



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



ISTIC

INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND
INNOVATION CENTRE FOR SOUTH-SOUTH
COOPERATION UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO



KEMENTERIAN TENAGA, SAINS, TEKNOLOGI,
ALAM SEKITAR DAN PERUBAHAN IKLIM
MINISTRY OF ENERGY, SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE

4th Biennial International Conference on **WOMEN IN SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION**



22-23 July 2019
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

**"EMPOWERING WOMEN
THROUGH TECHNOLOGY"**



4th ISTIC Biennial Conference on Women in Science, Technology and Innovation: Empowering Women through Technology

22 – 23 July 2019, Kuala Lumpur

INTRODUCTION

Advances in technology has brought a lot of benefits to people in many aspects. Technology can help ease the work otherwise performed by hands, treat more sick people, saves more lives and enhance the well - being of mankind. It connects people, it saves time, improves communication, increases productivity and it has become an essential part of peoples' lives. The benefits are obvious and everyone should have the means to benefit from it. Digital and mobile technologies for example and the Internet have opened a lot of opportunities for women to move ahead - providing women with opportunities to find and share information, access educational and health services, generate income, interact, collaborate, network, have their voices heard. Connecting women through the use of technology can yield incredible returns in social and economic development. Remote work platforms will allow women to work from anywhere in the world and for anyone in the world. Access to technology therefore plays an important role in reinforcing gender inequality, especially in developing countries.

This supports the UN SDG (2016-2030) Goal 5 which aims at the empowerment of women and girls and specifically Goal 5. B which concerns enhancing the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology, to promote the empowerment of women.

Much has been achieved in this aspect. For example in many countries the proportion of women having mobile telephones does not lag far behind the men. In Malaysia, the percentage of women with mobile telephones is very close behind the men which is 92.5% compared to men at 96.4%. In Bahrain the proportion is 100% for both men and women. However, there are countries where the figures are less encouraging. In Indonesia, the figure for males is 63.4% compared to 50.4% for females while in Iran, the figure stands at 76% for males and 63.2% for females. A lack of access to technology prevents many women from fully benefiting from the use of digital technology, mobile technologies and the internet. Inadequate infrastructure and the high cost of connectivity are part of the problem.

This 4th International Conference will devolve from the resolutions of the 3th Biennial International Conference held in Kuala Lumpur in 2017. Two of the resolutions refer particularly to technology in relation to gender digital divide, and internet trading and borrowing towards empowering women. It will give focus on how technology helps to uplift women in their lives thus contributing to the achievement of the overall UN Sustainable Goals 2016-2030. The Conference also has the strong support of UNESCO, UN WOMEN, UN Office for South-South Cooperation and the Government of Malaysia.

The Malaysian Deputy Prime Minister cum Minister of Women, Family and Community Development(KPWKM), The Most Honourable, Dato' Seri Dr. Wan Azizah Wan Ismail has been invited to open the Conference together with UNESCO Director-General, Her Excellency Audrey Azoulay. The Malaysian Minister of Energy, Science Technology, Environment and Climate Change (MESTECC). The Honourable Yeo Bee Yin has been invited to close the Conference. The Executive Director of UN Women, Her Excellency Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka has accepted ISTIC invitation to deliver a keynote address; so has the former President of the Republic of Mauritius/ L'Oréal-UNESCO for Women in Science Laureate, Her Excellency Dr. Ameenah Gurib-Fakim. Another invited Keynote speaker is the President of the Royal Scientific Society of Jordan, HRH Princess Sumaya bint El Hassan.

OBJECTIVES

- ☞ To share successful initiatives in bridging the digital divide towards addressing gender equality
- ☞ To highlight innovations in technology that has uplifted the economic status and well-being of women and the population in general

THEMES

- ☞ Closing the Gender Technology Gap and Implications for Education and Training.
- ☞ Connecting women through the use of technology for social and economic development.
- ☞ Improving access to technology for women and girls, especially in remote and marginalized areas.
- ☞ Women in technology industry - creation of communities that drive innovation, facilitate knowledge sharing and provide support

The international Conference will comprise plenary sessions and panel presentations. Key note speakers will present their talks on the theme assigned.

VENUE	:	Sunway Putra Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, MALAYSIA
DATES	:	22 – 23 July 2019
DURATION	:	2 Days
MAIN ORGANISER	:	International Science, Technology and Innovation Centre for South-South Cooperation under the auspices of UNESCO
PARTICIPANTS	:	Between 150 – 200 Participants

TENTATIVE PROGRAMME

MONDAY, 22 JULY 2019		
OPENING SESSION		
08:00	Registration	
09:00	Welcome Address	Chairman of ISTIC Governing Board
09:10	Address	Representative of Director-General UNESCO
09:25	Opening Address	H.E. Dato' Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail (Deputy Prime Minister-cum-Minister of Women, Family and Community Development)
09:40	Opening of Conference	Deputy Prime Minister and UNESCO
09:50	Special Keynote Address	H.E. Dr Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka (Executive Director of UNWomen)
10:05	Special Keynote Address	H.E. Dr Aminah Guribfakim (former President of Mauritius)
10:20	Special Keynote Address	TBN
10:35	Group Photo for VVIP	
10:45	TEA BREAK	
PLENARY SESSION 1		
THEME: CLOSING THE GENDER TECHNOLOGY GAP AND IMPLICATIONS FOR EDUCATION AND TRAINING		
Moderator 1: TBN		
11:15	Keynote Address 1	TBN
11:35	Keynote Address 2	TBN
Panel Presentation 1		
11:55	Speakers	1.1
12:15		1.2
12:35		1.3
12:55	Q&A Session	
13:10	LUNCH	
PLENARY SESSION 2		
THEME: CONNECTING WOMEN THROUGH THE USE OF TECHNOLOGY FOR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT		
Moderator 2: TBN		
14:30	Keynote Address 1	TBN
14:50	Keynote Address 2	TBN
Panel Presentation 2		
15:10	Speakers	2.1
15:30		2.2
15:50		2.3
16:10	Q&A Session	
16:25	TEA BREAK & END OF DAY 1	

TUESDAY, 23 JULY 2019		
PLENARY SESSION 3		
THEME: IMPROVING ACCESS TO TECHNOLOGY FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS, ESPECIALLY IN REMOTE AND MARGINALIZED AREAS		
Moderator 3: TBN		
09:00	Keynote Address 1	TBN
09:20	Keynote Address 2	TBN
Panel Presentation 3		
09:40	Speakers	3.1
10:00		3.2
10:20		3.3
10:40	Q&A Session	
10:55	TEA BREAK	
PLENARY SESSION 4		
THEME: WOMEN IN TECHNOLOGY INDUSTRY - CREATION OF COMMUNITIES THAT DRIVE INNOVATION, FACILITATE KNOWLEDGE SHARING AND PROVIDE SUPPORT		
Moderator 4: TBN		
11:25	Keynote Address 1	TBN
11:45	Keynote Address 2	TBN
Panel Presentation 4		
12:05	Speakers	4.1
12:25		4.2
12:45		4.3
13:05	Q&A Session	
13:20	LUNCH	
PANEL DISCUSSION		
INDUSTRY 4.0: CHALLENGES AND PROSPECTS		
Moderator 5: TBN		
14:30	Panel Speakers	1
		2
		3
15:45	BREAK	
CLOSING SESSION		
16:00	Presentation of Recommendations	
16:30	Closing Address	Minister of MESTECC
16:50	HI-TEA & END OF CONFERENCE	

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

- 🌐 Ministries and Government Agencies
- 🌐 Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) related Organisation / Industry
- 🌐 Universities and Research Institutes
- 🌐 Women NGOs
- 🌐 Women Professional Bodies

APPLICATIONS

Interested applicants are urged to use the **online application form**:

<https://forms.gle/ZyGQcm3ceVkgpFL6>

The link can also be accessed from **ISTIC's website** (<http://www.istic-unesco.org>), or scan the **QR Code** here:



CLOSING DATE OF APPLICATIONS

All applications should be submitted to the ISTIC secretariat office before **15 JUNE 2019**.

The organiser will inform the successful applicants to the training workshop no later than **5 JULY 2019**. Applicants who do not receive word within this timeframe will be rendered unsuccessful.

SECRETARIAT AND ENQUIRIES

For any inquiries, please contact:

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ABOUT THE ORGANISATION

ORGANISER



ISTIC
INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND
INNOVATION CENTRE FOR SOUTH-SOUTH
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**INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND
INNOVATION CENTRE (ISTIC) FOR SOUTH-
SOUTH COOPERATION UNDER THE AUSPICES
OF UNESCO**

The International Science, Technology and Innovation Centre (ISTIC) for South-South Cooperation under the auspices of UNESCO was established on 21 January 2008 and is based in Kuala Lumpur. The creation of the ISTIC is a follow up of the Doha Plan of Action which has been adopted by the Heads of States and Government of the Group of 77 and China, during the meeting in Doha, Qatar, from 12 to 16 June 2005 on the occasion of the Second South-South Summit of the Group of 77 (G77). ISTIC is fully funded by the Government of Malaysia. One of the main functions of ISTIC is to develop and implement science, technology and innovation development programme for members of G77 and China targeted at facilitating the integration of national science, technology and innovation policies, capacity building, exchange of experiences and best practices, and creating a problem-solving network of centres of excellence in developing countries.

PARTNERS



**KEMENTERIAN TENAGA, SAINS, TEKNOLOGI,
ALAM SEKITAR DAN PERUBAHAN IKLIM**
MINISTRY OF ENERGY, SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE

**MINISTRY OF ENERGY, SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENVIRONMENT
AND CLIMATE CHANGE (MESTECC)**

The Ministry of Energy, Science, Technology, Environment and Climate Change (MESTECC) has been established on the 2nd of July 2018 following the formation of the new Malaysia cabinet under a new administration. Previously, MESTECC is formerly known as the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI). Since ISTIC's formation in 2008, it has been under the purview of the formerly known, Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI). The expansion of the Ministry's role to incorporate aspects of energy, environment and climate change are envisage to streamline relevant sectors and thus, help the nation to achieve an inclusive as well as sustainable development for the future. The Ministry mission is to explore, develop and utilise STI to generate knowledge, create wealth and ensure societal wellbeing towards achieving a competitive, sustainable and inclusive high income economy.



MINISTRY OF WOMEN, FAMILY AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (MWFCD)

KEMENTERIAN PEMBANGUNAN WANITA,
KELUARGA DAN MASYARAKAT

MWFCD was established in 2001 and has six agencies under its administration including the Department of Women Development. Its mission is to integrate women's concerns into society and to mainstream women's perspectives into national development. MWFCD's five chief objectives are to (1) increase the participation and active roles of women, families, and communities in development, (2) preserve the rights of women, families, and communities without discrimination, (3) provide equal opportunities to women in social, economic, and political realms, (4) strengthen family institutions, and (5) support a fair and effective services delivery system. MWFCD has worked to support women entrepreneurs and women's economic empowerment. The Ministry also provides digital training opportunities to the "bottom 40 members" of communities, or the lowest 40 percent of the Malaysian population. Digital Malaysia is a program designed to support Malaysia's development as a "digital economy."



UN WOMEN

UN Women is the UN organization dedicated to gender equality and the empowerment of women. UN Women was established to accelerate progress on meeting their needs worldwide. UN Women is the global champion for gender equality, working to develop and uphold standards and create an environment in which every woman and girl can exercise her human rights and live up to her full potential. UN Women supports UN Member States as they set global standards for achieving gender equality, and works with governments and civil society to design laws, policies, programmes and services needed to ensure that the standards are effectively implemented and truly benefit women and girls worldwide. It works globally to make the vision of the UN Sustainable Development Goals a reality for women and girls and stands behind women's equal participation in all aspects of life, focusing on four strategic priorities:

- Women lead, participate in and benefit equally from governance systems
- Women have income security, decent work and economic autonomy
- All women and girls live a life free from all forms of violence
- Women and girls contribute to and have greater influence in building sustainable peace and resilience, and benefit equally from the prevention of natural disasters and conflicts and humanitarian action

UN WOMEN also coordinates and promotes the UN system's work in advancing gender equality, and in all deliberations and agreements linked to the 2030 Agenda. The entity works to position gender equality as fundamental to the Sustainable Development Goals, and a more inclusive world.

The United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) is a knowledge hub providing advisory and consulting services to all stakeholders on South-South and triangular cooperation. It enables developing countries to effectively face their development challenges and harness opportunities to address them.

UNOSSC engages with Member States globally and regionally, as well as within the UN system to facilitate practical expressions of Southern solidarity towards the achievement of internationally agreed development goals. It works with a wide range of partners to harness emerging innovative financing mechanisms through South-South and triangular cooperation. UNOSSC also ensures that our Southern constituencies have timely access to high-quality analytical planning, and reporting on data, trends and opportunities that will propel South-South and triangular cooperation in ways that ensure success.

The UN Office for South-South Cooperation intends to be nearer to the countries and institutions engaged in the shaping and implementation of South-South and triangular cooperation through its regional offices. The Asia-Pacific Region is diverse and expansive. It plays a critical role in defining South-South cooperation, nurturing its development and scope within and outside the Region. The call of the UN Office for South-South Cooperation in Asia Pacific is to be flexible, dynamic and innovative in its work with other UN Agencies, governments, intergovernmental organisations, and non-state actors to respond to the needs of the region. It also provides opportunities for dialogues towards a stronger partnership.

