

STATEMENT BY
the Scientific and Technological Community (STC) Major Group
Co-organized by International Science Council (ISC) and the World Federation of
Engineering Organizations (WFEO)

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HLPF 2019
9 July 2019

Thank you very much Chair. Distinguished Colleagues: The Scientific and Technological Community Major Group – co-organized by the International Science Council (ISC) and the World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO) – greatly welcomes the theme for the 2019 High Level Political Forum and this session on SDG 4

We would like to emphasize the importance of SDG 4 and highlight the following:

- Education is a key tool to empower people and ensure inclusiveness and equality.
- Goal 4 seems underestimated in its importance towards a future economy that integrates concepts of circularity and a shared economy, as well as digitization.
- The importance of linking the implementation of SDG 4 to the implementation of other SDGs such as SDG 13 on climate change

In this context, we would like to report some relevant activities by the international scientific and technological community, namely:

1. The WFEO Committee on Education in Engineering is working on a project “Reviewing and Developing Standards for Engineering Education to meet current and future needs of industry and society”, and on a project “Capacity Building for Engineering Education Systems, accreditation and registration to meet the needs for engineers around the world”, and it is collaborating with the UNESCO Category II Centre, the International Centre for Engineering Education, at Tsinghua University (P.R. of China)¹.
2. Several ISC International Scientific Unions – under the leadership of the International Union of Biological Sciences (IUBS) –are fostering the interface between education and climate change via a TROP ICSU project². The project brings Climate Change Science to students and to the general public through pedagogical intervention. Workshops for teachers and educators have been held in India, Uganda and Bhutan. Learn more about this activity at the SDG Learning Lab on Thursday afternoon 11 July.
3. Many activities are also being developed within the context of the 2019 International Year of the Periodic Table of Chemical Elements (IYPT2019) proclaimed by UNESCO and the UN, and led by the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC)³.

Thank you for your attention.

¹ For further information, see <https://www.wfeo.org/wp-content/uploads/un/WFEO-ENgg-Plan.pdf#page=13>

² For further information and online resources, see <https://tropicsu.org/>

³ For further information on ongoing activities and quiz, see <https://www.iypt2019.org/ongoing-activities>

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