GA/20/2



Association of Former International Civil Servants for Development

General Assembly Activity Report 2018-2019

1) DIALOGUE BETWEEN SENIORS AND MILLENNIALS ON THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS. Palais des Nations. 10.10. 2018



On October 10, 2018, the Association of Former International Civil Servants for Development (Greycells) celebrated its tenth anniversary by holding a dialogue at the Palais des Nations between representatives of seniors and millennials entitled: "Seniors and Millennials: Working Together for the Global Goals"

The views of both generations were exchanged and compared: on the one hand, older people's experience and advice, on the other hand, youth's future projects and hopes. What

are the views of the Millennials on the legacy and responsibilities of the older generation regarding the SDGs? How do the Millennials view their own later years, and what are their expectations? How do seniors view the opinions they had when they were young as compared to the Millennials' views? How can both young and old generations learn and benefit from each other in achieving the SDGs?



During the days preceding the Dialogue, thanks to state-of-the-art technology, the views, questions and comments of the young generation on the role of seniors were gathered through a world-wide social media campaign, organized in cooperation with the UN Secretariat. Greycells received contributions from 54 countries.

The Dialogue was introduced by Ms. Corinne Momal-Vanian on behalf of the Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva, Mr. Michael Møller, and by Mr. Serge Mimouni represented Ms. Esther Alder, President of the Department of Social Cohesion and Solidarity of the City of Geneva. The dialogue focused on poverty, inequality and migration; employment, retirement and professional projects; environment; gender: equal

rights and opportunities. Mr. Jeremy Seydoux facilitated the interactive discussion with the public.

The campaign and the dialogue had the benefit of participation by: The Seniors' City of the City of Geneva, the Platform of associations of senior people in Geneva, Geneva International Model United Nations (GIMUN), Young-UN, the Parliament of Young people in Geneva and Rotaract Geneva International.

The Dialogue was conducted in French with interpretation into English, it was followed by a reception hosted by Grey cells, the City of Geneva and its partners, with the kind participation of the United Nations Jazz Ensemble.

All information concerning the dialogue, including a film of the whole dialogue can be found at the following address:

http://greycells.ch/index.php?page=articles&fonction=voir&slug=10eme-anniversaire-degreycells-dialogue-intergenerationnel-sur-les-odds-20181019043731

2) STUDY TOUR OF STUDENTS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF PEKING TO GENEVA. 21-25 January 2019.

Greycells in collaboration with the University of Peking and the Chinese Students and Scholars Association in Geneva, organized a study tour for 23 students including training sessions and research on the United Nations



Office and specialized agencies in Geneva. Greycells held a session with the students on « What is an international civil servant? » including the following panellists:

- -Mr. Paul Rolian, Ex WTO
- -Ms. Cécile Molinier, Ex UNDP
- -Ms. Gesche Karrenbrock, Ex UNHCR
- -Mr. René Kirszbaum, Ex ILO
- -Ms. Manuela Tortora, Ex UNCTAD

Greycells was also responsible of the closing session and ceremony where each student presented the findings of his research as well as the basic learning on the study tour.

After grading the oral presentation by students, Greycells and the University of Peking will grade the research papers submitted.



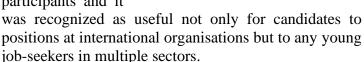
3) WORKSHOPS

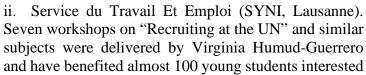
i. Workshop on "How to apply to UN vacancies and how to prepare to job interviews"



The Workshop was led by Virginia Humud Guerrero in collaboration with Manuela Tortora and Cécile Molinier. The workshop was highly

appreciated by all participants and it





in pursuing a career at the United Nations.



ii) Workshop on applying to posts in international organizations (or to any other private or public job)

The workshop aimed at providing the participants the required understanding and skills to enable them to maximize their interview skills and competencies for a successful interview and recruitment process. These skills are applicable to any job application in the international., public or private sectors.

The workshop will be divided in the 3 modules with a total of 7 hours spread over 3 days. By the end of the workshop, participants will be able to:

- ➤ Understand the importance of being familiar with the values, vision statement, strategies and goals and action plans of targeted organization;
- > Practice a 2' elevator pitch
- Understand competency-based interviews (CBI);
- ➤ Identify and understand how to develop a comprehensive CV relevant to appropriate positions;
- Conduct a competency based mock interview;
- > Review and rewrite attractive motivation letters.



The workshop is intended to be interactive with practical applications. Approximately 15% will have the format of lecture or presentation; 15% will be plenary discussions; 70% will be interactive, role playing and skills development.

The workshop was be free of charge but was limited to 24 participants. Participants are

required to attend the 3 days of the workshop; complete pre-workshop reading and bring along a paper copy of their most recent CV (electronic versions will not be accepted).

All relevant information on the workshop can be found at the following address:

http://greycells.ch/index.php?page=events&fonction=voir&id=36

4) FONDATION EDUKI



The collaboration with EDUKI is very dynamic and covers a variety of fields including their flagship activity #KidsWannaKnow to which Greyfriends have participated according to an agreed schedule but also by providing last-minute interventions when required. https://eduki.ch/en/activity/kidswannaknow

INTERVIEW DE CÉCILE MOLINIER À KIDSWANNAKNOW.



In the same line as previous years, Greycells contributed substantially to the 2018 Eduki Competition under the theme "Why School?".

Greycells contributed to the drafting and the translation into German and Italian of the main document of the competition, as well as other materials translated into Italian. On 20 April 2018, Ms Maria Sabina Yeterian-Parisi, member of Greycells, and Manuela Tortora took a class with 2 Italian-speaking school groups to a morning walk around the Place des Nations to explain the United Nations objectives, the SDG's and who is doing what in each of UNO's buildings.

Greycells was also requested to be part of the Jury to award prices on the "Concrete

Action" section of the competition which included a selection of around 50 projects submitted by schools all over Switzerland. Greycells participated in such category at the ceremony at the Palais des Nations that took place on April 20th, 2018.



5) DIALOGUES GREYCELLS

A Greycells Dialogue was conveyed on the subject: What are the challenges of a career on international environment issues? Greycells Dialogue This was especially addressed to students who are considering a career in this field, participants included interested in other developmental



issues. The Dialogue was organized and chaired by Manuela Tortora, Greycells' Vice-President and the panellist were: Sylvie Motard, Deputy Director, UNEP, Geneva, - Nicolas Bertrand, Head of Cabinet at IUCN, International Union for the Conservation of Nature. -David Vivas Eugui, Legal Officer, Trade, Environment and Development Branch, UNCTAD, -Elizabeth Crudgtington, Trainer and Facilitator at Bright Green Learning -Clément Hanser, Master Student.



i. In collaboration with Geneva International Model United Nations (GIMUN), Greycells organized a dialogue on "What is an International Civil Servant? What independence, what neutrality? It was conceived and put together by Manuela Tortora and moderated by Cécile Molinier. The panellists were: John

Burley, Gesche Karrenbrock, Moritz Meier-Ewert, Yves Beigbeder and Pierre Sob. Participants came from a variety of horizons, including GIMUN, ROTARACT and Greyfriends.

6) UNOG's Pre-Retirement Seminar.

Following an invitation by UNOG's Centre for Learning and Multilingualism, Greycells participated at UNOG's 2018 Pre-Retirement Seminar. Manuela Tortora participated as panellists. A Greycells stand was installed.





7) MENTORING ACTIVITIES

Besides their multiple activities supporting Greycells' agenda, Manuela Cécile Molinier, Virginia-Tortora, Humud Guerrero, René Kirszbaum, Jean Erhardt and Vlasta Macku and Alejandro Bonilla Garcia are mentors of university and master's degree students. Mentees have been instrumental in



spreading the word of our activities and ensuring participation at our dialogues and workshops. There is a high demand for mentors so Greyfriends are encouraged to explore the possibility of becoming mentors.

8) 1% for Development Fund.

Grey cells participated in the General Assembly of the 1% Fund for



development. Greycells provided advice and guidance to a project proposal submitted to the Fund by Fiji.

9) Forum Suisse de Politique internationale

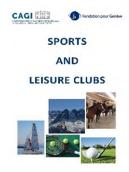
Considering the common objectives, shared principles and value added of the FSPI, Greycells



has continue to contribute to publicize PSPI activities, in particular their "Déjeuners-Débats"

10) Foundation for Geneva & CAGI

Aiming at enhancing visibility of the SDG's as well as to raise funds to be used in the promotion and implementation of the SDG's, contacts have continued with the Foundation for Geneva and the Geneva Welcome Centre (CAGI). A guide to the intention of the diplomats in Geneva was published.





11) PLATEFORME DES ASSOCIATIONS D'AÎNÉS DE GENÈVE

Following a decision by the Executive Committee, Greycells has become member of the Platform which will enhance contacts, exchange of information and possible collaboration

with local NGO's and associations. Greycells will attend the Platform General Assembly by the end of February 2019.

12) PUBLICATIONS

UN SPECIAL







An article on Greycells and its activities was published on the June 2018 number of UN Special. UN Special described Greycells as a group of "Passionate? Addicted? "Locos?", "Enfoirés?" or all the above? How would you describe a group of retirees who, after an international career, are still infected by the virus of development and the will to share and give back?

The intergenerational dialogue was included in the December 2018-January 2019 number of UN Special





LE COURRIER



Jeunes et seniors unis à l'ONU pour le développement durable

Genève internationale > Un dialogue intergénérationnel sur les objectifs de développement durable aura lieu mercredi, à l'initiative d'anciens fonction-naires internationaux pour le

Pour fêter ses 10 ans, l'associa-tion Greycells, qui regroupe des fonctionnaires internationaux à la retraite, organise un dia-logue intergénérationnel intitu-lé «Senfors et millennials" en marche pour les Objectifs de développement durable». Mer-credi après-midi, une rencontre réunissant cent jeunes et cent seniors intéressés à la dénarche

aura lieu au Palais des Nations.

aura lieu au Palais des Nations.
«De nombreux échanges sont organisés entre les jeunes ou les personnes âgées, au niveau local ou international, mais il est rare que des discussions réunissent toutes ces dimensions. explique Alejandro Bonilla Garcia, président de l'association. La Ville de Genève et l'Office des Nations Unites à Genève (ONTIG) soutienment cet évênement. «C'est la logique qui nous a poussés à le faire, explique Michael Molle, directeur général de l'ONUG. Si on veut atteindre les Objectifs du developpement durable (ODD) pour 2030, il faut que tout le monde se mette au tra-

vail.» Selon lui, Genève a la qualivants Scion Int. Geneve a la quati-té de réunit une jeunesse pleine d'énergie et au fuit des enjeux de développement durable, et de nombreux retraités du système onusien au bénéfice d'une grande expérience dans ce domaine.

En amont de cette rencontre, un questionnaire en ligne a été diffusé sur les réseaux sociaux. Cent soixante-trois personnes issues de quarante-six pays dif-férents y ont répondu. Manuela Tortora, vice-présidente de l'as-

MARCHE POUR LE CLIMAT

Face à «l'aveuglement de la Confédération» vis-à-vis de l'urgence climatique, une vingtaine d'organisations de la société civile ap-pellent à manifester pour le climat et pour une politique climatique cohérente avec les objectifs de l'Accord de Paris, selon un communiqué de Greenpeace. Le rendez-vous est fixé au samedi 13 octobre 2018, dès 13h30 au Square Chantepoulet à Genève. CO

sociation Greycells, a épluché les réponses et commentaires du questionnaire. A-t-elle été sur-prise par les résultats? «Je m'attendais à des différences plus marquées entre les générations riches ou en développement, confie-t-elle. Toutefois, l'échan-tillon est petit, les résultats doivent être pris avec des

doivent être pris avec des pincettes.» Conseillère administrative en charge du Département de la co-hésion sociale et de la solidarité, Esther Alder encourage vivement ce type d'échange. «qui crée des liens, jette des ponis entre la com-munauté internationale et les

personnes de la Cité, et contribue à dégager de nouvelles pistes d'ac-tion». Pour mercred i, deux thèmes de discussion ont été retenus. L'un regroupant la pauvreté et les inégalités, l'autre le genre et l'environnement. Une vidéo de la rencontre sera produite et rendue disponible par l'association, de même que le rapport du question-naire et des discussions. En fonc-tion des résultats de l'événement, un plan d'action pourrait être élaboré par la Ville afin de pour-suivre ce type de dialogue au ni veau des quartiers pour formuler des actions concrètes, CVY



LA TRIBUNE DE GENÉVE

Tribune de Genève | Mardi 16 octobre 2018

L'avenir concerne aussi les seniors. Parole de jeunes

Des seniors et des jeunes gens se sont rencontrés à l'ONU pour un dialogue sur leur vision du monde

à Genève, était pleine. Des jeunes et des moins jeunes se sont rencon-trés la semaine dernière pour un dialogue original, organisé par l'as-sociation d'anciens fonctionnaires internationaux Greycells, sur leur vision des Objectifs de développe-ment durable (ODD). «Les seniors n'ont pas toutours

vision des Objectifs de développement durable (ODD),
«Les seniors n'ont pas toujours
brillé quant à leurs choix et à leur
conduite du monde, notamment au
niveau environnemental, mais il y a
une véritable prise de conscience,
intergénérationnelle, qu'il faut agir
maintenant.» Le message de Serge
Mimouni, du Département de la cohésion sociale et de la solidarité de
la Ville de Genève, est clair. La salle
est acquise. La lutte contre les changements climatiques, un des 17 Objectifs de développement durable
qui doit être atteint par tous les
États membres de l'Organisation
des Nations Unies d'ici à 2030, mobilise une partie des débats.
«Nous n'avions peut-être pas assez d'informations, la science
n'était pas aussi développée et nous
n'avions pas conscience des risques
de nos choix, justifie Martine Sumi,
vice-présidente du Conseil municipal de la Ville de Genève. Mais le
temps n'est plus aux excuses.» jules
Lorenza a 20 ans. Président du Par-

lement des jeunes genevois, il veut avancer et se battre: «Aujourd'hui, nous savons. Nous avons la responsabilité de faire quelque chose pour ne pas anéantir notre planète. Nous serons tous coupables si nous continuons dans cetre direction.» C'est d'une meme voix que l'audience parle: «C'est encourageant et ce dialogue est vraiment important, d'autant plus que ce sont quand même les seniors qui occupent des postes décisionnels», continue Jules.

«Quand je suis née, les femmes

Jules,

«Quand je suis née, les femmes
n'avaient pas le droit de votes, se
rappelle Mariella Seito, 76 ans.
Quant à son amie Halina von Fliedner, elle raconte: «À l'usine, je recevais 60% de salaire de moins qu'un
homme pour le même travail.» On
est encore loin de l'égalité des sexes
– autre Objectif de développement
durable en Suisse ou dans le
monde. Lubiana Gosp-Server, étudiante: «Ce genre d'histoire choque
ma génération, heureusement. Il
faut bien se rendre compte de ce
qui a été fait et continuer à nous
lever pour ce quin'a pas encore été
acquis.»

Pauvreté, inégalités, emploi et
retraite: autant de thèmes qui mobilisent. Marion Lanci, 19 ans, le souligne: «À chaque époque ses difficultés. Aujourd'hui, nous avons plein
d'idées mais ne savons souvent pas
comment faire. Il faut rappeler que
ce sont nos parents et nos profs qui
ont pris des initiatives. Leur soutien
et le dialogue entre tous sont donc
importants.» E.B. es. «Quand je suis née, les femmes vivaient pas le droit de vote», se poelle Mariella Seito, 76 ans.

et le dialogue entre tous sont donc importants.» E.B.

par le biais de la vidéo nous a paru la meilleure façon de le faire. C'est aussi un bon moyen pour attein-dre davantage de personnes, no-tamment les jeunes. D'autant plus que nous prévoyons par la suite de diffuser des spots vidéo dans les lieux clefs de la ville.

les lieux cleis de la ville.

Pourquoi est-ce important de continuer à parler du VIH-sida?

Nous sommes sortis de la période noire du sida. À cette époque, nombre de nos amis sont morts des suites de cette maladie. Depuis 1996, la trithérapie a permis de sauver beaucoup de vies. En Suisse, en 2018, on peut donc vivre avec le VIH, mais cela n'est pas sans conséquence non plus. On doit quand même prendre un traitement tous les jours, il peut y avoir des effets secondaires, ce n'est pas anodin. Or on remarque que de nombreux jeunes sont mal informés, ils sont moins attentifs. La prévalence des maladies sexuellement transmissibles est en augmentation. Le débat n'est donc pas clos. Il faut absolument cominuer à en parler et sensibiliser la population à ces questions.

Guel est le regard de la société sur le VIH?
Malheureusement, il y a encore énormément de stigmatisation des personnes atteintes du VIH; le choc des images du passé, la peur de l'autre. Il y a encore beaucoup d'ignorance et le sujer reste encore très tabou. On ne comprend toujours pas comment on peut vivre avec cette maladie. D'où l'importance de témoigner et d'aller à la rencontre des gens.

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CAUSES COMMUNES

Causes Communes dedicated an article to Greycells on its 49th Number of December 2019



ON-GOING AND FORTHCOMING ACTIVITIES

A) ILO'S CENTENARY LABOUR CONFERENCE.

As agreed by the Executive Committee, Greycells submitted a formal request to the Director General of the ILO to be accredited at the International Labour



Conference to take place in June 2019. A letter was addressed to Mr Guy Ryder, DG of the ILO including Greycells Statutes, Financial Statements and Activity report and list of members. ILO's Governing Body, in its March session will consider Greycells' request.

B) INTERGENERATIONAL DIALOGUE ON GENDER ISSUES IN SWITZERLAND AND IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. GENDER EQUALITY: A UTOPIA? March 7. Cité Seniors.



This Dialogue is a follow-up event to the Intergenerational Dialogue of October 10, 2018 to continue and deepen the debate around the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by comparing the visions of seniors and millennials. It will

be hosted by "Cité Seniors" and all parties that have contributed to the intergenerational dialogue on the SDGs in October 2018 will also participate in this dialogue.

The panelists will be gender focal points and specialists from: The United Nations Office in Geneva, the City of Geneva, ILO, Geneva International Model United Nations (GIMUN), Young-UN, the Parliament of Young people in Geneva and Rotaract Geneva International. Greycells is still awaiting confirmation from additional parties.

This Dialogue aims to highlight four aspects gender issues in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals and their implications for everyday life in Geneva and around the world. The dialogue will take place in French.

All information on the dialogue as well as a concept note prepared by Greycells can be found at the following address:



of



C) MASTER PROGRAMME IN ADVANCED STUDIES ON EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL GOVERNANCE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF GENEVA. 12TH March 2019.



Greycells will contribute to this Master Program in advanced studies on European and International Governance organized by the University of Geneva in collaboration with the United Nations Office in Geneva. The Master is an innovative and interdisciplinary program bringing together high-level academic teaching and knowledge transfer from experienced practitioners and constitutes not only a bridge between international Geneva and the University but also between generations.



Module 8 of the Master Program is devoted to the private sector involvement in international governance and aims at giving a closer look at public-private partnership for the implementation of the SDGs. Greycells has been requested to

organize thre sessions. The first one including "life experiences" from former ILO officials on ILO's tripartism and public-private partnerships. The second one describing and commenting the overall structure, agenda and the Century Commemoration of the International Labour Organisation and the International Labour Office. The third and last session will address the role of ACTEMP and ACTRAV. Former ILO senior officials are confirmed panelists.

Information on the Master Program can be found at the following address:

http://www.meig.ch/

D) INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION OF LA FRANCOPHONIE (OIF)



Greycells has been requested to translate into Spanish and English the forthcoming publication on human rights. The Spanish translation has been concluded and the English version will be finalized and edited in the first week of March 2019

E) HARMATTAN COLLEGE OF THE 3RD AGE

The "COLLEGE INTERNATIONAL DES SENIORS HARMATTAN" proposed Greycells to collaborate in the publication of a book on the third age that will include elements of pride and self-esteem of retirees. The College considers that the "Greycells Experience" is worthwhile describing. The college is considering to follow the "modusoperandi" of the intergenerational dialogue to organize a consultation and a panel discussion.



F) AFRICA 21

Likewise, Greycells has continue to contribute to publicize Africa 21 activities related to achieving SDG's in Africa, their workshops and after-work thematic get-together and networking sessions. On the occasion of the 100 Centenary of ILO, Africa21 has proposed to jointly organize a panel discussion on the Future of Work in Africa.



G) ROTARY GENEVA INTERNATIONAL



Contacts continued with Rotary Geneva International concerning a detailed briefing on ILO's tripartite functioning as well as HQ and regions "modus-operandi". Also concerning the master's course at the UNIGE and The Harmattan College.

H) PROGRAMED MEETINGS

- > Swiss Mission
- > City of Geneva
- **➣** Kofi Annan Foundation