



International Organization
for
Chemical Sciences in Development

Perspective

Encouraging women and girls in science

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The International Day of Women and Girls in Science on February 11 and the *International Women's Day* on March 8 represent important and meaningful occasions to not only celebrate the success of women in science and the wider community, but also to encourage women and girls to develop their self-confidence, to freely express their views and opinions, and to take on more proactive roles and positions in the community. The community should be reminded that there is no difference between men and women in terms of their intellectual ability and their capability in doing science and in the broader sense, science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). As long as one has the passion, dedication and determination, one can excel in all fronts regardless of one's gender, race or background.

Apart from gender issues, the community should also be reminded of equality, diversity and inclusion, not only on the special day but also every day in our life.

To celebrate the centenary of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) in 2019, IUPAC is inviting scientists and students around the world to join in a *Global Women's Breakfast*. The event is titled "*Empowering Women in Chemistry: A Global Networking Event*" and aims to assist women chemists to expand their network of contacts, both locally and internationally. It will be launched in New Zealand on the morning of 12 February 2019, and progress through the Asia-Pacific region into Europe, Africa and finally onto the American region.

For details, see the IUPAC website here: <https://iupac.org/100/global-breakfast/>

To join in this great occasion, the Chinese Chemical Society (CCS) will be holding Women's Breakfast Meetings in different regions of the country on 12 February 2019 morning, including Beijing, Changchun, Changsha, Guangzhou, Hong Kong, Lanzhou and Shanghai. Connection across the different cities will be made through WeChat and sharing and uploading of video clips.

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