## World Federation of Engineering Organisations leads engineers for a Sustainable World

Engineers have an important role in the transformation of Qatar which is progressing at a fast pace with the continuing investment in large scale infrastructure projects, especially in transport, roads, water, sewerage and electricity. The Qatar Society of Engineers is providing essential leadership for the engineering profession ensuring standards of the engineering professional practice, promoting professional development and ethical practice through conferences and seminars. An important function, in an increasingly globalised engineering profession, is relationships with other professional engineering institutions around the world. This facilitates the sharing of technical knowledge as well as approaches to establishing world class professional engineering standards.



• Dr. Marlene Kanga President Elect of the World Federation of Engineering Organisations.

The Qatar Society of Engineers is a member of

the World federation of Engineering Originations (WFEO) and participates actively in the conferences and meetings of the organisation. Engineering is a globalised profession with engineers travelling internationally for work projects around the world. The participation of Qatar Society of Engineers is consistent with its objective of building engineering partnerships with professional engineering institutions around the world.

The World Federation of Engineering Organisations (WFEO) brings together engineers from more than 90 countries to discuss global issues which involve engineering. An important project is contribution to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) which came into effect in early 2016. WFEO is making an active contribution to the achievements of the sustainable development goals through experts from member countries. It has established connections at the highest levels in the United Nations to ensure that engineering input is recognised. This is being achieved through the various standing technical committees of WFEO.

For example, with the growing importance of the internet and data sharing, its Committee on Engineering and Innovative Technologies is working with the UN and other international organisations to develop global approaches into emerging and innovative technologies.

The ability of engineers to travel and work in a large number of countries is possible if there is global multilateral recognition of engineering education. WFEO is facilitating the ability of engineers to travel and work around the world with recognition of their qualifications through its partnership with the International Engineering Alliance. WFEO is also working with professional engineering institutions to develop approaches to improve engineering education. This is necessary intellectual infrastructure which underpins economic development.

Engineers interested in fighting corruption in engineering projects have been successful in lobbying for an international anti

bribery standard, ISO37001. This was developed in collaboration with the WFEO Committee for anti-corruption and is based on the British standard BS10500. This standard provides a framework for a management system which mitigates against the risk of corrupt practices. Companies can be accredited against this standard in the same way as for quality, environment and safety (ISO: 9001, 14001, 18001). International accreditation agencies will be able to certify companies in all thee standards in a single audit. The standard was released in September 2016. WFEO members are now working with other international partners including the Global Initiatives Against Corruption (www.giaccentre.org) to develop training materials to support the implementation of the Standard.

The WFEO Committee on Engineering and the Environment has international experts in environmental engineering and has developed a Model Code of Practice for Sustainable Development as well as associated guidelines. These have been translated into seven languages and provide valuable guidance to engineers around the world in developing sustainable solutions. Environmental engineers representing WFEO have also participated in international events involving mitigation of the impacts of climate change including the annual COP events which are held around the word.

Natural disaster resilience is another hot topic, especially for developing countries affected by extreme weather events. Engineers from WFEO, through its Committee on Disaster Risk Management, are working closely with the UNISDR, the agency responsible for natural disaster risk mitigation and are making a contribution to the Sendai framework to implement strategies for mitigating the impacts of natural disasters. A web based resource has been developed to share knowledge on natural disaster resilience to build capacity in this area (see: www.wfeo.org/ndrm/).

Qatar Society of Engineers is increasingly an active participant in many of these initiatives. Its contributions enable WFEO to continue to increase its impact as a successful international representative of the engineering profession. We look forward to the continuing active participation and contribution of the Qatar Society of Engineers through the specialised knowledge and expertise of its members in the many global initiatives of WFEO. This will ensure the vision of WFEO to be the leaders in providing engineering solutions for a better, sustainable world.

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