



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 741128



GEECCO project's Polish partners receives delegate status for two members as UNFCCC observers at COP 24, through the World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO).

The first formal participation of GEECCO in COP 24 was during the EU side event session *Sustainable Solutions to Combat Climate Change: Contribution of Engineers and Reducing Air Pollution* from 10.30 to 12.30, **chaired by WFEO WIE, NOT, SITK and INWES member Lidia Zakowska**. WFEO and Engineers Canada representative David Lapp presented on the topic of enhancing the interface between engineering design and meteorological data. The session also covered sustainable transport and the health impacts of climate change. Polish GEECCO representatives **Lidia Zakowska and Sabina Pulawska-Obiedowska from Politechnika Krakowska University (PK)** were invited to speak on the importance of diversity in engineering design during the panel discussion.

GEECCO representatives also participated in the EU side event session *Climate Action in Technology, Financing; Policy for Gender Responsive Climate Adaptation & Mitigation* from 14.30 to 16.30 on 4 December 2018. This session was chaired by Tracy Kajumba, regional senior climate change and development advisor of the Republic of Ireland's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. A number of other NGOs participated in the session: Gender Concerns International and CARE International, as well as the Government of Ireland. A programme coordinator from Uganda, Christine Kaaya, provided insight on climate change impacts at the grass-roots level.

The INWES presenters were Amelia Trachsel, Lidia Zakowska and Lylian Coelho. The topics that INWES presented were an overview of INWES's activities in supporting STEM organisations and organising regional STEM conferences and the projects, research and STEM education efforts undertaken by INWES collectively and by individual members. **Specific 'Women in STEM' programmes described in the presentation were Gender Equality in Engineering through Communication and Commitment (GEECCO)** in Europe and the AI Task Force in the USA. Additionally, SUEZ project manager Lylian Coelho discussed climate adaptation projects undertaken by SUEZ in developing regions.

Session attendees, such as elected representatives from the governments of Chad, Zimbabwe and Uganda, were interested in both the climate finance issues discussed by CARE

International and the insights that INWES had on how to engage women and girls in STEM professions. A number of questions were asked about how STEM professionals could help build climate resilience in Least Developed Countries (LDCs). Additionally, attendees shared the kinds of innovations that empathetic STEM professionals could bring to LDCs to assist with climate adaptation and energy transition activities.

The steps taken after the 4 December session were relatively informal. Contact information was exchanged to facilitate future collaboration. We will continue to work with regional groups to support STEM organisations and women in STEM outreach. Polish GEECCO partners will continue to work with groups within their own regions in the EU on initiatives like [“30 by 30”](#) to promote an increase in the number of women in engineering.



Photo 1: (from left): Lylia Coelho, Lidia Zakowska, Amelia Trachsel



Photo 2: The group of INWES delegates (Lidia Zakowska, Sabina Pulawska-Obiedowska, Amelia Trachsel and Lylia Coelho) participating in EU Side Event 335, 3 Dec. 2018