

STATEMENT BY THE
Scientific and Technological Community (STC) Major Group
Co-organized by ICSU, ISSC and WFEO

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SDG 5 – Gender / 12 July 11:00-13:00

Thank you very much Mr Chair. Distinguished Delegates:

The Scientific and Technological Community (STC¹) – co-organized by the International Council for Science (ICSU), the International Social Science Council (ISSC) and the World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO) – greatly welcomes the theme for the 2017 HLPF and underlines the important role of sciences, in poverty eradication and in ensuring wellbeing *for both women and men*.

Welcoming this session, we recall the role of the scientific and technological community in promoting gender equality, via

1. **Reducing the gender gap in natural, social and engineering sciences**, through promoting equal opportunities for girls and women in science education and in scientific careers.
2. **Fostering the collection and analysis of gender-disaggregated data.**

and via

3. **Applying a gender lens to science, technology and innovation.**

In this context, allow me to highlight some of our key activities and tools which directly apply towards the implementation of SDG 5.

- **The Women in Engineering Standing Committee of the World Federation of Engineering Organization (WFEO)²** and its awareness-raising material concerning gender-biases and gender-transformative actions related to gender equality in the engineering profession.
- **The ICSU Project on “A Global Approach to the Gender Gap in Mathematical and Natural Sciences: How to Measure It, How to Reduce It?”³** – including a global survey and regional workshops in Asia, Africa and Latin America, such as the upcoming ones in South Africa and Colombia in November 2017.

¹ <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/majorgroups/scitechcommunity>

² http://www.wfeo.org/stc_women_in_engineering/

³ <https://icsugendergapinscience.org/>

- **The ICSU Advisory Note on “Mobility and Field Research in the Sciences: Gender Equality and Prevention of Harassment”**⁴ – developed by its Committee on Freedom and Responsibility in the Conduct of Science (CFRS).
- **The INASP Gender Toolkit**⁵ developed for facilitators who are interested in introducing gender mainstreaming in higher education in order to challenge gender inequality.
- **The Gender Summits**⁶ where scientists, policymakers, and other stakeholders examine new research evidence showing when, why, and how biological differences and socio-cultural differences between females and males impact on outcomes. A successful summit was just held in Japan, and the next ones will be in Canada and in Chile.

In addition, all our international research programmes - such as “Future Earth” and “Urban Health and Wellbeing” programmes – foster gender balance within their governance-structures and activities.

Concluding,

- The Scientific and Technological Community stands ready to provide data, conduct studies, and to facilitate empowering opportunities for girls and women.
- We stands ready to work with Member States, International Organizations such as UNESCO, and Fellow Stakeholders – such as Women Major Group⁷ and Children and Youth Major Group⁸ – towards the implementation of SDG 5.

Thank you.

⁴ <https://www.icsu.org/publications/advisory-note-mobility-and-field-research-in-the-sciences-gender-equality-and-prevention-of-harassment>

⁵ <http://www.inasp.info/en/training-resources/courses/254/>

⁶ <http://gender-summit.com/>

⁷ <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/majorgroups/women>

⁸ <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/majorgroups/childrenandyouth>