

# Editorial

*I*n recent years, there has been a decline in the interest of young people in traditional technical careers, such as engineering, in many countries around the world, including Colombia. This trend has significant consequences for both university institutions and the workforce.

One of the main consequences is the decline in enrollment in engineering programs at universities. This has a direct impact on the financial sustainability of universities, as fewer students mean less revenue. Additionally, a decline in enrollment in engineering programs can lead to a decline in the quality of education, as universities may struggle to attract and retain high-quality faculty members in the absence of sufficient student enrollment. Another consequence is the potential shortage of qualified engineers in the workforce. Engineering is a critical profession that is essential for the development of infrastructure and technology, and a shortage of engineers can impede progress and innovation in these areas. Furthermore, the decline in interest in engineering can also lead to a shortage of professionals in other technical fields, such as construction and manufacturing, as many of these fields rely on engineers to design and develop new products and processes.

There are several possible causes of the decline in interest in traditional technical careers. One possible cause is a lack of awareness of the opportunities and benefits that these careers offer. Many young people may not be aware of the high demand for engineers and the potential for high-paying and fulfilling careers. Additionally, the image of engineering as a "nerdy" or "uncool" profession may also discourage young people from pursuing it. Another possible cause is the perception that these careers are not as flexible or creative as other careers. Many young people may be more interested in careers that allow them to express their individuality and creativity, such as the arts or entrepreneurship. Furthermore, the lack of flexibility in traditional technical careers may also discourage some young people from pursuing them, as they may not have the ability to change careers easily or have the same opportunities to work remotely as other careers.

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