## "Encouraging girls to study geosciences and engineering" – Improving gender balance in geoscience

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It cannot be denied how essential it is to have a research field that is ethical, accessible, and diverse. The second half of the twentieth century was marked by a gradually developing knowledge of the importance of working toward a more gender-balanced societal structure. This awareness was one of the defining characteristics of this period. Because of this, throughout the course of the last several decades, there has been an increase in the amount of attention given to the issue of "gender and science," highlighting the degree to which professions in science and academics are still prone to gender discrimination.

There is an imbalance in the gender pattern across the field of geosciences, particularly in the areas of mineral exploration and extraction. It is often characterized by males and persistent male stereotypes at practically all levels in enterprises, society, professional societies, and education and research. Nevertheless, research shows that more diverse teams generate more creative and inventive ideas. Participation of women in businesses connected to raw materials is thus required, and integration of women in these sectors may be seen as a desired component of business strategies.

The "ENGIE – Encouraging Girls to Study Geosciences and Engineering" project aims to stimulate the interest of young women between the ages of 13 and 18 in pursuing a career in geosciences and other areas of study that are associated with engineering. It is predicted that the project's effect will contribute to an increase in the gender balance in the areas of these disciplines, which will contribute to the achievement of the goals of the project. This is due to the fact that the majority of individuals make decisions about their careers during this phase of their lives.

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