



The Millennium Project
World Federation of UN Associations

Millennia 2015

Women actors of development for the global challenges

Research Process and International Conference

Brussels Area Node Highlights
Marie-Anne Delahaut

WFUNA Millennium Project Planning Committee

Washington, 25.07.2008

<http://www.millennia2015.org>



Abstract

The process of Millennia 2015 is developed by The Destree Institute and its partners in three sessions (2008, 2011, 2015).

The main message of Millennia 2015 is to enhance the driving force of women for the benefit of humanity as a whole, with foresight as method and information society as context.

The objective is to develop a positive vision of the future envisioned by women for the entire world at the horizon 2025.

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1. The Destree Institute

The Destree Institute is a European research centre based in Wallonia (Belgium). Founded in 1938, the NGO is politically and philosophically independent. Its main units cover Research (history and economics), Information society (foresight and governance of the Internet), Foresight (regional development) and Citizenship (including civil society in decision making).

The Destree Institute is a member of the Millennium Project and founder of the Brussels Area Node and of the European Millennium Project Initiative (EuMPI, http://www.wallonie-en-ligne.net/2005_EuMPI/index.htm). The Destree Institute has translated and published "The State of the Future" in French in 2005 and in 2006:

(<http://www.institut-destree.eu/Reseaux/Millennium-Project.htm>).



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2. The Destree Institute, governance and the information society

The Destree Institute participates in the process of the **World Summit on the information society** (WSIS) initiated by the United Nations Secretary General (Geneva 2003 and Tunis 2005 - <http://www.itu.int/wsis/index.html>).

As a contribution to the WSIS, The Destree Institute has organized the international conference "**Foresight of the Internet**" (Namur 2005), to study the transversal issues of the governance of the Internet and to work on the human resources necessary to build a knowledge-based society. The results (book and DVD-book *Foresight & Governance of the Internet*) have been presented during the Tunis WSIS in 2005:

http://www.wallonie-en-ligne.net/2005_Prospective-Internet/index.htm



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3. Women actors of development for the global challenges

The next step for The Destree Institute was to develop one of the key topics of those studies and to work on **Gender issues at the horizon 2015**, in line with:

- The achievements of the **United Nations World Conference of Women** held in New York in 2005 (Beijing +10);
- The **United Nations Millennium Development Goals**;
- The 15 challenges developed in the *State of the Future* by the **Millennium Project of the World Federation of United Nations Associations**
- The "**Tunis Agenda for the Information Society**" of the WSIS and the Internet Governance Forum.

The new concept has been called "**Millennia 2015**", as a feminine version of the word "Millennium".



4. Millennia 2015: a think tank to enhance the driving force of women

Millennia 2015 aims to:

- enhance the driving force of women in the contemporary society, in order to increase their potential, to encourage their investment, and to wholly recognize their responsibility in the technological development for the benefit of humanity as a whole.
- explore the means leading towards increased equality and solidarity, in a context of respect for cultural and linguistic diversity as well as sustainable development.

Millennia 2015 uses **foresight as a method and work in the context of the information society** to develop a positive vision of the future envisioned by women in a world more conscious of the challenges of human rights and of sustainable development.



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5. The process of Millennia 2015: 3 levels of Foresight Research

- 2008: Information Transfer

Exchange and transmission of data as well as of analysis already collected or built, used to inform the participants or to question the society.

- 2011: Knowledge Processes

Interactive building processes, step-by-step, for an innovative knowledge and a strategy made of precise actions.

- 2015: Intelligence Platforms

Collective dynamics of real field experiences exchanges and recombination of tools realized in order to learn together as well as to launch innovative initiatives.

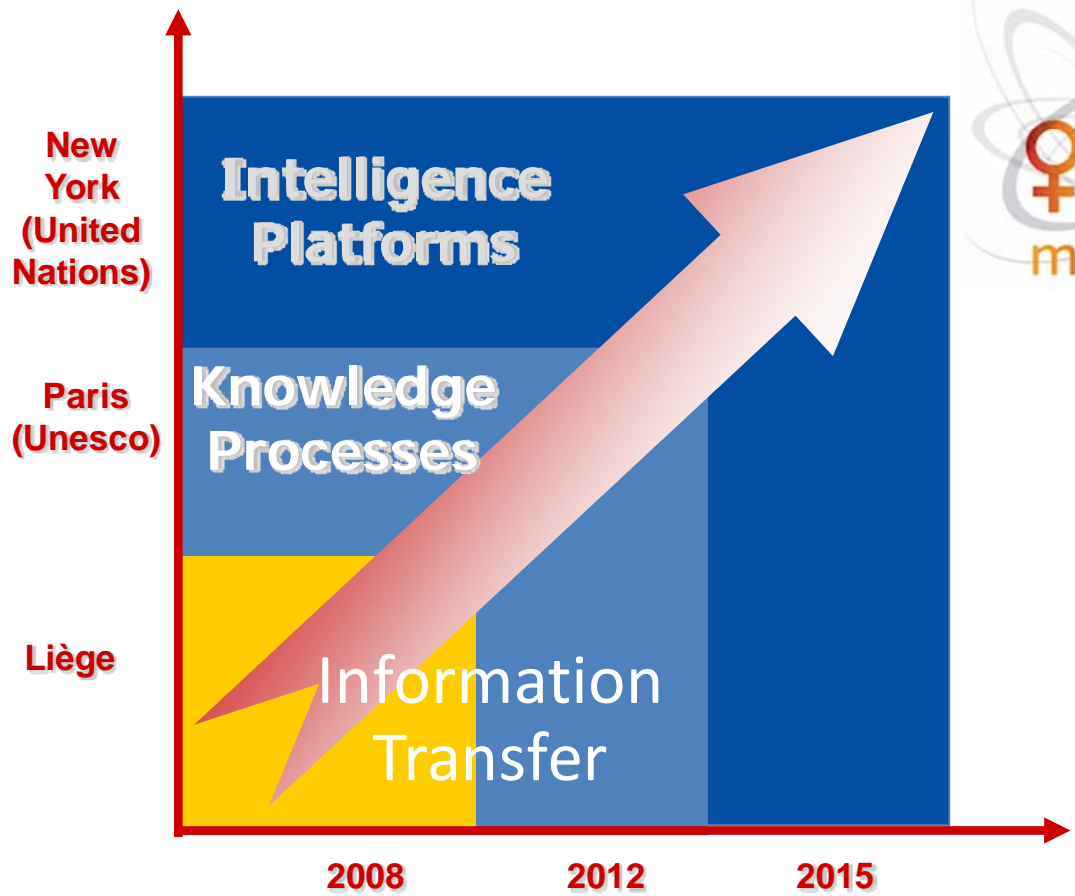
We plan to organize the second session in Paris (in collaboration with the UNESCO), and the third one in New York (in collaboration with the United Nations).



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6. The community of Millennia 2015

They have accepted to take up the challenge:

- The **Scientific Committee**, chaired by Françoise Massit-Folléa (Scientific Coordinator of the program Vox Internet, Home of Human Sciences, Foundation, Paris), with members of the WFUNA Millennium Project: Elizabeth Florescu (USA), Rosa Alegria (Brazil), Hind Almualla (United Arab Emirates), Catherine Cosgrove (Canada), Cornelia Daheim (Germany), Nadezhda Gaponenko (Russia), Zhouying Jin (China), Jan Lee Martin (Australia), Eleonora Masini (Italy), Concepcion Olavarietta (Mexico);
- **Women and men experts** coming from all the continents and from the United Nations (more than 30 countries represented in 2008), among which Jerome C. Glenn (USA), Theodore J. Gordon (USA), Hazel Henderson (USA), Pera Wells (United Nations). Many will also contribute online.

www.millennia2015.org/Intervenants_2008



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Millennia's speakers, Liège Convention Centre, 07.03.2008

Photo: Chiara Pontuali for The Destree Institute

Details: www.millennia2015.org/2008_photos_speakers

www.millennia2015.org/Photos_2008



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7-1. Topics of Millennia 2015 organized in plenary sessions (P) and in workshops (W), 7 and 8 March 2008 in Liege

P0- Women as actors of development for the global challenges;

P1- Access to information and knowledge: enhancing capacities for women;

P2- The long-term challenges for women assessed by the Millennium Project;

W1- Women and sustainable development;

W2- Enhancing women's rights, ethics, gender equality and political empowerment;

W3- Women entrepreneurship and new participative competences;



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7-2. Topics of Millennia 2015 organized in plenary sessions (P) and in workshops (W)

P3- Cultural and linguistic diversity, women and the governance of the Internet;

P4- Women actors of development and change, Women architects of the future;

W4- Education, research, training, and e-learning;

W5- Adding life to the years, science and technology benefiting women;

W6- Towards a knowledge society: creativity, cultures and media.

www.millennia2015.org/Actes_2008



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8. Memorandum of the 2008 session and mission of the Millennia Community



Pera Wells hopes that, *In our work together for Millennia, we can contribute to the cause of strengthening the capacities of international organizations and global networks to advance the status of women throughout the world.*

www.millennia2015.org/2008_Closing_Plenary_2



Eleonora Masini, professor Emeritus in the Faculty of Social Science of the Rome Gregorian University and former chair of the Millennium Project Italy Node, considers *the motivation of Millennia as crucial because we know that women can make a difference in society and, to do it we must develop the capacity of looking ahead.*

www.millennia2015.org/2008_Opening_Plenary_2





At the end of the 2008 session, Françoise Massit-Folléa, president of our Scientific Committee, has gathered the conclusions of our work in the Millennium's first memorandum.

We have symbolically presented the memorandum to Pera Wells, who is an attentive witness of our process and a guardian of its development.

www.millennia2015.org/2008_Closing_Plenary_3

www.millennia2015.org/2008_Photos_Closing_Plenary_3



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8. Millennia 2015: an interactive online process



millennia2015

Recherche : - entrez vos mots-clés - OK

recherche avancée

Accueil | Objectifs de Millennia 2015 | Organisation | Partenaires | Base de connaissance | La conférence

Imprimer

Accueil

Agora
Via Millennia
Infos

Millennia 2015, Femmes actrices de développement pour les enjeux mondiaux

On our way from Millennia 2008 to Millennia 2011, we have highlighted our will to concentrate on the transformation of the information collected into shared knowledge and to use the collaborative portal as a tool to promote that knowledge: <http://www.millennia2015.org>



The portal is powered by the International Organization of Francophonie (French speaking countries), so the first language developed on the portal is French - which is also WFUNA's second language). It will soon be developed in four languages (French, English, Spanish and German), with the collaboration of Millennia's Community.

The proceedings of the 2008 session, held in Liège (Wallonia) on 7 and 8 March 2008 are already online, in French and in English: documents, photos and video podcasts of all the interventions in the Plenary Sessions and in the Workshops.

www.millennia2015.org/Actes_2008

www.millennia2015.org/Photos_2008



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9. Agenda of the Millennia Networking:

- Tunis, 26-27.06.2008: High level symposium of the International Organization of Francophonie, "Les TIC au service de l'éducation";
<http://www.francophonie.org/>
- Brussels, 16-18.10.2008: World Congress of the Worldwide Network of Women Business Owners, "Sharing Experiences, Staying Informed";
<http://www.fcem.org/www/en/home.asp>
- Lyon, 25-27.11.2008: European Commission, DG Information Society and Media, 2008 ICT Event, "I"s to the Future, Invention - Innovation - Impact"
http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/events/cf/item-display.cfm?id=642



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10. Conclusions of the 2008 session: 7 goals identified for Millennia's community

1. Understand present and possible alternative futures in key domains of society:
 - politics (to respect and enforce women rights),
 - education (developing education for women, eradicate illiteracy, encouraging girls to study science, mathematics and new technologies, because these are the drivers of economic and social development and drivers of change in the status of women),
 - employment (breaking the glass-ceiling),
 - development (empowering women as women as actors of social change),
 - health,
 - access to ICT, information and knowledge;
2. Promote a culture of respect, of diversity and of peace;



3. Acknowledge the ability of women as drivers of social change and as mediators for a peace culture;
4. Recognize women as bearers of rights, as actors of changes and as builders of alternative futures,
5. Develop training and research (by, for and about women), in order to enforce equality between men and women in all respects and to formulate new concepts;
6. Enhance our critical, exploratory approach, in coherence with society, trying to measure the obstacles and the progresses: it is important to create a State of the Future Index (SOFI) on the status of women and to organize foresight workshops in every country, in order to prepare action;
7. Build networks around major issues on United Nations Agenda, in respect of cultural and linguistic diversity.



11. How to achieve these goals at the horizon 2015?

The community of Millennia will go on working, with the information society as a tool and foresight as a method.

Philippe Destatte, director general of The Destree Institute and chair of the Brussels Area Node will now present the details of the method to the WFUNA Millennium Project Planning Committee:

Building a methodology to achieve Millennia's Goals in 2015

Thank you!

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