

## International Day of Women and Girls in Science



### Event Details:

**Date:** 11 February 2022

**Time:** 14:00 – 18:00

**Co-Curate Partners:** UAE Ministry of Industry and Advanced Technology (MOIAT), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA)

**Venue:** The Nexus for People & Planet

### EVENT SUMMARY

Women have played an essential role in driving innovation and progress in science and technology, yet those accomplishments often remain unrecognized, underrepresented, and underappreciated. To commemorate the 2022 International Day of Women and Girls in Science, Expo 2020 Dubai in partnership with UAE Ministry of Industry and Advanced Technology (MOIAT), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA) will be hosting an event to celebrate their contributions and achievements, and to encourage the next generation of young women and girls to pursue careers in the sciences.

The event will specifically focus on new and emerging fields of space, climate change and energy, and computer science because they have immense potential as rapidly evolving areas. In addition to playing a defining role in our shared future, these disciplines are essential in the ongoing Digital Revolution and will lead to economic growth, resource optimization, propel breakthroughs and innovations, and ultimately impact gender equity and inclusivity.

<b>14:00 – 15:00</b>	<b>Registration &amp; Networking</b> Start the day with an informal opportunity to meet and connect with other attendees
<b>15:00 – 15:05</b>	<b>Welcome Remarks</b> <b>Dr. Maggie Aderin-Pocock</b> , <i>Space Scientist and Science Communicator</i> , will welcome the attendees, provide an overview of the sessions lined ahead and introduce the cross-cutting themes of the day.
<b>15:05 – 15:10</b>	<b>Keynote Address   Changing the Equation: UAE Women at the Forefront</b> <b>Her Excellency Sarah Al Amiri</b> , <i>UAE Minister of State for Advanced Technology, Ministry of Industry and Advanced Technology, and Chairperson, UAE Space Agency</i> will highlight the importance of the International Day of Women and Girls in Science and the remarkable contributions of women to UAE's science and technology agenda.
<b>15:10 – 15:15</b>	<b>Opening Address</b> <b>Dr. Shamila Nair-Bedouelle</b> , <i>Assistant Director-General for Natural Sciences, UNESCO</i> will deliver an address through a video message focusing on the historical significance of the International Day of Women and Girls in Science, the contributions of women in the sciences, as well as the ongoing need to make climate change and innovation in STEM more gender inclusive.

<p><b>15:15 – 15:50</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Satellite Talk   The Next Giant Leap</b></p> <p><b>Anousheh Ansari (Virtual)</b>, <i>CEO of XPrize</i>, will share an account of her space visit as the world’s first female space tourist and why it was a giant leap for womankind.</p> <p>Following her story, <b>Dr. Maggie Aderin-Pocock</b> will moderate a panel discussion between <b>Simonetta Di Pippo (Virtual)</b>, <i>Director, UNOOSA</i>; <b>Fatima Al-Shamsi</b>, <i>Head of Space Policy and Regulations Section, UAE Space Agency</i>; <b>Zainab Azim</b>, <i>Co-Founder of G.I.V.E; UN Space4Women Mentor</i>; and <b>Salma Sylla Mbaye</b>, <i>IAU National Outreach Coordinator for Senegal</i>. They will speak about how they nurtured their space ambitions, their vision for the future of space exploration and research, and what it will take for more women to shoot for the stars. The panellists will also take questions from the audience.</p>
<p><b>15:50 – 16:25</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Power Panel   Closing the Gender Gap in STEM &amp; Innovation</b></p> <p><b>Dr. Maggie Aderin-Pocock</b> will engage with a panel of powerhouses of science, technology and innovation: <b>Dr. Hayat Sindi</b>, <i>UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador for Science</i>; <b>Anna Andersone</b>, <i>Co-Creator and Chief Empowerment Officer, Riga TechGirls</i>; <b>Professor Lourdes F. Vega</b>, <i>Director of Research and Innovation Centre for Co2 and Hydrogen (RICH) and Professor of Chemical Engineering, Khalifa University</i>; <b>Professor Kyoko Nozaki (Virtual)</b>, <i>2021 FWIS Laureate and Professor of Chemistry at University of Tokyo</i>; <b>Professor Catherine Ngila (Virtual)</b>, <i>2021 FWIS Laureate and Acting Executive Director of the African Academy of Sciences</i>; and <b>Professor Karen Hallberg (Virtual)</b>, <i>2019 FWIS Laureate and Principal Researcher, Argentine Council for Science and Technology</i>.</p> <p>They will speak to the role of science in transforming women’s lives and the steps needed to close the gender divide in STEM and Innovation. Their stories will illustrate how women are already re-defining science and innovation for a more inclusive future. The panel will also feature previous Laureates of the L’Oréal-UNESCO For Women in Science (FWIS) International Awards.</p>
<p><b>16:25- 16:35</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Coffee Break</b></p>
<p><b>16:35 – 17:05</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Fireside Chat   The Burning Question</b></p> <p>In this fireside chat, <b>HE Dr. Nawal Al Hosany</b>, <i>Permanent Representative of the UAE to the International Renewable Energy Agency</i>, <b>Christiana Figueres (Virtual)</b>, <i>Former Executive Secretary, UN Framework Convention on Climate Change</i> and <b>Mariam Gulamhusein</b>, <i>Advisory Board Member at Pioneer Academics</i> will answer the burning question: what role will women play in saving the planet?</p> <p>They will discuss the unique position of women in the climate action movement and their contributions to innovative solutions for a climate resilient future.</p> <p><b>Christiana Figueres</b> will also read out an excerpt from her book “The Future We Choose: Surviving the Climate Crisis” to rally support for gender equality in climate decision making.</p>

<p><b>17:05 - 17:15</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Spotlight   An Inclusive Future</b></p> <p>The session opens with a video from <i>Laboratoria</i>, an organisation that is working to change the future of thousands of women in Latin America through bootcamps on digital skills like User Experience Design and Web Development. This will be followed by a talk by <b>Pilar Figueroa</b>, <i>Product Manager, Crowdbotics</i>, a graduate from the organisation.</p>
<p><b>17:15 - 17:55</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Interactive Masterclass   Decoding Coding</b></p> <p>Have you ever wondered what coding is but didn't know who to ask? Your journey to becoming a tech pioneer begins here! This interactive workshop by <b>Accenture</b> breaks down the fundamentals of coding and demystify programming for audience members looking to learn something new.</p>
<p><b>17:55 - 18:00</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Wrap-Up</b></p> <p><b>Dr. Maggie Aderin-Pocock</b> will reflect on the highlights, insightful conversations and key takeaways from the day. Stitching together the running themes of the day, this closing session will aim to leave the audience with a resolve to empower, support and celebrate women in STEM!</p>