



**Millennia2015 International  
seminar 2011  
Séminaire international 2011 de  
Millennia2015**

**Foresight analysis of the 37  
variables of Millennia2015 +  
Session Women and eHealth  
Analyse prospective des 37  
variables de Millennia2015 +  
Session Femmes et eSanté**

21 November 2011 - 9h00 -17h30  
Salle Vendôme, Ecole des Mines - Paris

Processus de  
recherche  
prospective et  
conférences  
internationales

Liège 2008  
Paris 2012  
New York 2015

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**Millennia2015 in the context of gender equality  
for women's empowerment  
Coumba Sylla, research fellow for Millennia2015**

The Millennia2015 foresight research process is in line with the context of gender equality and women's empowerment. The 37 variables of Millennia2015 are dedicated to the global challenges at all levels and in different fields. This is why Millennia2015 works in collaboration with many organizations from 78 countries and international institutions. Besides, Millennia2015 supports the local, regional and international events to make gender equality a generality.

**Supporting global events**

All over the year, Millennia2015 supports the awareness campaign and contribute to the vast network of mobilization.

In November, the international community is mobilized to stop violence against women. Millennia2015 supports the campaign Say no – Unite to end violence against women (<http://www.saynotoviolence.org/>) organized by UN Women as well as the 16 Days of Activism for No Violence Against Women, global campaign organized from 25 November until 10 December. In that framework, Millennia2015 will participate to the day of white poppy organized in Belgium and in many countries on 22 November.

Millennia2015 rallies for all the victims of war in the framework of the white poppy day on 11 November. A strong mobilization exists into the Millennia2015 community to create an action plan for women in situation of war and conflicts. The Millennia2015 DRC Goma community and the International network for democracy and peace in Belgium work in that way (<http://www.rifdp.org/>).

Struggle to stop violence against women is part of the challenges of Millennia2015. These challenges are the basis of women's rights. All of them should have access to those rights: health, employment, struggle of poverty.

In the framework of struggle against cancer and in coherence with the principle of digital solidarity, Millennia2015 supports youth creativity by participating and releasing the video clip of the hip hop group Eklectik Musique Face au cancer (<http://www.eklectikmusique.com/face-au-cancer>)

Creativity is part of Millennia2015 keys principles as well as pro activity, well-being, intergenerational transmission, creativity, innate women's strength, solidarity and ethics. Those principles are transverse and applicable in all fields.

Dora Sende, president of the association of women's for children and environment protection, members and contributors of Millennia2015 told us that she is mobilized for the World Day for Prevention of Abuse and Violence against Children on 19 November in order to create a framework of non-violence for children's stability.

In the context of human's rights respect, Millennia2015 will celebrate the international day for human's rights on 10 December.

Children's future is part of the challenges that civil society will have to face in the upcoming year and that will determine the societal evolution as well as environment, migration, discrimination and stereotypes, Medias, research or ecology.

To support those global events, Millennia2015 publishes calls for solidarity, testimonies, awareness campaign on his website or within the Millennia2015 women-foresight list and participate to events. Millennia2015 promote the exchanges and sharing of information to mobilize, sensitize, think and act.

International mobilization and events are an inspiration for Millennia2015 which relies on what already exist to establish itself a multidisciplinary and unique international foresight research process

## Acting in coherence with international actors

### Our partners

The foresight research process works in partnership with many organizations among which:

- EarthTalent in order to support women's empowerment by the promotion of their creativity;
- Institute for the equality of women and men that actively promotes gender equality in Belgium via awareness campaign, advocacy or juridical actions;
- The Millenium Project that gathers foresight experts who support the Millennia2015 foresight methodology;
- The international organization of la Francophonie that acts for gender equality in French-speaking countries;
- The World Summit on the Information Society where emerged the idea of Millennia2015

### Acting in line with international institutions

#### UNESCO

Gender equality is one of the top priorities of the UNESCO for the period 2008-2013. Millennia2015 has the patronage of the UNESCO and the international conference will be organized at his headquarters.

#### UN Women

UN Women has developed six strategic main axes. For many of them, Millennia2015 works on one or more variables with a direct link:

- Women against women: V19 and V25;
- Peace and security: V37, V38, V41;
- Leadership and participation: V41, V18, V36;
- Economic empowerment: V09, V48, V35.

### **CEDAW**

The Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women is a strategic juridical tool for women's empowerment. With the variables V31, V25, V12 or V23 Millennia2015 works on women's stereotypes, discriminations, status of women and men in the society and respect in order to change mentalities as the youngest age. "*Brain has no sex, education determine the brain*" as said Catherine Vidal, neurobiologist at the Institut Pasteur in Paris.

### **International organization of la Francophonie (IOF)**

Millennia2015 works in the same way as the Gender equality section of the IOF. Millennia2015 has opened a francophone forum where Members from French-speaking countries debates, spread information, etc.

### **Rio+20**

The international conference Rio+20 will be organized in June 2012 with the aim of creating an institutional framework for sustainable development. The variables V05 and V13 work on those challenges. Indirectly, Millennia2015 combines V08, V09, V2 and V26 to make women's involved in environment decision-making.

### **Common and complementary action with civil society organizations**

Millennia2015 works with the European Women's Lobby, AWID, Gender in Action, WEDO or Mediaterrre. They spread and share information, debates regarding women's rights or their role in the sustainable development. They realize actions for gender equality. Those organizations share the same goals as Millennia2015 while working differently. They take actions while Millennia2015 works on the long-term research. Those various guiding lines are complementary and essential for women's empowerment and gender equality today and tomorrow. Their interaction strengthens the efficiency of their respective actions.

### **Participative and collaborative work at a local level**

Millennia2015 works in partnership with the association of women entrepreneurs of Belgium, the association of women entrepreneurs Senegal or the international network of women for peace and democracy in Belgium

### **Towards new collaborations**

Millennia2015 hopes developing an interaction with AWODIAG or the European club of women's entrepreneurs which representatives are today as the convergence exists with regards to entrepreneurial or migration challenges.

The ambition of Millennia2015 is to commute those programmers at a local level for a population who is sometimes uneducated or misinformed. The creation of Millennia2015 local communities in DRC, Benin or Senegal will help popularizing those international strategic tools of empowerment thanks to the information society, awareness campaign or trainings fitted to the specificities of every region (theatre, debates, seminar, etc). The members will build their action plan for women's

empowerment that takes into account the skills and capacities of the population as well as their expectations and their cultural specificities.

## Conclusion

Thanks to its international network, Millennia2015 gathers challenges that have priority within a unique international foresight research process. Those interdependent challenges will make scenarios at the horizon 2025 emerge. The plurality of stakeholders with the profile, their expectations, their motivation and the sharing of their skills and their knowledge is strength of Millennia2015.

Millennia2015 does not pretend to change the world but arouse the interest in order to provoke the reflection and the debate for awareness about the possibility and the need to define now the future global challenges for women in order to work, to fit and to not be surprised in 2025.

Each organization that acts for women's rights respect can find convergences with Millennia2015. Those organizations have an inspiration for the foresight research process, their contribution strengthens Millennia2015 legitimacy and their collaboration reinforces Millennia2015 efficiency. Millennia2015 is not another association for gender but an innovative process that gathers on the long run stakeholders for women's empowerment. The plurality and the combination of their knowledge, experiences and expertise define the futures that we want for women and future generation. Everyone can recognize itself in Millennia2015.