

## Science and Technology for Sustainability Program

**Overall Objective:** Harnessing the power of science, engineering, and medicine to meet sustainability challenges from local to global scales. To achieve this as the institutional focal point for examining sustainability science and technology issues, the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine's Science and Technology for Sustainability (STS) program will elevate the impact and visibility of the Academies' efforts and actions in this area by:

- 1) Facilitating diverse activities across the National Academies, which have implication for addressing sustainability challenges and stimulating action;
- 2) Convening multiple stakeholders to focus on sustainability issues and opportunities at the interface of science, engineering, public health sustainability and action;
- 3) Catalyzing new approaches and activities across the institution to connect knowledge to action that promote and advise on sustainability, including learning from the experiences of other countries and advising on what is working and not working domestically and internationally; and
- 4) Communicating and collaborating with diverse sets of domestic and international stakeholders and audiences impacted by the interface of science and engineering policies and actions related to

### Current Activities

- **Roundtable on Science and Technology for Sustainability**  
Established in 2002, the STS Roundtable represents one element of the robust sustainability activities within the National Academies. The Roundtable draws on the expertise of leaders 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 and resources for sustainability. The Roundtable works to provide a high-level forum for sharing views, information, and analyses related to harnessing science and technology for sustainability, and then catalyzing follow-on advisory work through the Academies.  
[http://sites.nationalacademies.org/PGA/sustainability/PGA\\_048724](http://sites.nationalacademies.org/PGA/sustainability/PGA_048724)
- **Sustainability across the National Academies: Senior Level Coordinating Group**  
Since January 2018, senior leaders from across the National Academies have been discussing our approach to sustainability as a whole of institution set of activities and identify ways for the National Academies to leverage its broad expertise and contacts to increase connected to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by sharing best practices, barriers and opportunities.
- **Working Groups on SDGs and Local Scale Sustainability**  
An international working group on sustainability and SDGs convened in February 2018 to examine how the National Academies can harness its links to the U.S. science, engineering and medical communities to support activities at a global scale related to the SDGs. A parallel domestic working group on local scale sustainability will discuss later this year in the context of subnational and local scales related to the SDGs.
- **Sponsor-Requested Workshops and Studies**  
Sponsored activities enlist the nation's foremost scientists, engineers, and health professionals, and other experts to address the scientific and technical aspects of sustainability. See examples to the right. A public workshop, *Reducing Food Loss and Waste: A Workshop on Impacts* will be held in 2018.
- **Building the Foundations of Sustainability across the National Academies**  
A monthly e-newsletter *Sustainability across the National Academies: Linking Knowledge to Action* provides updates highlighting activities related to sustainability throughout the National Academies in the context of the SDGs. The newsletter is available at: [http://sites.nationalacademies.org/PGA/sustainability/PGA\\_048722](http://sites.nationalacademies.org/PGA/sustainability/PGA_048722)



For more information, please visit our website: [www.nas.edu/sustainability](http://www.nas.edu/sustainability)

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