

# Engineering for One Planet Network Charter

*Version 01-27-23*

## **Purpose** — *Why We Exist*

The Engineering for One Planet Network exists to transform engineering education so all engineers are equipped with the understanding, knowledge, and skills to ensure their work contributes to a healthy world for lifetimes to come.

## **Principles** — *How We Agree to Work Together*

To leverage the collective intelligence and collaborative strength of the EOP Network, participants agree to uphold the following values and principles:

- ❖ **Authentic Inclusion** — We actively seek to include and engage (individuals and) communities whose voices are currently marginalized to bring diverse perspectives to the network.
- ❖ **Flourishing Planet** — We strive to move beyond sustainability and work towards a planet that allows all species to thrive.
- ❖ **Supportive Community** — We prioritize cultivating trusting relationships to fortify our individual and collaborative work.
  - ❖ **Responsible Interdependence** — We advance our common purpose by seeking opportunities for collective success while respecting individual priorities.
- ❖ **Flexible Discovery** — We deliberately engage in flexible processes that allow opportunities for network relationships to develop so that ideas and outcomes can emerge organically.
- ❖ **Steadfast Urgency** — We bring a bias for action to our work while simultaneously exercising patience, acknowledging that the process of systems change isn't often linear.

*Notes:*

*A network team refined the draft principles shared in the May 2021 Version of this document. The principles above reflect the refinements proposed by the team and adopted by the network during a call in December 2021.*

## Priority Areas — What We Do

We advance our purpose by addressing these strategic priority areas:

- ❖ **Making the Case** — building a compelling narrative for EOP to internal stakeholders—industry, academia, students and teachers—to help shift the culture and build a grassroots movement for the future
- ❖ **Broadening Participation** — cultivating a diverse community of participants to enrich our network and elevate all voices
- ❖ **Sharing Best Practices** — identifying, aggregating, sharing, and iterating upon best practices in the engineering community
- ❖ **Transforming Education** — collecting and amplifying a diversity of voices and perspectives from different parts of the engineering system to collectively transform how engineering is taught

*Notes:*

*These network priority areas evolved from the thematic areas of potential identified in the Network Intentions document, which is the precursor to this Network Charter. Priority areas will always address our purpose, but specific priority areas may shift as our network evolves.*

## Participants — Who We Engage to Advance our Purpose

The EOP Network engages individuals and organizations who participate in, influence, inform, and are acutely impacted by the work of engineers, with particular attention to those who have been historically underrepresented. Initial participant categories include:

- ❖ **Students** who study engineering
- ❖ **Educators, researchers, and members of administration and leadership** in engineering schools and complementary disciplines
- ❖ **Professionals** who work in engineering and complementary fields
- ❖ **Funders** who support engineering and complementary disciplines

The EOP Network acknowledges the perspectives of **women** and **people of color** as essential to developing better systems that effectively address social and environmental injustices. The network commits to co-creating a space of belonging for women and people of color to participate fully.

Notes:

*Additional suggested participants include community organizers, leaders of neighborhood associations, and public sector municipalities that have sustainability goals they can't meet without the help of scientists; non-engineers, sociologists, and others who study the impact of engineering systems; and inventors, innovators, and entrepreneurs who are building future companies and industries that will employ and partner with engineers.*

## Context — How We Got Here

While playing a significant role in solving global environmental and social issues, engineers can contribute to unintended negative impacts on our world. To minimize those potential results, inventors, engineers, and product designers must be prepared to incorporate fundamental tenets of social and environmental sustainability into their work. Engineering education is a key lever in that change effort, yet neither the principles of social and environmental responsibility nor the tools of sustainable design are widely integrated into engineering curricular offerings. By accelerating the integration of social and environmental responsibility across engineering education, engineers will be equipped to design, build, code, and invent with people and planet in mind. This has been the driver behind Engineering for One Planet (EOP).

Over the past two years, [The Lemelson Foundation](#), in close partnership with [VentureWell](#) and [Alula Consulting](#), has engaged hundreds of stakeholders and used their feedback to develop an initial intention for EOP and a corresponding [framework of student learning outcomes](#). Co-developed with stakeholders in an open commenting format, the EOP Framework has been used as a tool for curricular change through two-year pilot grants with five higher education institutions, as well as many other integration efforts. While the framework is a valuable tool, we believe continued collaboration among diverse groups and sectors is necessary to achieve and sustain systemic change.





To explore what more is possible through collaboration, **EOP has convened organizations and individuals to form a volunteer action network** to connect, learn, and take action together on behalf of its shared purpose. We are inspired by the belief that as a network, we can advance our purpose in ways that we cannot alone, and that together, we can ensure a healthy world for lifetimes to come.

*For more information about EOP and to sign up for our newsletter, visit*

[www.engineeringforoneplanet.org](http://www.engineeringforoneplanet.org)