



NEWSLETTER Autumn 2023

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What's next for STAR?

STAR International

Sara Wilkinson has been working with teams from the RESCUE (Real Estate & Sustainable Crisis Management) project, to take STAR International! This project is funded by the Academy of Finland for 2.5m Euros for 4 years. The project includes Aalto University, Turku University, University of Tampere, and UTS to explore urban futures. Sara is invited to present on the STAR Toolkit at the end of project conference in November 2023.

Sustainable Temporary Adaptive Reuse (STAR) Toolkit

Results from Workshop 02

In February 2023, the second STAR workshop was held in-person at the Ultimo Campus, UTS in Sydney. The workshop attracted 28 attendees, with 18 property sector stakeholders and 10 participants representing end-users or organisations. The workshop aimed to inform the participants of and elucidate what Social Attributes are deemed significant by the wider property community. Workshop attendees participated in ranking various social attributes as well as sharing their ideas and perspectives throughout the various presentations and professional Q&As. Speaker David Harding from Business NSW presented an in-depth perspective piece on the current state of the market from the view of the end-user, as well as valuers, policy makers and other industry leaders. Bron Belcher from School House Studios then provided a valuable insight into how not-for-profit art collectives operate in underutilised spaces and the difficulties of establishing new collectives due to current regulation and lack of resources. Several social attributes were made immediately clear as to their relative importance in establishing Social Value for underused spaces, with a heavy emphasis on community benefits, and developing a sense of place for users.

During the Q&A it was made evident that there was a significant lack of resources for both the end –user and stakeholder who are interested in moving forward with STAR concepts. However, most importantly was the agreement that regulation and valuation is not currently on-board with STAR principles and the concepts of Social Value, with many stakeholders being unable to implement Social causes in their buildings due to legislative or insurance complications.





Sustainable Temporary Adaptive Reuse (STAR) Toolkit

STAR Publications

Coming up: ESGs & STAR

- STAR Architectural Competition: the power of design to convert office buildings to mixed use or new uses.
- Workshop 03: round table with National Construction Code certifiers to discuss pathways for compliance.

TWATs – The 5th Estate

Prof. Sara Wilkinson has written an article about ESG and STAR in the Australian context, with an emphasis on an evolving city and need for workers who only come to work on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays to get back into the city and enjoy the vibrancy that could be offered through STAR. The article discusses many of the themes from Workshop 02, with some photos from the day.

[Web link.](#)

ESG, as Easy as 1, 2, 3 – Built Environment Economist

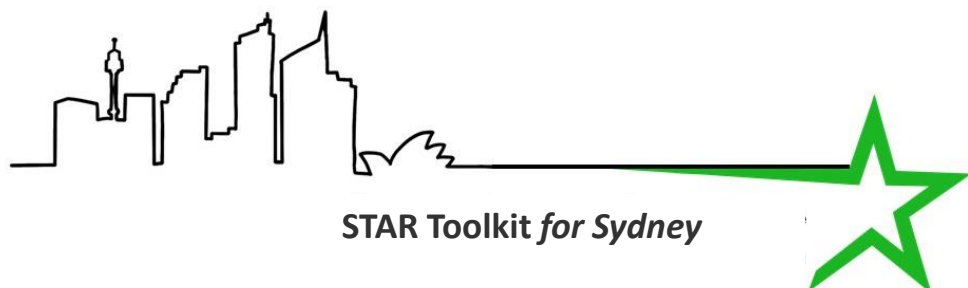
Sara has also published a three-page chapter in the Sustainability section of the December 2022- February 2023 issue of Built Environment Economist that elaborates on the difference between Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) factors. The article has a particular emphasis on how ESG can feature in construction and project management, with examples of reporting comparisons between CSR and ESG. Lastly the article concludes with the need for forward thinking professionals to ensure their clients are provided with the best, holistic professional advice for their projects to minimise risk and maximise success. [Web link \(pp 34 – 37\).](#)

Framework for Sustainable Adaptive Reuse – Frontiers in Sustainable Cities

Dr Gillian Armstrong and other STAR team members have published a comprehensive review article in a journal on Sustainable Infrastructure on understanding vacant and underuse in existing urban buildings. From the academic articles reviewed, Dr. Armstrong and others propose a new adaptive reuse framework to address the misalignment between the realities of how vacancy is distributed in building stocks, and the focus on whole-building adaptive reuse. The framework aims to increase understanding on how adaptive planning approaches could be applied to enhance broader sustainability and resilience initiatives. [Web link.](#)

Stay tuned....

Want more information?
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partnering with the
project?
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conversation.



STAR Toolkit for Sydney