

**WORLD FEDERATION
OF ENGINEERING
ORGANIZATIONS**

**WFEO Model Code of Practice
for Sustainable Development and
Environmental Stewardship**

“Think Global and Act Local”

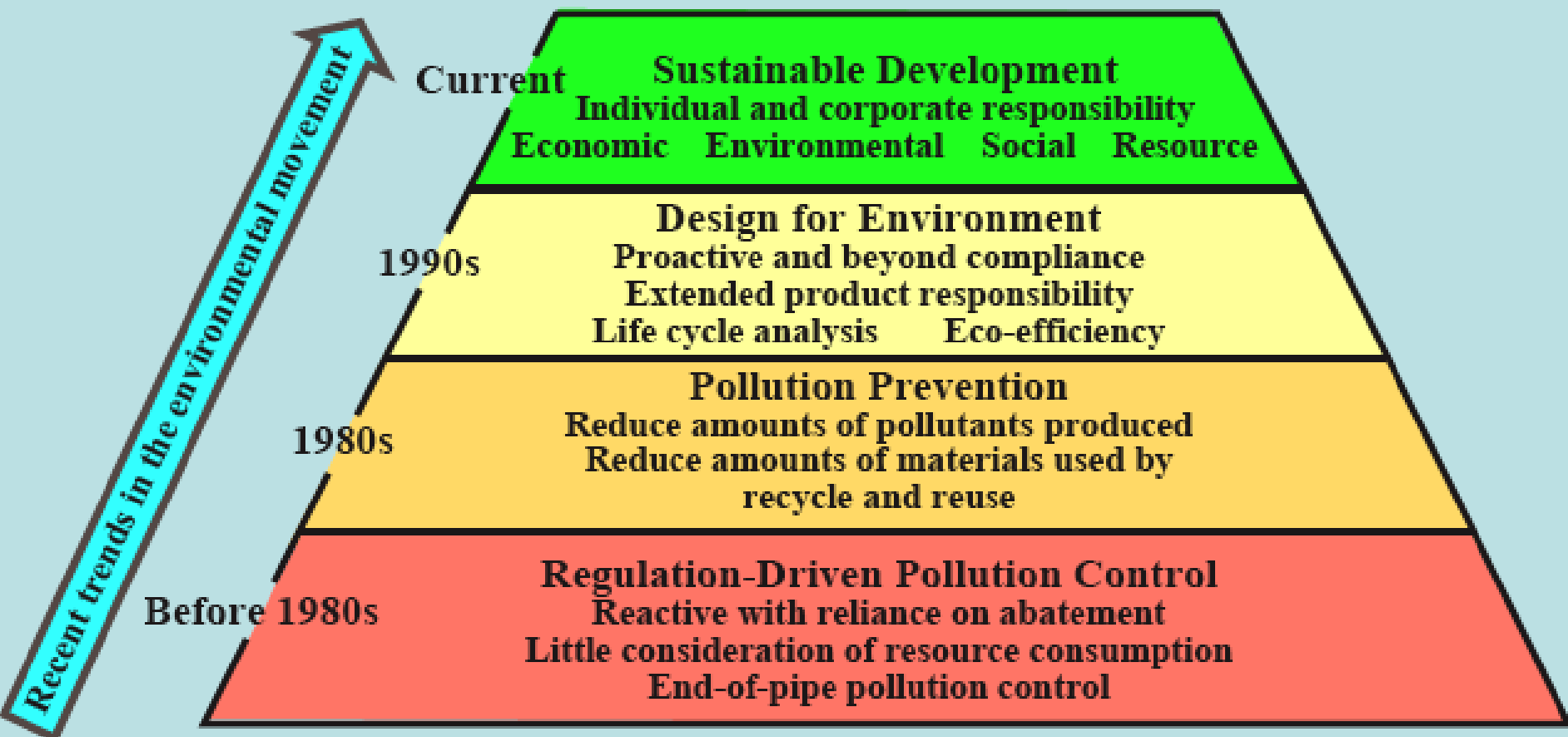
June 2014

**WFEO Committee on Engineering and
the Environment**

World Federation of Engineering Organizations

- International organization for the world engineering profession
- National engineering organizations from over 90 countries and international organizations
- More than 15 million engineers working worldwide
- Focus on supporting the United Nations Millennium Development Goals and new Sustainable Development Goals
- Nine standing committees including Engineering and the Environment, Energy, Disaster Risk Management, Capacity-Building, Anti-corruption, Education, Youth, Women
- Active participant in UNFCCC and UN-CSD

Figure 1.1. Evolution of the environmental movement from pollution detection and treatment to sustainability



Introduction/Background

- One of five themes in the 2011-2015 CEE strategic plan
- Task group led by Engineers Canada
- Review of existing documents of national and international organizations related to the topics (e.g. New Zealand, South Africa, FEANI, Engineers Canada, ASCE, FIDIC and others)
- Definitions of sustainable development and environmental stewardship and how these relate to each other
- One-page listing of principles similar to the WFEO Code of Ethics
- Revisions based on excellent feedback and suggestions

What is a “Model” Code?

First, Adopt as WFEO policy, not legally or morally binding on members

Second, Adoption by WFEO members may be done in one of three ways:

1. Adopt as written – put your logo on the top and use in your own jurisdiction/membership
2. Adopt with modifications to suit individual circumstances and jurisdictions
3. Use as a source document to develop your own country-specific guidance

Purpose and Objective

- To provide objective guidance to individual engineers on responsible engineering practice
- To provide a policy and implementing document to WFEO and its membership to use within their own organizations and countries
- To inform United Nations organizations and International Financial Institutions of the role, responsibility and practices of engineers
- To increase the profile and authority of WFEO in these subject areas

Scope

- Principles and framework to guide engineering practice that serves the public interest
- What to consider/do and less on the “how”
- Active language
- Technical details and methods on how to implement are largely left to the engineer and reflect the individual circumstances of the project or tasks he/she is undertaking

Document Structure

1. One-page listing of ten principles “mount on the wall” beside Code of Ethics
2. Interpretive Guide
 - Accompanying guide to the code of practice
 - Provides further amplification and explanation on the ten principles
 - Target audiences – individual engineers and national engineering organizations

The Ten Principles – Elements of Professional Practice (1)

- ✓ Maintaining competency
- ✓ Seeking expertise and advice outside of your competency
- ✓ Defining and addressing economic, social and environmental issues, concerns and impacts
- ✓ Considering the complete life cycle of projects
- ✓ Awareness of and compliance with legal and regulatory requirements

The Ten Principles – Elements of Professional Practice (2)

- ✓ Seeking and implementing innovative methods and technologies
- ✓ Consultation and appropriate communication with internal and external stakeholders e.g. the public
- ✓ Disclosure of information necessary to ensure safety of the public
- ✓ Mitigating impacts in advance of complete scientific knowledge if risks are determined to be unacceptable

Implementation (1)

- Publish on the WFEO website with President's message
- Prepare a letter of transmittal for signature by the President
- Formal distribution to WFEO national and international members through Headquarters
- Formal submission to the United Nations, UNESCO, OECD, FIDIC by Headquarters
- Develop on-line webinars, presentations, workshops and seminars for events in 2014 and 2015 to key target audiences and key sectors

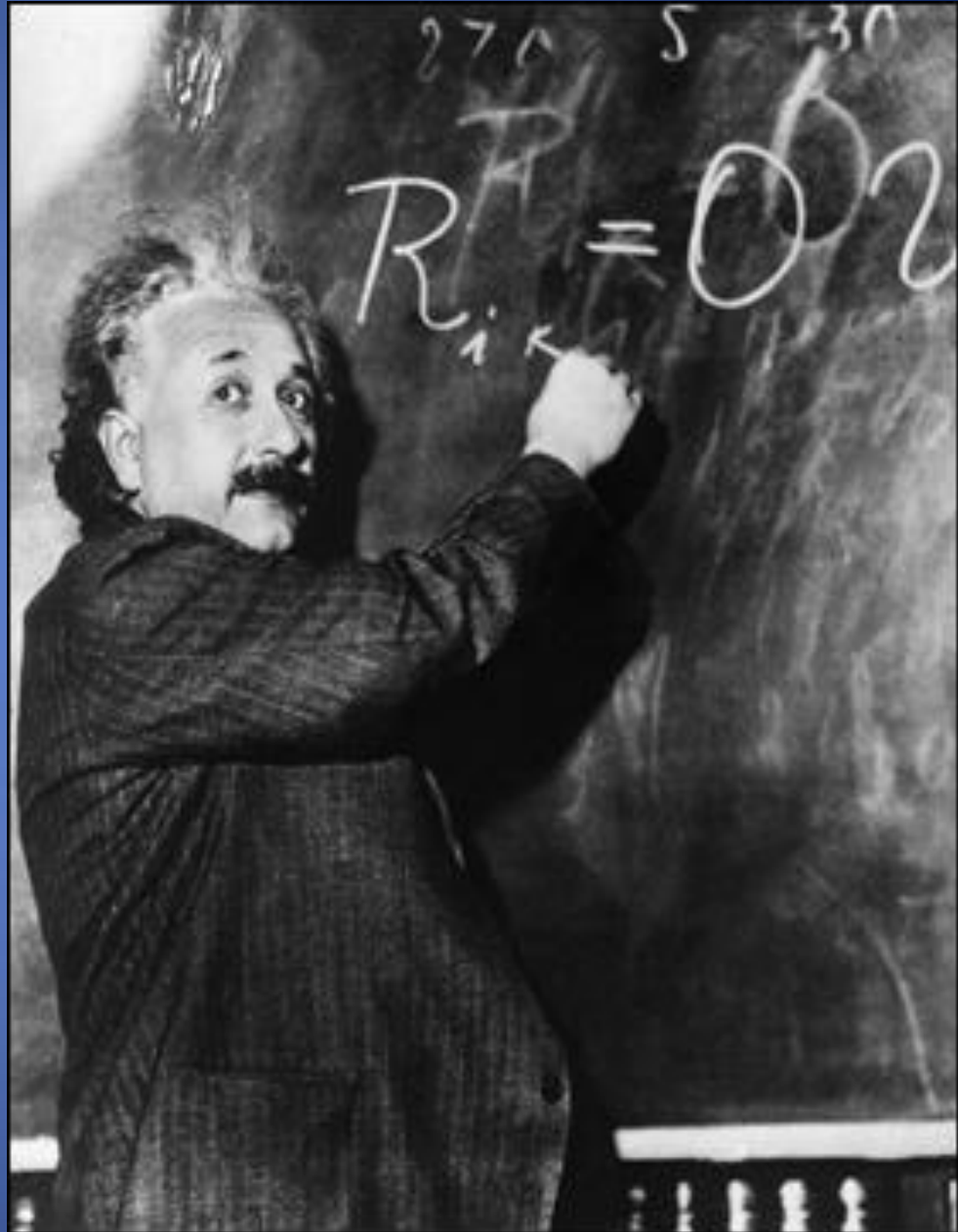
Implementation (2)

- Target audiences include engineers, policy-makers and decision-makers
- Support adoption/implementation by WFE0 national and international members
- Key targets will be UN agencies and International Financial Institutions
- Complete initial implementation and dissemination by December 2015
- Deliver progress report at 2015 General Assembly

So . . .

“We can't solve problems by using the same kind of thinking we used when we created them.”

Albert Einstein



So . . .

*“Sustainable
development”*
offers engineers a
better
decision-making
framework that
enables responsible
environmental
stewardship.



Thank you!