



## INTERNATIONAL DAY OF WOMEN AND GIRLS IN SCIENCE FEBRUARY 11

Women have literally played a role with men through 4,000 years of recorded history in terms of science. There have been many women scientists in all fields, very often relegated to footnotes in history. The Logo shows that great women in science, who initially paved the way for those who come later in every walk of life, will encourage girls to see women role models in order to find the inspiration to enter into science. The Logo color shows equality, equity and parity of science, and that science belongs to all citizens, male or female, rich or poor, young or old.

As we enter the fourth industrial revolution, we are in uncharted waters that offer unprecedented opportunities for wealth creation to those who can help solve the world's biggest challenges. Women, with their deep understanding of the unmet needs and problems of the poorest, are uniquely positioned to help solve them.

Today seems to be the first time in history that governments, businesses and civil societies across the globe are aligned in what the problems are and in committing resources and so creating attractive markets to address them. Integral investing provides an inclusive and sustainable model for investing in our future. Despite some progress, most women still cannot access enough STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) skills, productive assets like financial capital, and networks to capitalize on their knowledge and build comfortable living situations for families.

Young girls need to start their STEM education early in order to enter the industries most likely to create innovative solutions in renewable energy, aerospace and air transportation, agriculture and mining, education, ICT infrastructure, as well as the traditional lucrative sectors of real estate, construction, manufacturing, healthcare, technology and financial services.

Women and men together need to share their best practices, strategies and applied solutions which address the challenges and provide opportunities for:

- Understanding Investment in women in science for inclusive green growth through capacity building, cooperation in addressing policy concerns, stakeholder coordination, and dissemination of this information
- Researching specific topics and opportunities for global, regional or national status of women in science, and an evaluation of the economic and social impact of Women in Science in Sustainable Development Programs.

To develop the necessary skills that will be in demand in the economy of tomorrow, STEM training must be made a priority for all females around the world. STEM strengthens critical-thinking skills, fosters collaboration and prioritizes problem-based learning, which drives innovation, the fuel for

economic success. It is the first time in history that governments, businesses and civil societies across the globe are aligned in what the problems are and in committing resources and so creating attractive markets to address them. Women, with their deep understanding of the unmet needs and problems of the poorest, are uniquely positioned to help solve them.

- Compiled by Ethel Howley, SSND

