations. UNEP Inquiry into the Design of a Sustainable Financial System.
- Forstater, Maya (2015) Can Stopping 'Tax Dodging' by Multinational Enterprises Close the Gap in Development Finance? CGD Policy Paper 069, Center for Global Development, Washington DC.
- Forstater, Maya and Katherine Madden (2013) Partnerships for Green Growth: Through the Value Chain Lens, 3GF, Copenhagen.
- Zadek, Simon, Maya Forstater and Sharmala Naidoo (2012) Shaping a Sustainable Future: Exploring the role of development cooperation in delivering sustainable development, UN DCF(Background Paper to UN Development Cooperation Report).
- Zadek, Simon, Maya Forstater and Kelly Yu (2012- Forthcoming) The Political Economy of Corporate Citizenship in China, Journal of Current Chinese Affairs.
- Forstater, Maya (2012) A Commentary on Barriers and Drivers to Renewable Energy Investment in Sub-Saharan Africa, Journal Of Environmental Investing, Vol 2, No 1
- Zadek, Simon, Maya Forstater and Kelly Yu (2012) Corporate Responsibility and Sustainable Economic Development in China: Implications for Business, US Chamber of Commerce, Washington DC.
- Zadek, Simon, Maya Forstater, Fernanda Polacow (2012) Win-Win-Win?: Trialing an Approach to Catalyzing Climate, Community and Economic Sustainability at the Core of the Amazon, Amazonas Sustainable Foundation, Sao Paulo.
- Forstater, Maya (2012), Towards Climate Finance Transparency, Publish What You Fund, London.
- Zadek, Simon, Maya Forstater, Kelly Yu and Jon Kornik (2010), ICT and Low Carbon Development in China, Digital Energy Solutions Campaign, Beijing.
- Zadek, Simon, Maya Forstater, Edwin Ritchkin, Saliem Fakir, Jon Kornik and Joerg Haas (2010) Unlocking South Africa's Green Growth Potential: the South African Renewables Initiative, Department of Trade and Industry, Government of South Africa.
- Zadek, Simon, Edwin Ritchkin, Saliem Fakir, and Maya Forstater (2010) The South African Renewables Initiative: Advancing South Africa's Low Carbon Industrial and Economic Strategy, DTI, Government of the Republic of South Africa, Pretoria
- Forstater, Maya, Simon Zadek, Yang Guang, Kelly Yu, Chen Xiaohong, Mark George (2010), Corporate Responsibility in African Development: Insights from an Emerging Dialogue, Institute of West Asian and African Studies of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Working Paper 60, Corporate Social Responsibility Initiative, Harvard Kennedy School, Cambridge, Mass.
- Zadek, Simon, Chen Xiaohong, Li Zhaoxi, Jia Tao, Zhou Yan, Li Guoqiang, Kelly Yu, Maya Forstater, Guy Morgan (2009) Responsible Business in Africa: Chinese Business Leaders' Perspectives on Performance and Enhancement Opportunities Working Paper 54, Corporate Social Responsibility Initiative, Harvard Kennedy School, Cambridge, Mass.
- Zadek, Simon, Maya Forstater, Fernanda Polacow and João Boffino (2009) Radical Simplicity in Designing National Climate Institutions: Lessons from the Amazon Fund, AccountAbility, London.
- Ballard, Tamsin, Christopher Bray, Maya Forstater, Guy Howard, Mandy Rambharos, Sunny Sehgal and Simon Zadek (2009) Meeting the Climate Challenge: Using Public Funds to Leverage Private Investment in Developing Countries; Chapter on Adaptation, LSE Grantham Institute, London.



Forstater, Maya and Simon Zadek (2009) *Low Carbon Growth Plans: Assessing Current Practice*, European Climate Foundation and Project Catalyst, London.

Forstater, Maya, Simon Zadek and Saliem Huq (2009) *The Business of Adaptation*, AccountAbility, London.

Rochlin, Steve, Simon Zadek and Maya Forstater (2008) *Governing Collaboration: Making partnerships accountable for delivering development*, AccountAbility, London.

Forstater, Maya and Jeanette Oleschagel (2007) *What Assures Consumers on Climate Change*, AccountAbility, London.

Zadek, Simon, Maya Forstater and Jeanette Oleschagel (2007) *What Assures Consumers?* (2007) AccountAbility, London.

Zadek, Simon, Chris Tuppen, Maya Forstater and Jeanette Oleschagel (2006) *The Materiality Report: Aligning Strategy Performance and Reporting*, AccountAbility, London.

Forstater, Maya and Peter Raynard (2002) *Corporate Social Responsibility: Implications for Small and Medium Enterprises in Developing Countries*, UNIDO, Vienna.

Forstater, Maya, Peter Raynard and Jaqui MacDonald (2002) *Business and Poverty: Bridging the Gap*, International Business Leaders Forum, London.

Zadek, Simon, Sanjiv Lingavah and Maya Forstater (1998) *Selling Ethics: Understanding How Social Labels Work*, European Commission, Brussels.

Zadek, Simon and Maya Forstater (1999) "Making Civil Regulation Work" (with M Forstater) in M Addo (editor) (1999) *Human Rights Standards and the Responsibility of Transnational Corporations*, Kluwer, Hague

Zadek, Simon, Maya Forstater and Maggie Burns (1997) *Open Trading: Options for Effective Monitoring of Corporate Codes of Conduct*. NEF/CIIR. London.

## Development and Editing

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Greening China's Financial System – <http://unepinquiry.org/publication/greening-chinas-financial-system/> IISD, UNEP Inquiry, Development Research Center (series editor)

UNEP Inquiry Reports [www.unepinquiry.org](http://www.unepinquiry.org) (editor/ researcher)

Open Government Guide [www.opengovguide.com](http://www.opengovguide.com) (developer/editor)

Green Growth Best Practices Initiative [www.ggbp.org/](http://www.ggbp.org/) (editor)

Children's Rights and Business: Workbook for UNICEF (2011)

GE Sustainability report: Advising, developing content and writing case studies for GE's sustainability reporting

World Business Council for Sustainable development: training materials, conference reports, articles and reports on topics including energy efficiency, human resources, corporate responsibility standards and mobility. (2006-2011)

RESPONSE Project –Final report of the EABIS/INSEAD flagship research project (2007)

Community Development training toolkit – Developed an integrated, participative workshop package for the International Council on Mining and Metals on Mining and Community Development (2007)



## Work on tax and illicit financial flows

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*“Researcher Maya Forstater has done valuable service in puncturing the extravagant claims of campaigners that the lives of the poorest people could be transformed by money from behind the tree. “*

[John Kay, FT December 2015](#)

In addition to my work on aspects of business and sustainable development working for various organisations, I have followed and written on tax and corporate responsibility over recent years and built up strong networks in this area.

In 2015 I wrote a policy paper for the Centre for Global Development: Can Stopping 'Tax Dodging' by Multinational Enterprises Close the Gap in Development Finance? <http://www.cgdev.org/publication/can-stopping-tax-dodging-multinational-enterprises-close-gap-development-finance> including convening an advisory group from tax practitioners, NGOs and academia. I also wrote a short briefing paper: [www.cgdev.org/publication/ft/international-tax-transparency-and-finance-development-short-guide-perplexed?](http://www.cgdev.org/publication/ft/international-tax-transparency-and-finance-development-short-guide-perplexed?)

I have also written several articles:

**On my personal website:** [www.hiyamaya.wordpress.com](http://www.hiyamaya.wordpress.com)

**For Tax Journal**

[www.taxjournal.com/content/maya-forstater](http://www.taxjournal.com/content/maya-forstater)

**For the Centre for Global Development**

[www.cgdev.org/blog/talking-about-tax-taxing-pretending-it-simple-will-hurt-poor](http://www.cgdev.org/blog/talking-about-tax-taxing-pretending-it-simple-will-hurt-poor)

[www.cgdev.org/blog/malawi-cant-afford-evidence-free-tax-campaigns](http://www.cgdev.org/blog/malawi-cant-afford-evidence-free-tax-campaigns)

**For the Global Anti-Corruption Blog:**

[www.globalanticorruptionblog.com/2016/03/23/wags-whats-the-harm](http://www.globalanticorruptionblog.com/2016/03/23/wags-whats-the-harm)

I have presented to the CBI Tax Committee, The Global Tax Executives Study Group, = the NGO ONE and the Natural Resource Governance Institute and at a panel event hosted by the ODI, and have co-facilitated cross-sector meetings with Will Morris at St Martins in the Fields.

## Education

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BSc First Class, Agriculture, University of Newcastle upon Tyne, June 1996