



Institution of Engineers Mauritius

World Engineering Day Celebrations on 4th March 2020

Dear Colleague

I have the great pleasure to inform you that UNESCO, on a proposal from WFEO has decreed 4th March each year to be the World Engineering Day. This is a great recognition and testimony to all Engineers in the world for their contribution to the development of Infrastructures for the benefit of mankind.

Below is an extract from WFEO website:

Engineers and engineering will be celebrated each year, as well as the important contributions of the profession to sustainable development and modern life.

Engineers and engineering are crucial to address the risks of climate change and to ensure sustainable development.

They are essential for resilience to climate change and to design and develop resilient infrastructure that will withstand the increasing weather-related events – floods, cyclones and bush fires especially in developing countries, Asia, Africa and Small Island Developing States (SIDS), that are most exposed to these risks.

Engineers are needed to design and implement technologies that will achieve the targets set at COP21 for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, and to advance the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Key objectives are:

1. Create awareness of World Engineering Day as an important international day for achieving sustainable development by governments, civil society, industry, and the public;
2. Increase awareness of engineering, its impact on modern life and that it is crucial to advance the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);
3. Highlight the achievements of engineers and the essential role of engineers in promoting sustainable development;
4. Encourage more young people, especially girls and women, to consider engineering as a career.

To celebrate the WED, IEM is organising various functions namely:

1. On 29th February 2020, a validation workshop for the various documents prepared by the Engineering Accreditation Board as part of its implantation programme to apply for membership of Washington Accord. The Vice Prime Minister, Minister of Education, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology, Hon. Leela Devi Dookun-Luchoomun will be the chief Guest and will deliver the key note speech.

2. On 4th March (WED) IEM jointly with University of Mauritius is organising a forum on Resilience of Mauritius in the sectors of Energy, Water and Infrastructure in the context of Climate Change. The Hon. Kavydass RAMANO, Minister of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change will deliver a keynote speech on the occasion.
3. On 4th march, the Annual Engineers gala Night will be held at the Mauritius Gymkhana Club. The chief guest will be The Hon. Mahendranuth Sharma HURREERAM, Minister of National Infrastructure and Community Development and he will deliver a key note speech. IEM will also honour those admitted into the grade of Fellow and the new of Grade of P.Eng (IEM) as well as launch its annual journal.
4. In the context of WED, at the request of WFEO, IEM is organising in collaboration with Mauritius Institute of Education a four day training course for Primary and Secondary Teachers and MIE staff a hands-on course on Climate Change with a view to sensitise all teachers on the impending challenges posed by Climate Change and how to inculcate these into their young students. This will be held at MIE from 13th to 17th April 2020.
5. For this year's WED, IEM is also in the process of setting up a Women in Engineering group within the IEM and also a Youth Group for Students studying for Engineering within IEM.

You are most warmly invited to participate in all the above-mentioned activities.

Furthermore, WFEO also encourages Companies/ Firms / organisation/Consultants to:

- Organise an event that features your company's products that advance the UN Sustainable Development Goals.
- Partner with a community organisation or professional organisation to hold a community event to promote the work of engineers in improving quality of life.
- Organise a site visit for local high schools.
- Installation or design competition for site premises.

For further details please contact Kathleen, our Administrative assistant at IEM House on 454 3065 or by email on iem@intnet.mu

**Raj H. Prayag PDSM
President
IEM**

19th February 2020