Join the world’s engineering body as an Associate

Introduction to WFEO

We are the global body for the engineering profession. Founded in 1968, we have national members from about 90 countries representing more than 30 million engineers. We work to promote globally agreed good practice and to address the challenges of sustainable development around the world. Through these activities, we regularly engage with governments, policy-makers and United Nations leaders to present the engineering perspective. We are a NGO with official status at the United Nations Social and Economic Council, and we co-lead the UN Scientific and Technological Major Group. We are an official partner of UNESCO (associate status) and our Secretariat is based at their headquarters in Paris.

Our work is designed and delivered by our ten Standing Technical Committees and Policy Advisory Committees – PICs (with current host members):

- Committee on Engineering and the Environment (CEE, UK)
- Committee on Education in Engineering (CEIE, Myanmar)
- Committee on Information and Communication (CIC, India)
- Committee on Disaster Risk Management (CDRM, Peru)
- Committee on Energy (CE, France)
- Committee on Engineering for Innovative Technologies (CEIT, China)
- Young Engineers / Future Leaders (YE/FL, Lebanon) - PIC
- Women in Engineering (WiE, Nigeria) - PIC
- Committee on Engineering Capacity Building (CECB, Zimbabwe) - PIC
- Committee on Anti-Corruption (CAC, Rwanda) - PIC

In addition, we have a WFEO United Nations Relations Committee, working groups on Water (hosted by Spain and Portugal) and on a project of Infrastructure Report Card (hosted by the Federation of African Engineering Organizations).

WFEO works closely with UNESCO and is involved in several UN bodies such as UNFCCC (Climate Change), UNIDO (Industry), UNEP (Environment) and the World Meteorological Organization. We have co-operation agreements with other international organizations such as the International Federation of Consulting Engineers (FIDIC), the International Federation of Engineering Education Societies (IFlESS) and the International Engineering Alliance (IEA).

Recent examples of our work

- Model Code of Practice of Climate Change Adaptation for Engineers
- Participation to the UNESCO Engineering Report I (2010) and II (planned for 2020).
- 50th Anniversary celebration held at UNESCO headquarters in Paris in March 2018, with a joint Declaration issued by UNESCO and WFEO on progressing the Sustainable Development Goals through engineering.
- A Climate Emergency Declaration was issued in 2019 and many engineering organizations have signed it: your national organization may support as well.
- Proclamation by UNESCO of the first ever World Engineering Day (WED), based on the WFEO’s proposal and advocacy. The first WED was celebrated on March 4th 2020, and will be on 4 March of each year.
- Amid the COVID-19 crisis, WFEO has set an online portal and knowledge hub on the contribution of engineers to fighting the Covid-19, and issued a statement to underline the value of engineering in critical times, to build more resilient communities.
WFEO consultation on draft international standard ISO 37000 – Governance of organisations,
Consultation and webinars on the proposed update of the IEA’s Graduate Attributes and Professional Competencies.

What is an Associate?

An Associate shall be an engineering organization, other professional organization or corporate body that registers as such for the purpose of supporting the Federation, and receiving regular information on its activities. As such, the Associate does not participate in WFEO’s governing bodies and General Assembly, except as observer. Its members may take part in WFEO’s conferences and WFEO’s work through its STCs, on request and by approval of the Board.

The yearly membership fee is to be decided at every biennial General Assembly and for 2019-2020 is EUR 2,000 for non-profit or educational organizations, and EUR 5,000 for corporate bodies.

You can learn more on our structure and operations by reading our Governing and Strategic Documents.

Benefits of Associate status

Participation:

- Your work can be featured in our e-newsletter
- Presentation of your work at and/or participation in all our events and in front of the UN agencies meetings
- Participation in any WFEO projects that are relevant to your area of interest (such as on mobility of engineers)
- Facilitation of regular contact with colleagues working in your area of interest across every continent, including with regional organizations (10 continental/regional organizations are WFEO international members)
- Participate in the World Engineering Day on March 4th of each year: main event in Paris, possibility to have your own initiative placed under the patronage of a UNESCO Official International Day.

Influence:

- Reach all our members to inform them in relation to your work
- Opportunities to engage with national governments through our members where appropriate
- Opportunities to influence international institutions and initiatives (not usually possible from a national level)
- Contribute to the policies and actions of WFEO in improving the engineering profession around the globe

Representation:

- Promote your organization, its work and its agenda at the global level and in the UN System
- Be recognized as an Associate on our website and in our Biennial Reports
- Become a Distinguished Associate by granting sponsorship for a particular WFEO project or activity, like conference organization, social event, or a new WFEO Award in an area of particular interest to you.

These advantages apply to all your staff or representatives.

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