



## International Engineering Alliance Meeting Global Engineering Education Standards and Capacity Building

UNESCO, as the United Nations agency for education, science and culture, supports engineering through its Natural Science Division, and acknowledges engineering as a great means to achieve sustainable development, to progress capacity building education level and gender equality in developing countries, and safeguard world heritage.

The International Engineering Alliance (IEA) is the governing body for the multilateral engineering accords and agreements relating to engineering education and professional development.

The World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO) is the peak body for engineering globally, representing nearly 100 nations and more than 30 million engineers. The members of WFEO are the main national and regional professional engineering institutions of the world. WFEO is a member of the United Nations Scientific and Technological Community Major Group and has an official Associate status with UNESCO. Many of the national members of WFEO are signatories to the IEA Accords and Agreements. The International members of WFEO represent the various regions of the world and include the Federation of Engineering Institutions of Asia and the Pacific (FEIAP), the Federation of African Engineering Organisations (FAEO) and the Federation of European Engineering Institutions (FEANI), among others.

WFEO has a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with IEA and other international engineering organisations involved in engineering education including the International Federation of Engineering Education Societies (IFEES), the International Centre for Engineering Education, a UNESCO Category II Centre, based at Tsinghua University and the International Network for Women Engineers and Scientists (INWES).

The engineering institutions of the world recognise the critical need for more engineers of the requisite skills to advance the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Engineers are needed in increased numbers for the growth and development of essential infrastructure such as roads, railways bridges, dams, waste management, water supply and sanitation, energy and digital networks as well as technologies and systems that will progress SDGs on water, energy, environment, sustainable cities, natural disaster resilience and other areas.

WFEO and IEA are activating their MoU by bringing together their members and partner organisations to discuss:

- a. A global engineering education standard that reflects the development of new technologies and engineering disciplines and includes contemporary values such as sustainable development and ethics. The IEA meeting and WEC2019, under the auspices of UNESCO, bring together leaders in engineering education and professional development, for a recognised global standard for engineering education which will facilitate mutual recognition of qualifications and the mobility of engineers;

- b. Extending the global reach of the IEA Agreements and Accords through capacity building efforts that support the development of a range of engineering education systems, appropriate to each country, to comply with agreed standards and the development of strong institutions for accreditation of engineering education and the development of professional engineering institutions to support engineers' education and recognition of professional credentials.
- c. These meetings will advance the strategic goals of WFEO and IEA to address the need for more engineers with the appropriate engineering skills to address critical needs for sustainable development.

Signed:

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