



International Day of Women and Girls in Science

by Ir. Prof. Dr Leong Wai Yie

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Celebrating International Day of Women and Girls in Science at the Study Melbourne Hub in KL with Women in Rail Malaysia. The celebration was hosted by Women in Rail Malaysia. Guest Panelists Natasha Zulkifli (YTL Construction), Prof. Ir. Dr Wai Yie Leong and An-Nuura Nasuha (MITI Special Officer), entitled "Why the STEM Industry Needs Bold, Courageous and Resilient Women".

The panellists shared on the women's full and equal access to and participation in science, and discussed those that are leading action and innovation around the world. Participants were keen on inclusive, sustainable solutions to modern problems and building a better society for all. To have an impressive career path, reaching an executive level that is not as common for women as for men, panellists share on 'Stay hungry. Stay foolish' principles. There are several causes why women are so poorly represented in the managerial positions and more exactly in the top management: society's beliefs related to the woman's and man's role; marriage and children; a lack of facilities (kindergarten) for working women; men's prejudices; the omnipresence of men's values in organizational cultures. There are many questions regarding the men's acceptance of women's values in their managerial activities.



Front left 1: Prof. Ir. Dr Wai Yie Leong, Natasha Zulkifli (YTL Construction) and An-Nuura Nasuha (MITI Special Officer)

Most of the C-suite executives in large companies worked their way up internally. If you can position yourself in the right entry-level role and succession of roles, you'll find yourself on the right path to the C-suite. Many aspiring CEOs choose to gain substantial operational experience, such as running regional or international divisions, before they take the top job. Having solid financial skills, software skills, communication skills and multidisciplinary knowledge, can also increase your chances of reaching the C-suite.

The International Day of Women and Girls in Science is the 11th day of February, by resolution of the United Nations General Assembly on 22 December 2015. The international day recognizes the critical role women and girls play in science and technology.

Taking on the greatest challenges currently facing the global community will mean harnessing all talent. As the world continues to grapple with COVID-19 and the critically important climate crisis, the full and equal participation and leadership of women and girls in the science and technology communities is more important than ever. Now is the time to recognize women's contributions in research and innovation, smash stereotypes and defeat discrimination against women and girls in science.