



WFEO Working Group on Engineering and Climate Change

Introduction

A new WFEO Working Group on Engineering and Climate Change is proposed by the Institution of Civil Engineers (UK). This would take over the work on climate change themes covering SDG 13 (Climate action) from the Committee on Engineering and the Environment (CEE), allowing the CEE to focus on SDG14 (Life below water) and SDG 15 (Life on land).

Objectives and focus

The purpose of the Working Group on Engineering and Climate Change is to advance engineering solutions and partnerships that contribute to climate change mitigation, adaptation and resilience. The project will be funded and staffed by Institution of Civil Engineers in the United Kingdom.

The WG will be a transverse one, coordinating and helping to harmonise all the work being done by various WFEO committees or working groups. For this reason, it will be placed under the authority of will work in close relation with the Executive Board.

The objectives of the Working Group are as follows:

- To coordinate efforts of all WFEO committees on climate change and find platforms to showcase these efforts.
- To advance awareness of best practice in climate mitigation, adaptation and resilience, which could be through showcasing decarbonisation and/or climate resilience efforts of engineering projects and in the engineering profession.
- To assist in the advancement of guidance tools and standards for decarbonisation, climate adaptation and resilience, through global expert advice to existing projects.
- Raise awareness of WFEO's work on and commitment to address climate change.

Activities

The Working Group will showcase global best-practice case studies and initiatives that have the potential to deliver the change needed at scale and at pace, signposting to replicable solutions. Case studies can be showcased through events, short reports, articles and blogs, hosted by the WFEO and ICE websites.

The Working Group will lead WFEO's contribution to UNFCCC events such as the Bonn Intersessional Conference (annual event, traditionally held in June) and the Conference of the Parties (annual event, traditionally held in November/December). This involves managing the registration systems, leading a winning coalition for selection by the UNFCCC, organising side events and attendance to the annual conferences.

The WFEO Climate Change Mitigation best practice project led by prof. Jianping Wu, focuses on engineering and climate actions with the potential significance for our collective obligation to global climate emergency responses via collecting successful project examples on climate change mitigation, and sharing the best practice projects with all WFEO member countries.



The WFEO Model Code of Practice on Principles of Climate Change Adaptation for Engineers was prepared by CEE members as a complement to the WFEO [Model Code of Ethics for Engineers](#) and the [Model Code of Practice for Sustainable Development and Environmental Stewardship](#). Since then, the CEE has been working to promote this code. The working group on climate change will take over these efforts, including the support and promotion of Engineers Canada and Polytechnique Montreal's Massive Open On-Line Course "Sustainability in Practice" which presents the principles explained in the WFEO Model Code of Practice for Sustainable Development and Environmental Stewardship.

Through the Chair position, this working group can partner on ICE-led projects:

- ICE led and sponsored the recent update to [PAS 2080](#), the globally applicable building standard on carbon management in infrastructure, and the WFEO Working Group on Engineering and Climate Change can support the dissemination of this standard.
- The group can raise awareness of WFEO National Member's climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts through [ICE's Carbon Champions](#) and [Resilience Champions](#) schemes. These schemes aim to showcase best practice and replicable solutions.
- ICE owns the [Low Carbon Concrete Routemap](#), which is producing a BSI Flex Standard, a Review of Durability Tables for BS 8500, and have active workstreams on efficient use of GGBS and Continued Benchmarking. This working group can knowledge share with the Low Carbon Concrete workstreams about the most used material in the world.
- ICE supports the [International Coalition for Sustainable Infrastructure](#) on the UN-backed Race to Resilience campaign (R2R) - ICSI is an official Partner Initiative of R2R, the High-Level Climate Champions global campaign, which is the sibling campaign of Race to Zero. Through a partnership of initiatives, the campaign focuses on helping frontline communities build resilience and adapt to impacts of climate change.

Organisation/structure

The UK Institution of Civil Engineers CE would like to request permission to Host and Chair the new Working Group on Engineering and Climate Change, under the authority of the Executive Board and working in close relation with the Executive Board.

The ICE will deliver the consistent high standard of work as it has the last eight years, with the same team. ICE representative Davide Stronati will continue to be the Focal Point for the UNFCCC and organise WFEO's contribution to these conferences, starting from COP28 in Dubai.

The Chair and Secretary team will be as follows:

Chair: Davide Stronati, Director of Sustainability, Nuclear Decommissioning Authority

Katie Momber, Climate Community Manager, ICE

Kate Beardsley, Specialist Knowledge Societies Executive, ICE

Resources and budget

ICE will provide a secretariat team to support with:

- Scheduling meetings
- Writing agendas and minutes



- Reporting to WFEO HQ
- The organisation of the Chair's attendance at WFEO and UNFCCC meetings

ICE will provide budget for the Chair of the Working Group on Engineering and Climate Change to travel to two WFEO meetings/conferences a year, the UNFCCC Bonn Intersessional conference and the UNFCCC Conference of the Parties (COP).