Did you know?

International Day of Women and Girls in Science is an annual observance day that celebrates the achievements and contributions of women and girls in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). This day recognises the importance of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in the scientific community where a significant gender gap has persisted throughout the years at all levels of STEM disciplines and all over the world.

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Men in STEM annual salaries are nearly $15,000 higher than women ($85,000 compared to $60,828). Female researchers also tend to have shorter, less well-paid careers. (AAUW)

Less than 30% of the world’s researchers are women. (UNESCO)

Only 17 women have won a Nobel Prize in physics, chemistry or medicine since Marie Curie in 1903, compared to 572 men. (UNESCO)

In cutting edge fields such as artificial intelligence, only one in five professionals (22%) are women. (United Nations)

Click HERE to see contributions to science from the GWI Young Member Network. In the video, these young, intelligent, and remarkable young members share their career experiences and advise.

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF WOMEN AND GIRLS IN SCIENCE
11 FEBRUARY 2024

2024 Theme: Women and Girls in Science Leadership, a New Era for Sustainability

GWI embraces this year’s theme through its global network of graduate women who advocate for women’s education and leadership in STEM fields. By supporting women’s leadership roles in science and through mentorship programs and policy advocacy, GWI fosters an environment where women can thrive as leaders in STEM disciplines.

GWI young members reflect on science careers!
The Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) announced its partnership with the University of Waterloo’s Women in Engineering Committee (WiE), Ontario Network for Women in Engineering (ONWIE) and the Laurier Centre for Women in Science (WinS) to create a National Mentorship Programme aimed to elevate STEM education to a national priority.

Increasing the participation of women and girls in science is one focus area of GWI and its affiliates around the world. The Bina Roy Partner in Development (BRPID) funded the Ghana Science Clinic hosted by the Ghana Association of University Women (GAUW) in 2018. This project introduced girls to STEM disciplines workshops and encouraged them to pursue science related programmes at the highest level and science-based careers.

In 2016, the Uganda Association of University Women (UAUW) carried out a project for the gender sensitisation of school laboratory technicians. The project trained laboratory technicians to exercise gender responsive methodologies to increase the likelihood of equal participation of girls and boys in laboratory activities.

To highlight some of the many projects conducted around the world by our NFAs to promote the advancement of women and girls in science a compilation of GWI Impact on Women and Girls in Science was published in 2019 and can be found HERE.

GWI RESOLUTIONS FOR WOMEN IN SCIENCE

- 2019 - No.4: Women and Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics
- 2010 - No. 2: Numeracy and Women
- 2001 - No. 2: The Future of Women’s Employment
- 1995 - No. 4: Career Development (STEM)
- 1983 - No. 8: Computer Literacy
- 1980 - No. 16: Science and Math Education
- 1965 - No. 10/15: Women & Science Teaching/Employment
Barbara McClintock
1902-1992
American scientist and cytogeneticist awarded the 1983 Nobel Prize in Medicine

Marie Curie
1867-1934
Nobel Prize in Physics in 1903
Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1911
First woman to receive a Nobel Prize, only woman to receive two Nobel Prizes
Honorary President and Co-Founder of the French NFA (AFFDU) from 1922-1934

Irene Joliot-Curie
1897-1956
Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1935
Member of AFFDU all her life
One of the first three women in the French Government as the Undersecretary of State for Scientific Research in 1936

"If you know you are on the right track, if you have this inner knowledge, then nobody can turn you off... no matter what they say."
- McClintock

GRADUATE WOMEN FIJI (GWF)
STEM EDUCATION CHAMPION AWARD 2023

GWF has been a beacon of empowerment for women in STEM. One big part of their portfolio is the GWF Scholarship Fund which supports young women studying in non-traditional fields and also promotes gender equality and leadership.

Since its inception in 2004, the Fund has successfully supported 21 young women studying in male-dominated fields. Winning this award from Women in Tech is a testament to GWF’s grit and determination in continuing to be a champion for women and girls in education.

GWF receives STEM Education Champion Award

GWI thanks interns, Marie Mihalcea and Sophia Schaaper, for producing this infographic.