

Dr Mary Dowell-Jones

Mary Dowell-Jones is an independent consultant and author working broadly in the areas of business and human rights, corporate social responsibility, sustainability, governance and risk management in finance. Her focus is the global financial markets, in particular systemic risk and financial crisis, their links to human rights, and their implications for the governance and regulation of the international financial system. She has advised various organisations on the financial crisis of 2007 onwards, its global social impacts, and how this relates to international human rights law, as well as issues such as ethical and sustainable finance. These include research institutes and NGOs, and she has also worked on an Australian Council-funded project on sustainable finance and human rights at the University of Sydney, with Professor David Kinley. She has written several papers on business and human rights which look at the way the business & human rights/CSR agenda has been framed in relation to financial institutions, the gaps that need addressing, and the challenges involved in applying the new UN Framework on Business and Human Rights to universal financial institutions.

Her work also focuses on the reform of risk management in the financial markets. Her research centres on re-evaluating the social foundations of financial risk and how the deficiencies of quantitative risk management could be addressed through building a greater awareness of the relationship between social context and financial stability.

Mary has a law degree from Bristol University, and a Ph.D. in international law from Nottingham University. Her Ph.D. thesis examined the interaction between the globalisation of the world economy and financial markets, and the prospects for realising socio-economic rights. It was published by Brill as: **Contextualising the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights: Assessing the Economic Deficit.**

She has worked in investment banking in both London and South Africa. In the latter she was part of a team implementing the Basel II regulations, which included building a stress testing system for their global credit portfolio. She has lectured on issues of financial crisis, risk, human rights, and business strategy to a variety of audiences in several countries. She is also an Independent Member of her local government Standards Committee, which upholds the Code of Conduct for elected members of the Council.