

Science and Technology for Sustainability Program

The long-term goal of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine's Science and Technology for Sustainability (STS) Program is to contribute to sustainable improvements in human well-being by creating and strengthening the strategic connections between scientific research, technological development, and decision-making. The program examines issues at the intersection of the three sustainability pillars—social, economic, and environmental—and aims to strengthen science for decision-making related to sustainability. The program concentrates on activities that are crosscutting in nature; require expertise from multiple disciplines; are important in both the United States and internationally; and engage multiple sectors, including academia, government, industry, and non-governmental organizations. The program's focus is on sustainability issues that have science and technology at their core, particularly those that would benefit substantially from more effective applications of science and technology.

Current Activities

- **Roundtable on Science and Technology for Sustainability**
Established in 2002, the STS Roundtable provides a high-level forum for sharing views, information, and analysis related to harnessing science and technology for sustainability, and then catalyzing follow-on advisory Academy work. Members of the Roundtable include leading experts from research institutions as well as senior decision-makers from government and industry who deal with issues of sustainable development, and who are in a position to mobilize new strategies for sustainability. http://sites.nationalacademies.org/PGA/sustainability/PGA_048724
- **Network for Emerging Leaders in Sustainability (NELS)**
Launched in 2008, NELS is a series of events for early career professionals from federal and local agencies, the National Research Council, NGOs, the private sector and foundations, in the Washington DC area. NELS includes leaders with diverse backgrounds and expertise, from natural resource management to energy policy to public health, who desire to foster relationships to more effectively bring about a sustainable future. <http://sites.nationalacademies.org/PGA/sustainability/NELS>
- **Building the Foundations of Sustainability across the Academies**
A monthly e-newsletter *Sustainability across the Academies* provides updates highlighting activities related to sustainable development throughout the National Academies. The newsletter is available at: http://sites.nationalacademies.org/PGA/sustainability/PGA_048722
- **Sponsor-Requested Workshops and Studies**
Sponsored studies that enlist the nation's foremost scientists, engineers, health professionals, and other experts to address the scientific and technical aspects of sustainable development.



Current Projects

- **Pathways to Urban Sustainability: Challenges and Opportunities**
<http://sites.nationalacademies.org/PGA/sustainability/urbanstudy>
- **Transition toward Sustainability after 15 Years: Where Do We Stand in Advancing the Scientific Foundation**
<http://sites.nationalacademies.org/PGA/sustainability/transition>
- **Landscape Approaches and Multi-Resource Assessments for Natural Resource Management**
<http://sites.nationalacademies.org/PGA/sustainability/landscape>
- **Homelessness and Urban Sustainability: Implications of Changes to the US Health System on a Vulnerable Population**
<http://sites.nationalacademies.org/PGA/sustainability/homelessness>

For more information, please visit our website: www.nas.edu/sustainability

Contact Us Science and Technology for Sustainability (STS)

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine
500 Fifth Street NW
Washington, DC 20001
Phone: (202) 334-2694

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