



Leaders Recommendation 2023 Fukushima

Adopted in the 5th RD20 Leaders Session
October 5, 2023

Leaders Statement/Summary: Recognition of Current Situation

The RD20 Leaders:

- **restate the urgency** for a clean energy transformation to mitigate climate change and the important role for international collaborations
- **reaffirm their commitment** to RD20 as unique forum of 20 research institutes committed to working together to accelerate the innovation needed to achieve a carbon-neutral world economy by: collaborating, convening, sharing, assessing, co-developing, advocating
- **acknowledge significant progress** has been made through the development of task forces focused on specific issues, harmonization of life cycle assessment and metrics, workshops to address critical areas, and a summer school for early career researcher professional development
- **recognize that RD20 is on a positive trajectory** and can have significant impact by amplifying current collaboration mechanisms, facilitating research exchange and collaborative projects, and increasing coordination and visibility.



Leaders Session Recommendations (1) : Action Committee, Future Meeting, Summer School, Interface with Other Initiatives

- **Action Committee to create a strategic roadmap by:**
 - Creating a document describing current RD20 activities, achievements and trajectory
 - Refining vision, mission, value proposition, and messaging
 - Ensuring accomplishment, collaboration and impact
 - Highlighting workforce development through summer schools
 - Developing a plan to expand the scope and impact for workshops where output can provide guidance to policy makers,
 - Exploring a stakeholder and sponsor plan.
- **2024 RD20 meeting to be held in Delhi, India (TERI host)**
- **2024 RD20 summer school to be held in Indonesia (BRIN host)**
- **Participate in the COP28 and other international forums with appropriate messaging**

Leaders Session Recommendations (2) : Increase Current Collaboration Modalities

- **Summer School**
 - Create an alumni program so early career researchers can stay in touch
- **Expand RD20 participation in current task forces (visibility and communication)**
- **Create new task forces:** RD-V Technical Sessions identified several task forces (and interested institutions) in H2, PV, CCU
- **Workshops**
 - Hold workshop (like Gigaton H2) same week as RD20, e.g. two days before or after RD20 meeting (host to provide venue for workshop)
 - Additional workshops (virtual for planning purposes, hybrid). Action committee to identify other workshops
 - Publish impactful perspective(s)
- **Develop tools and capabilities** to assess, promote and ensure equity, energy justice, accessibility, and community/public engagement.

Identify how RD20 can catalyze researcher exchange with value to both institutions

- **Create an RD20 researcher exchange program**
 - Proposal process for funding **travel and lodging** for researcher exchanges
 - Leverage current collaborations
 - Institutional and PI commitment to send, receive and engage
 - Encourage RD20 institutions to find and fund opportunities and to leverage current projects/funding towards mutual benefit
- **Catalog and build upon current exchanges among RD20 institutions**
 - Identify and publicize existing programs for international exchange at RD20 institutions

Leaders Session Recommendations (4) : Coordination & Communication

- **Increase interactions among RD20 researchers**
 - Webinars; Focused virtual workshops
 - Catalog current collaborations (especially multilateral collaborations, e.g. PVQAT (4 RD20 institutions))
 - Short-term visits to institutions (tours, discussions), include some researchers
- **Leverage large conferences**
 - Mixer, task force meeting, short workshop or even additional day at large conferences where RD20 researchers already participate
 - Create RD20-centric sessions at key conferences (to encourage RD20 researcher attendance)
- **Expand RD20 website and create a collaboration portal**
 - Catalog past activities, e.g. Summer school presentations, posters, participants
 - Catalog info from data gathering (conferences, exchanges,...)
 - Create a members collaboration portal for RD20 institutions