

How to Convene & Effectively Participate in CIGRE Technical Working Groups

Thursday 18th January 2024 , 12:00 -13:00 Online

CIGRE UK
Women in Energy



cigre

For power system expertise

Introduction – Dr Charlotte Higgins

- Associate Director at Arup (Business and Investment Advisory)
- Over 20 years' experience in the energy industry
- Expertise in the planning and operation of electricity networks from a technical perspective.
- Extensive knowledge and experience of the regulatory, economic and commercial challenges and drivers to net zero energy system development and evolution.
- Led and delivered a number of innovation projects in electricity T&D and whole energy systems.
- Cigre:
 - C1 Study Committee Regular Member UK (2018-2022)
 - C1 Technical Working Group Convener (C1 6.42)
 - WGB4-56: Guidelines for the preparation of “connection agreements” or “Grid Codes” for HVDC grids – Contributor
 - Special reporter for C1 – Cigre Paris session 2024



Convening a working group

- C1 6.42 - Planning tools and methods for systems facing high levels of distributed energy resources
- Large-scale DER deployment impacts power flows and power system performance in various complex ways
- Exploration of state-of-the-art planning methods and tools being developed and deployed by utilities internationally
- 13 global representatives
- Range of utilities, manufacturers, consultants and academics
- Survey of 17 international utilities as part of the technical brochure
- Started mid 2019, publishing TB this year

Convening a working group – Tips

A diverse group of representatives – by regions, countries, background, employer types, experience

Appoint a secretary

Face to face meetings when possible

Collaboration (in smaller groups)



Convening a working group – Tips

Treat like a project

Develop a framework early on

Allocate responsibility

Send out a survey early on

Limit convener drafting responsibilities

Interim milestones e.g. conference papers



Convening a working group – Challenges

You're in it for the long haul

Scheduling meetings across a wide range of timezones

Varying levels of involvement from representatives

Consolidating various sections of a brochure written by different authors

Progress is not linear



Contributing to a working group – Tips

Put your hand up

Buddy up with another member or mentor

Attend Face to face meetings when possible

Draw on others expertise



Convening and contributing to a working group – Benefits

Impact on industry!

Learning and collaborating with a diverse group of industry colleagues

Career development

Life-long contacts/friends

