

Working group

Road technology



Road technology

The UN has decided that global CO₂ emissions must be reduced by 40% by 2030 compared to 2005. At the same time, natural resources must be used more efficiently. The choice and use of materials in the construction of road infrastructure contribute significantly to the use of natural resources, and both construction and operation contribute to CO₂ emissions. That is why the road sector plays a pivotal role in the work of realising the UN's climate goals. Accordingly, a working group is established to address the following matters:

a) Sustainable approach to choice and recycling of materials in the road sector

In order to promote better use of natural resources, the working group can exchange experience, knowledge and best practices about the methodologies and approaches that may support a sustainable choice of materials. The working group can also look at recycling of materials and incorporation of waste products in road pavement and the use of machines and tools that promote a sustainable choice of materials.

b) The functional properties of the road

The group can also look at the function of the road over time. There is, i.a., a need to share knowledge about how the road degrades and how to best measure the degradation of the road. This particularly concerns functional properties such as noise, evenness and rolling resistance.

It is important to promote methods for objective measuring and to share knowledge about how to use the measurements optimally in the road maintenance systems. Currently, a lot of method development is undertaken, and the group may advantageously discuss this development, and look at the advantages and disadvantages of the new methods and how the introduction of new methods affects the need to replace corresponding older methods in the countries' road maintenance systems. The group should also share knowledge about how best to measure the road's CO₂ footprint and how to reduce the CO₂ footprint by minimising rolling resistance.

The working group should keep in contact with the ad hoc group for 'Climate requirements in contracts', which will work on experience with CO₂ documentation requirements in tender documents and experience with EPD work in the transport sector.

Period

July 2020-June 2024

Relevant competence profiles

Pavement and climate/environmental competences

Employees with competences in road materials and road degradation.

Knowledge sharing and communication of best practices

Webinars and seminars, slides and other material from meetings and seminars.

The group can also benefit from exchanging ideas with the working group 'Climate requirements in contracts' and the working group 'Operation and maintenance'.

Relevant sustainable development goals

Goal 12: Responsible consumption and production

Goal 13: Climate action

Follow-up on sustainable development goals

The group will make proposals for follow-up on the sustainable development goals in autumn 2020. In this connection, the group can also discuss whether the activities mentioned in the terms of reference align with other sustainable development goals which the group would like to follow-up on.