

## CAETS 2016

### Engineering a Better World

Engineering a Better World is a flagship global conference, bringing national academies of engineering from around the world together with international development stakeholders to discuss the global importance of engineering for international development.

#### Introduction

On 13 and 14 September 2016, the Royal Academy of Engineering will host an ambitious two day conference at the newly refurbished Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET) building in London. Engineering a Better World will be a unique opportunity to bring together global engineering leaders, with international development practitioners and policy makers, industry stakeholders, government officials, and engineers from the developing world to discuss the vital importance of engineering for international development, to improve the interface between the engineering and international development communities, and to take action to build robust engineering institutions across emerging powers and the developing world.

The International Council of Academies of Engineering and Technological Sciences (CAETS), is a global network of 26 national engineering academies. Their Presidents, International Secretaries and CEOs will be among the most eminent global engineers with a strong track record in promoting engineering careers and advice nationally, and expertise in building strong, authoritative, inclusive and respected institutions. This conference aims to align the national capabilities of these academies to global need, and to leverage the academies' expertise and experience to build engineering capacity across the developing world.

The conference will be a flagship event, with world-class speakers and a strong media and public engagement profile. The event will be on the same scale as the Academy's 2013 Global Grand Challenges Summit, also a collaboration between international academies, which saw Bill Gates, Craig Venter, will.i.am, Jeffrey Sachs and many others debate how engineering could help solve the world's challenges. Engineering a Better World will attract a similar range and quality of speakers.

## Programme themes

### **Engineering as an enabler of development**

This session aims to shatter the illusion that engineering for development is restricted to low-technology solutions, and demonstrate how a wide range of engineering advances are contributing to international development.

### **Engineering Capacity**

Low engineering capacity hampers the ability of countries to respond effectively to challenges, to install and maintain essential infrastructure, and to develop social, economic and industrial strategies. In countries on a strong development trajectory, low engineering capacity can act as a brake on economic growth and can hinder the emergence of a middle class. Robust and effective engineering institutions and academies can act as an anchor for building engineering capacity and provide engineers with a platform and a voice to enter into conversation with government, industry and NGOs.

### **Engineering Partnerships**

Demonstrating the importance of partnerships between engineers, policy makers, and the development community, this session will explore improved methods of engagement and what is needed to establish more effective partnerships, and to give engineering a more central role in shaping the development agenda.

### **Academy Lab**

How can engineering academies better leverage their successes, their experience and their networks to facilitate the development of robust engineering institutions and academies in the world's poorer countries?

The Academy Lab supplements the policy messages delivered with hands-on partnership seeding, capacity building and mutual learning opportunities. In a series of master-classes, workshops and video case studies, academy representatives will share expertise in areas such as engaging with industry and government, running programmes and policy activities, and developing and leveraging a profile, to build a stronger CAETS network and to support the growth of institutions and academies globally.

Each CAETS member will be asked to partner or buddy nascent engineering academies and institutions, and the session materials will seed a lasting resource that should help the growth of engineering institutions around the world. We also hope to use this opportunity to create an international development network among global academies, connecting Fellows from all CAETS academies and engineering disciplines working in this field.