



The Committee on
Women in Engineering



Message by the Chair, Women in Engineering Committee, WFEO World Engineering Day for Sustainable Development 2026

It is both an honour and a privilege to address the global engineering community on the occasion of World Engineering Day for Sustainable Development 2026.

This year's theme, "*Smart Engineering for a Sustainable Future Through Innovation and Digitalization,*" underscores the pivotal role of engineering in shaping a resilient, inclusive, and sustainable world. In alignment with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals particularly SDG 9 on Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure engineering remains a powerful driver of sustainable industrialization, resilient systems, and technological advancement.

Today, innovation and digitalization are transforming how we design, build, and sustain our world. From smart cities and renewable energy systems to artificial intelligence and data-driven solutions, engineering is enabling more efficient, adaptive, and sustainable societies. Yet, for this transformation to achieve its full potential, it must be inclusive.

As Chair of the Women in Engineering Committee of the World Federation of Engineering Organizations, I reaffirm our unwavering commitment to ensuring that women engineers are not only represented but are leading contributors to this global transformation. Diversity strengthens innovation, enhances problem-solving, and delivers solutions that are more responsive to the needs of communities.

The inclusion of women and young professionals in leadership, research, policy, and innovation ecosystems is not merely an issue of equity, it is a strategic necessity for sustainable development.

At the same time, we must address the persistent digital divide. Access to digital skills, emerging technologies, and capacity-building opportunities must be expanded particularly for women and girls in STEM. Empowering women in fields such as artificial intelligence, smart infrastructure, renewable energy, and sustainable industrial development will significantly accelerate progress toward global sustainability goals.

The Women in Engineering Committee remains committed to advancing mentorship, strengthening leadership pipelines, advocating for inclusive policies, and building strategic partnerships across governments, academia, industry, and professional institutions worldwide.

As we commemorate this important day, let us reaffirm our shared responsibility to advance engineering excellence, champion inclusive innovation, and build resilient systems that serve all of humanity.

Together, through inclusive and smart engineering, we can shape a future that is not only technologically advanced, but equitable, sustainable, and transformative for generations to come.

Thank you.

Ing Dr. Enyonam Kpekpena
Chair, WIE Committee, WFEO