



Triennial Declaration May 2021

Niagara Falls, Canada
ASCE - CSCE - ICE

The three global engineering institutions namely, the Institution of Civil Engineers, the American Society of Civil Engineers and the Canadian Society for Civil Engineering have long recognized the key role that the civil engineer has to play in addressing our planet's grand challenges to deliver sustainable and climate resilient infrastructure. Every three years we share progress, knowledge, experience, and renew our commitment.

Infrastructure and nature-based solutions - including 'no build' - are planned, designed and constructed by our members to ensure human well-being. It dictates the patterns and flows through which we live our daily lives and affects our long-term prosperity. As the infrastructure becomes more interconnected and demands more resources, we will ensure that its development is socially, economically and environmentally sustainable. In short, we commit to "meet the needs of the present without compromising the capability of future generations to meet their own needs".

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were developed to address humankind's grand challenges to meet the demands and needs of a growing, global population. They set out a 'bold and transformative plan of action to move us on a more sustainable and resilient path, consistent with environmental stewardship of the planet, and leaving no one behind.'

The Paris Agreement that world leaders have endorsed has set a profoundly new course to find solutions to climate change disruptions. We as the members of the Triennial intend to integrate the Paris Agreement on mitigation and resilience with the SDGs. We see our role to not only build back better, but to act with foresight and innovation to build better, fairer and more equitably before disasters strike and rebuild to a higher standard after disasters occur.

[Endorse the WFEO Climate Code of Practice](#)

We will provide leadership to build climate resilient, sustainable infrastructure, lifting the standard of performance to withstand the rising threats of climate change and other convergent risks that might emerge over the life cycle of the project. Specifically, we support the establishment, creation and dissemination of standards, rating systems and credentialing programs. Civil engineers must guide project development and validate the application of these principles by using metrics and rating tools.

Using the SDGs as our framework, we intend to bring about transformative change in the way infrastructure is conceived, planned, financed, designed, built, and maintained. We will provide leadership and advocacy, nurture collaboration; build capacities, knowledge, and skills; and share our stories.



Canadian Society for
Civil Engineering



We will transform our combined knowledge into actions leading to outcomes.

Leadership, Advocacy and Collaboration

We will display leadership by requiring that our members demonstrate a sound knowledge of sustainable development, the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda. We will advocate the benefits of taking a sustainable approach through our public voice and policy work. We will collaborate with other engineering institutions as well as engage with those outside of engineering to deliver the multi-discipline solutions required to achieve the SDGs. We will work with our partners to ensure that the engineering standards needed to support achievement of the SDGs are available and fit for purpose.

Knowledge, Skills and Capacity Building

We will continue to raise the standards of Civil Engineering at the individual and institutional levels. We will share knowledge on how to engage with the challenges outlined in the SDGs, how individuals can tackle these in their daily practice, how schools and universities can foster related content into their curricula, and how institutions can develop frameworks to enable sustainable development.

Building for Vulnerable Communities and Ecosystem Protection

Infrastructure is more than the structures and built assets, it also includes the essential goods and services that move our economies. Vulnerable, marginalized, and poor communities are especially dependent on quality infrastructure for mobility and basic products and services. We will work to ensure that the engineering standards for climate resilient, sustainable infrastructure include all appropriate considerations to help these vulnerable communities and ensure that the affected ecosystems are not degraded but improved for future generations.

Telling the Story

We will celebrate our success and share our setbacks with political and social constituencies and other stakeholders. We will tell the story of the lives that have been improved through civil engineering and raise awareness around the challenges that still need to be addressed.

Jean-Louis Briaud
Ph.D., PE, D.GE,
DIST.M.ASCE
President
American Society of Civil
Engineers

Catherine Mulligan
ing., Ph.D., FCSCE, FEIC,
FCAE
President
Canadian Society for Civil
Engineering

Rachel Skinner
BSc, MSc(Eng), FEng, CEng,
FICE, CTTP, FCIHT
President
Institution of Civil Engineers

