



World Forum for Women in Science | Brazil 2020

Brief report by GYA member Shalini Arya

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GYA member [Shalini Arya](#) (India), co-lead of the [Women in Science](#) working group 2019/20, was selected to attend a workshop on “Skills for Communication and Leadership in a 5G World” and the 4th International Conference for Women in Science without Borders: Energy, Water, Health, Agriculture and Environment for Sustainable Development, in the context of the [World Forum for Women in Science](#) in Brazil in February 2020.

The World Forum for Women in Science gathering was attended by women scientists from more than 40 different countries and from diverse disciplines. This event highlighted the transversality between women, science and the environment and stimulating scientific development. GYA alumna [Amal Amin](#) (Egypt) together with Marcia Barbosa, Marcia Margis and Carolina Cotta were the organising committee members for both events.

How to arouse people’s interest in scientific issues? How to build an empathy between scientist and the public? This task is not easy but it is also not impossible, this was what was effectively taught during the two-day workshop on skills for communication and leadership in a 5G world. The workshop was attended by women scientist from Asia, Africa, Europe and the Americas. The workshop enabled women scientists to communicate their science effectively on various platforms like social media, newspapers, YouTube channels etc. Communication practitioners like Nerina Finnetto from TracesDreams empowered women scientists to communicate science in the form of storytelling. In addition to this, relevant issues such as building a good image, understanding journalistic language, data narratives, engaging audiences, setting up communication plan, preparation guidelines and numerous other interesting things were discussed.

Currently climate change and its impact on nature is the topic of interest globally. Therefore, the theme of the conference was Energy, Water, Health, Agriculture and Environment for Sustainable Development. In addition to this various issues such as poor representation of women in various disciplines (physics, engineering,

Mathematics etc.), gender inequality etc. was discussed, and how this problem could be solved through networking and collaborating.

In her role as co-lead of the GYA working group on Women in Science, Shalini also presented about the Global Young Academy, its vision and mission. She also addressed the many self-doubts relating to joining the GYA raised by women scientists across the different countries. Shalini also delivered a talk on sustainable foods.





