

# Future Climate Project

## Invitation

Overcoming climate changes is the number one engineering challenge of the 21st century. There is a strong need for a reduction in emissions of greenhouse gases (GHG) to a sustainable level. Engineers are the architects behind every energy systems and as such, hold valuable knowledge of the new sustainable technologies and solutions that are so important to society and decisions makers.

## Join the project

Consequently associations of engineers all over the world are invited to join the Future Climate Project. The purpose of the project is to display sustainable energy technologies and solutions that can support the legislative developments during the UN Climate Change Conference in 2011.

## Create national plans

The focus of the project is the national action plans for reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, developed by each of the partners in the project. The national plans will show how it is possible to meet necessary reductions domestically while keeping focus on economic growth and improved energy self-sufficiency.

## The works continues

The project is a continuation of the work initiated by Scandinavian Engineering organisations, which culminated in an international conference in Copenhagen in 2009. Ten national engineering associations were involved including Japan, Germany, India, Finland, UK, Norway, US, Sweden, Ireland and Denmark. The conference was deliberately held just a few months prior to the UN Conference of the Parties (COP 15) conference.

**The next Future Climate conference will be on 22 – 23 September 2011 in London.**

## Further information:

If you want to hear more about the project, please contact:

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Further information about the project will be displayed at [www.futureclimate.info](http://www.futureclimate.info)

# Future Climate

## The project

**Future Climate Project** is continuing the international work from 2008, open for national engineering organisations. The purpose of the project is to demonstrate sustainable energy technologies and solutions in order to support national and international efforts to reduce GHG emissions.

The focus of the project for each participating organisation is the development or further development of its own national climate plan. The exchange of knowledge between the involved organisations and their members will play an important role in the project, helping strengthen and inspire the national plans.

### **Goal: Reduction of climate emissions to a sustainable level**

In the IPCC's fourth assessment report (2007) it was concluded that an increase in global temperature was due to the increase of Greenhouse Gasses (GHG). Consequently a reduction in GHG emissions is necessary in order to avoid irreversible damages to the environment.

The best-case scenario in the report estimates that the concentration of CO<sub>2</sub>-equivalents can be stabilised at 445-490 ppm, if the emission of GHG peaks before 2015 and the global level of GHG emission is reduced by 50-85% in 2050 compared to the 2000 level. This scenario is estimated to bring a global temperature increase below 2° Celsius.

To achieve this global reduction in the emissions of GHG by 2015 is a serious task and by the time of the conference in 2011, we should already be seeing indications of the achievements to date. Although there will remain in any field of science, uncertainty due to the limitations of forward looking projections, it is the intent of this project to develop the engineering response based on the international consensus of scientific opinion, held in the IPCC findings.

Consequently, the goal of the project is to demonstrate engineering solutions and plans that together shows a credible and sustainable path towards the 2° Celsius scenario of IPCC.

### **Process: Development of national climate plans**

Participating organisations are required to develop their own national climate plan. The plan will give a technical evaluation of the national solutions to enable the given country to remain within the 2 degree increase, as given in the best case scenario by the IPCC. The evaluation may appraise new concepts or technologies, as well as reviewing success or failure from any ongoing activities to address the climate challenge. The national plans will provide a unique opportunity for the participating organisations to showcase the proficiency of their members to a national and international audience.



The first phase of the project which was completed in 2009 has helped participating organisations learn much about the process of creating these plans. As such this information and support will be willingly shared with all new participants, to enable the highest possible outcome. A recommended template for the national plan data will be provided.

### **Result: International conference in London – September 2011**

The project will end with an internationally attended conference, for both the engineering organisations involved, as well as appropriate diplomatic and political representatives. The two-day conference will showcase the findings from member organisations, highlight new or innovative technology, and promote discussion around common themes and challenges.

### **Project Collaborators**

Currently the following organisations are continuing their work to develop plans for the 2011 conference:

The Danish Society of Engineers (IDA)  
The Institution of Mechanical Engineers (IMechE)  
The Swedish Association of Graduate Engineers,  
The Norwegian Society of Engineers and Technologists (NITO)  
Association of German Engineers (VDI)  
The Institution of Engineers, India  
The Finish Association of Graduate Engineers, (TEK)  
APESMA, Australia  
Engineers Ireland

Any Engineering organisation from around the world are invited to join with us in making this project representative of all engineers.

### **Timing:**

*April - September 2010:* Engineering organisations invited to join the project.

*Spring 2011:* First review of engineering plans.

*Summer 2011:* Submission of final plans and development of declaration.

*September 2011:* International conference – presenting national climate plans, as well as engineering declaration.