

Labour Standards & Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR):

The Need for a Planetary Bargain

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“There is a need for a world-wide compact, or planetary bargain between the private and public sectors to prevent a slide to the lowest common denominator of production going to the cheapest labour companies where labour conditions are poor and exploitative.”



GOVERNMENT / PUBLIC

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corporate & social research

What should businesses expect from Government in return for greater social responsibility?

(see paper circulated for this meeting)

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***Socially Responsible
Enterprises in developing
countries:***

***what indicators could be used
to define them?***

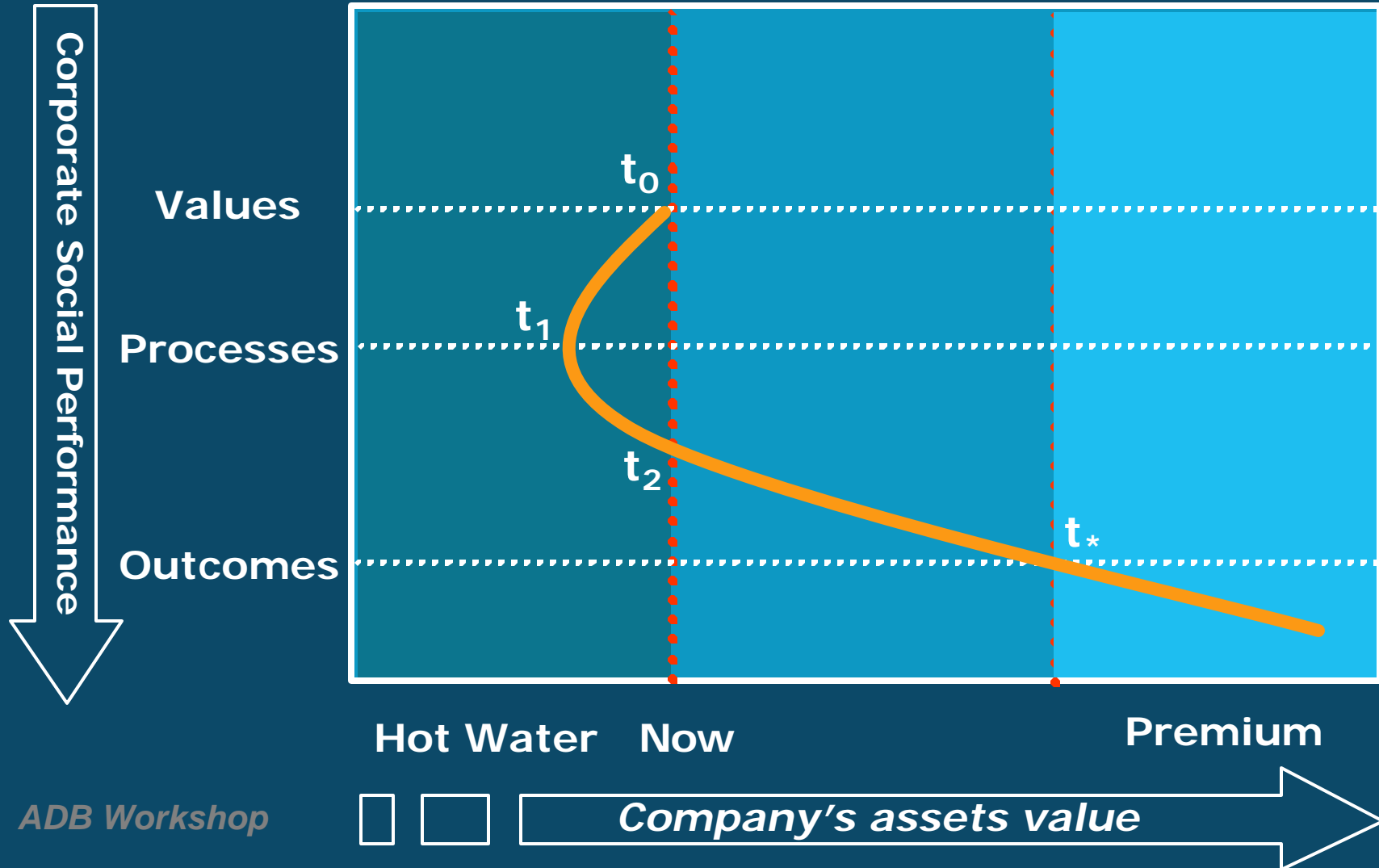
Some indicators:

- ***core set of labour standards***
- ***environmental protection observance***
- ***relationship with government***
- ***relationship with local community***
- ***relationship with NGOs***

Some corporate benefits:

- ***improve stakeholder acceptance***
- ***attract new investors***
- ***ameliorate industrial relations***
- ***improve consumer trust***
- ***contribute to sustainable & human development***
- ***improve reputation***

Do Values Pay?



Four Step Course of action:

- 1. Compliance - “obey the law”***
- 2. Risk minimisation - “do no harm”***
- 3. Eco - efficiency - “operate efficiently”***
- 4. Value creation - “do positive good”***

Putting the strategy into practice:

- ***Mission: making a strategic commitment to SD***
- ***Motivation: mobilising others, both internally & externally***
- ***Management, measurement and monitoring - ensure policy is embedded & evaluated in daily actions***

OUTRO

What are the limits?

The compromise for government and the private sector is to develop a voluntary code of practice or social bargain that both observe

The limits are for the stakeholders to decide

Bibliography:

Consumer action:

***Naomi Klein, No Logo (Flamingo
2000)***

Manager action:

***Sustainable Development,
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OUTRO

“Things don’t change, we change”

Henry Thoreau, Walden

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