



WFEO GREE Women in Engineering 2020 Award Laureate Announcement and Award Ceremony Press Release, 6 April 2021

The World Federation of Engineering Organizations ([WFEO](#)), the peak international body for engineering institutions, is proud to promote diversity, inclusion, and gender equality in engineering. The WFEO GREE Women in Engineering Award was first announced during WFEO's [50th Anniversary celebration](#) at UNESCO headquarters in Paris in March 2018, with its sponsor [GREE Electric Appliances](#). This is the first global Award to acknowledge and give visibility to outstanding women engineers, for their professional excellence and contribution to engineering for the good of people and planet.

The WFEO GREE Women in Engineering Award is awarded every year.

Nominations were invited for outstanding female engineers who have made significant contributions to engineering. Nominations have been submitted by an institution such as a university, an engineering institute or association, a corporate entity, or a national and international organization.

The International Jury consisted of:

- Maria Prieto Laffargue, WFEO Past President (Chair),
- Peggy Oti Boateng, UNESCO Director for Science Policy and Capacity Building,
- José Vieira, WFEO President elect,
- Blair Min, representing GREE Electric Appliances,
- Ania Lopez as Chair of the Awards Committee (observer).

The Jury completed its evaluations to the nominated candidates from different continents and various engineering fields, independently and anonymously, according to the set award criteria, i.e.

- Outstanding accomplishment in technical fields of engineering,
- Outstanding leadership in engineering,
- Outstanding contribution to the attraction, mentoring and support of women in engineering,
- Outstanding entrepreneurship in an engineering field and development of an organization with significant technical or social impact.

The 2020 WFEO GREE Women in Engineering Award winner is Ms. Elvira Fortunato from Portugal. She will be invited to attend the WES2021 Conference and WFEO General Assembly in San José, Costa Rica. The WFEO Awards Committee recognized with Highly Commended Entries, four more nominees, thus extending this important award on a multi-continental level. They will be invited to give a short speech at the awarding ceremony.

- **Ms. Harriette Amissah-Arthur** from Ghana.
- **Ms. Magali Anderson** from France.
- **Ms. Rosalind Archer** from New Zealand.
- **Ms. Sabah Mashaly** from Egypt.

The awarding ceremony will be organized on 8 April, 1 PM CET. The registration link is <https://bit.ly/3sDCBX8>

Winner



Elvira Fortunato is a Portuguese engineer and scientist with a top academic profile. She has a specialization in material science and has led breakthrough research in nanomaterials, microelectronics and material engineering. She is worldwide recognized as the inventor of transparent electronics and paper electronics, with highly regarded publications and significant patents. She is vice-rector of Nova University of Lisbon and holds many positions in academic and the boards of technological institutions.

More information [on this page](#).

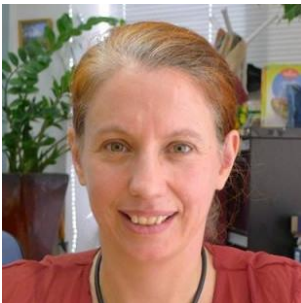
Highly Commended Laureates



Harriette Amissah-Arthur is an experienced electrical engineer from Ghana, co-founder and partner in a consulting company. She has held important positions in national corporations and authorities in the energy sector and conducted many projects, including power plants building and management, including a 18 year service at the Volta River Authority.



Magali Anderson, a French citizen, is Chief Sustainability and Innovation Officer and member of the Executive Council of the LafargeHolcim cement group, and CEO of Lafarge SA. She has a long experience of oil field engineering in various countries, mainly with the Schlumberger Group.



Rosalind Archer is a New Zealander reservoir engineer, an academic leader with a specialization on computational earth science, and a company director. She is about to step up as President of Engineering New Zealand.



Sabah Mashaly is an Egyptian electrical engineer with 30+ years of technical and leadership experience in the utility sector. In 2019, she was appointed as Chairwoman and Managing Director of the Egyptian Electrical Transmission Company, with 33,000 employees.



WFEO GREE Women in Engineering 2020 Award ceremony

8 April 2021, 1 PM – 2 PM CET

Register at <https://bit.ly/3sDCBX8>
and live streaming at <https://www.youtube.com/user/wfeofmoi>

Moderator: José Vieira, WFEO President Elect

1 PM Opening remarks (15') by

- Gong Ke, President of WFEO
- Dong Mingzhu, Chairwoman, Gree Electrical Appliances (tbc)
- Shamila Nair-Bedouelle, Assistant Director General, UNESCO

1:15 Announcement of the 2020 Awards Laureate (15')

- Maria Prieto Laffargue, Chair of the International Jury
- Presentation by the 2020 Laureate, Dr Elvira Fortunato

1:30 Announcement of the 2020 4 Highly Commended Entries (25')

- Ania Lopez, Chair of WFEO Awards Committee, member of the jury
- Presentations (5' each) by H. Amisshah, M. Anderson, R. Archer, S. Mashaly

1:55 Closing remarks (5')

- Marlene Kanga, President of WFEO 2017-2019
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