

2024 STI Forum

Thematic Session 7: STI Partnerships for Accelerating Structural Transformation in African Countries, Least Developed Countries and Landlocked Developing Countries

Intervention on Behalf of WFEO

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Good afternoon your Excellencies and esteemed colleagues. We appreciate this opportunity to share WFEO's points of view on the topic. WFEO is the International Organization for the Engineering Profession founded in 1968 under the auspices of UNESCO bringing together national engineering institutions from some 100 nations representing over 30 million engineers.

WFEO's current President Mr. Mustafa Shehu is a native of Nigeria, and a number of WFEO Committees are chaired by representatives of national institutes from Africa.

WFEO partners with many UN agencies such as UNESCO, UNFCCC, ECOSOC, UNEP, UNIDCO, UNISDR, IAEA, FAO, ITU, and UN Water. In addition, WFEO partners with ISO, WMO, WEC, OECD, IEA, ICEE, ISTIC, IFEES, FIDIC, INWES. WFEO in collaboration with UNESCO has published the 2nd Engineering Report in 2021. It has also published a report on Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience and WFEO through its committee on Water has made contributions to the UN 2024 World Water Report. WFEO strongly believes that it is through partnerships that we can leverage and accelerate transformative changes. WFEO through its various national engineering institutions and regional members such as including the Federation of African Engineering Organizations (FAEO) and committees/ working groups is taking a three pronged approach to transformative change: namely raising awareness, education on specific critical topics; and providing tools and technologies to address real-life problems on the ground. To support this, WFEO's academy offers free online webinars / training to its members.

WFEO in addition to hosting UNESCO World Engineering Day every year on March 4th wherein with competitions are held to encourage young boys and girls to create the excitement about and to get engaged in the fields of science, engineering and technology. WFEO is actively engaged in capacity building in Africa with the support of the Chinese Association for Science and Technology (CAST). WFEO has conducted workshops to educate and training school teachers on climate change. ASCE and ICE

have recently published universal Standards for Sustainable Infrastructure and PAS 2080 Carbon Management in Buildings and Infrastructure. The Royal Academy of Engineering supports African innovators and develops the engineering and innovation capacity of individuals, organizations and systems in Africa through its Global Challenges Research Fund.

We are ready, willing and able to assist with accelerating structural transformation in African Countries, Least Developed Countries and Landlocked Developing Countries.

Thank you.