

# The Importance of Capacity Building

**Introductory Remarks by  
Trude Sundset, Chair, CSLF Technical Group**

His Royal Highness, Prince Abdulaziz bin Salman bin Abdulaziz, excellencies, honorable guests, ladies and gentlemen. I am pleased to have the opportunity to speak on behalf of the Carbon Sequestration Leadership Forum at this important workshop. Let me first express my gratitude and appreciation to the Saudi Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources, Saudi Aramco, and our Saudi hosts for the hospitality and warmth that they have extended to all of us during our visit. We all have been made to feel very welcome.

One of the biggest challenges identified in addressing climate change is reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the face of rising global energy demand. World energy consumption is expected to increase by 50% in next 25 years with continued dependency on fossil fuel. There will be a corresponding rise in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from this increased usage.

Carbon capture and storage is a key element in reducing the rise in atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub>. But to succeed, CCS must be applied globally. The CSLF has emphasized capacity building workshops as instrumental in the transfer of technologies, knowledge, and experience about CCS to engineers, scientists and policy makers in emerging economies. Capacity building is a necessary tool for making these technologies widely available. We need to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions worldwide to have a sustainable future. The Capacity Building Initiative is crucial to seeing the application of CCS on a global scale.

By hosting this workshop, Saudi Arabia is demonstrating vision and leadership that will provide direction for future activities.

We are excited about the events scheduled for the next two days. Your participation is important to the success of this workshop. We hope you find it informative and useful and we are glad you are here.