

## PICTURE A SCIENTIST

Directed by Ian Cheney & Sharon Shattuck



### **Rania Charkaoui - Biomedical Engineer and co-founder of WomInTech**

Rania Charkaoui is a final year master's student in biomedical engineering at the Brussels School of Engineering. She is the co-founder of WomInTech. This project is a student initiative mainly acting at the ULB that aims to promote engineering studies among girls in high school and to raise awareness around gender diversity in engineering schools. WomInTech wants to show that women have a place in engineering and, more generally, aims to deconstruct the stereotypes associated with these studies.



### **Judith Litjens - Policy Officer at the COST Association**

Judith Litjens has been employed as a Policy Officer at the COST Association since 2018. She coordinates the COST Cross-Cutting Activity (CCA) network on science communication, helps to organise COST Connect events which aim to create synergies between research and innovation stakeholders working on topics high on the EU agenda. Last year she coordinated the first ever COST Connect event on 'advancing gender equality in research and innovation'. In previous roles, Judith worked on gender equality policy at the European Commission (DG JUST/D2), as a European Advisor at the UK Research Office in Brussels, and as a Research Fellow at the University of Edinburgh.



### **Laura Cassio - Senior Expert in the Office of the Director General of the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission (JRC)**

Laura Cassio is the JRC Equality coordinator and provides strategic analysis and advice on issues related to broad social aspects, liaising the provision of JRC scientific support with the development of policies in related fields. A European Commission official since 1998, she has worked on several policy initiatives aimed to enhancing equality and inclusion in education, culture, employment, and improving measures for poverty reduction and inclusion of disadvantaged minorities.



### **Dagmar Schumacher - Director of the UN Women Brussels Office**

Dagmar Schumacher is the Director of the Brussels office of the UN Entity for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (UN Women). Ms. Schumacher previously worked at the headquarters of the United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme, Bonn, as Chief of the Partnerships Section. From 1998 – 2002 she worked with UNDP in Hanoi, heading the Poverty and Social Development Unit; before which she worked with the UN in Latin America and New York. She holds a Master Degree from Kiel University.



### **Caroline Petit (moderator) - Deputy Director, UNRIC**

Caroline Petit is currently in charge of the UN Regional Information Center. Ms Petit previously worked at United Nations HQ in New York as Chief of the Partnership Unit from 2001 to 2013. Before joining the UN, she worked for the Media Programme of the European Commission as Head of Marketing, as European Fundraiser at the National Film TV School in London and Head of the International Department at the European Film College in Denmark.

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# GENDER EQUALITY TODAY FOR A SUSTAINABLE TOMORROW

8 March 2022

#IWD2022

## International Women's Day

Globally, only 33 per cent of researchers are women, and they are awarded less research funding than men, and are less likely to be promoted. In the private sector too, women are less present in company leadership and in technical roles in tech industries. Women account for just 22 per cent of professionals working in artificial intelligence and 28 per cent of engineering graduates. These glaring under representations limit our ability to find inclusive, sustainable solutions to modern problems and build a better society for all. This International Women's Day, 8 March, join us under the theme "Gender equality today for a sustainable tomorrow", and call for climate action for women, by women.

With the latest data, we now understand the vital link between gender, social equity and climate change, and recognise that without gender equality today, a sustainable future, an equal future, remains out of reach. Women and girls experience the greatest impacts of the climate crisis as it amplifies existing gender inequalities and puts women's lives and livelihoods at risk. As women and girls bear the burden of climate impacts, they are also essential to leading and driving change in climate adaption, mitigation and solutions. Without the inclusion of half of the world's population, it is unlikely that solutions for a sustainable planet and a gender equal world tomorrow will be realised.

More information about the Generation Equality Forum visit

<https://forum.generationequality.org/> and the Action Coalition for Feminist Action for Climate Justice at [https://forum.generationequality.org/sites/default/files/2021-09/FACJ\\_AC%20.pdf](https://forum.generationequality.org/sites/default/files/2021-09/FACJ_AC%20.pdf).

