

CAETS Working Group: Engineering for SDGs

Work proposal for 2021

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CAETS Working Group: Engineering for SDGs

- Pivotal role of engineering in achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- Forum for cross-academy exchange on actions and initiatives
- Specific focus for 2021: SDGs most related to climate change and net zero agenda
- Role of engineers and national engineering academies in guiding governments

China pledges to become carbon neutral before 2060

EU unveils climate law to go net zero by 2050

Japan will become carbon neutral by 2050, PM pledges

US rejoins Paris accord: Biden's first act sets tone for ambitious approach

News story

UK becomes first major economy to pass net zero emissions law

New target will require the UK to bring all greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050.

Pakistan steps up drive to encourage spread of electric vehicles

01-12 NOV 2021

GLASGOW

COP26

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ITALY



Net Zero: A systems perspective on the climate challenge

Achieving a thriving, low-carbon economy through
rapid and large-scale systemic change

Engineering advice to governments

- The role of national engineering academies
- Net zero as an opportunity to engage (engage more? engage better?)
- What underpins a successful approach?

Goal for 2021:

Enhance the capacity of national academies and engineering professions to communicate with and influence their respective governments on issues relating to climate change and the “net zero” agenda.

Proposed actions for 2021

- Working Group to drive this agenda within CAETS
- Exchange of best practice between Working Group members
- Packaging of best practices into an output for wider CAETS community
- Evidence gathering via survey of CAETS member academies
- Set up library of initiatives led by CAETS member academies
- Inform CAETS-level statement to be published ahead of COP26

Timeline

- April** initial sharing of best practices; refine project plan
- May** conduct survey of CAETS academies
- June** analysis of survey data
- July** further sharing of best practices; formulate principles
- Sep** draft and finalise materials
- Oct** Publish materials and stimulate wider dialogue within CAETS

Working Group meetings to be scheduled for July and September

Survey of CAETS academies

- Does your academy already engage directly with your national/sub-national government on climate issues? (Yes/No)
- If yes, how would you rate your current level of influence? (scale e.g. 1-5)
- Which specific issues and topics relating to climate change and the “net zero” agenda have you engaged with your government on? (open text)
- Tell us more about how your academy/ national engineering profession has directly engaged with government on climate change issues:
 - Specifically, what methods did you use and why were these methods effective?
 - What outcomes were achieved from this engagement (e.g. networking between key stakeholders, policy changes, legislation changes?)
- What challenges have you experienced? (checklist)

For today

- Initial sharing of experiences, best practices, challenges
- What has worked for your academy? What made it work?
- How can this Working Group drive this agenda within CAETS?
- Agreement of next steps