

# WOMENVAI

**Transforming our ideas into a smarter today**

January 2020 Newsletter

Dear colleagues and friends of the WOMENVAI platform!

With this first letter of 2020, we would like to send you our illustrated international retrospective of 2019, hoping to meet with you at one of our events! Our Second General Assembly took place on the 9<sup>th</sup> of September 2019 in Paris at the SUEZ Environment building and gave us the mandate to work fully on activities that bring new technologies at the heart of environmental problems!

As Engineers and Scientists, men and women working together with policy makers and the industry, we believe adapting to climate change is possible, right now, at local and international levels. Communication and funding are tools to help out, and we need you to carry out large innovative projects with the advanced technologies developed in the 21st century for a long-term sustainable planet. Join us!



**Yvette Ramos, President and co-founding member of WOMENVAI**

**Womenvai is an NGO incorporated in Paris, France, since January 2018.** It offers our members and affiliated organizations, partners and financial supporters:

**IA4ENV:** a projects platform to gather ideas, concretize ideas, brainstorm with Experts, look at the calls, and co-build, co-design, co-produce on new tech for a sustainable planet.. not tomorrow! We need it today..

**IA4EDU:** concrete projects for kids/ girls / women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM): linking education on the sustainable development issues in general, and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in particular, with hightech tools etc.

**womenvai4FUND:** funding from the private sector, foundations for women worldwide, especially those who are to be recognized as key leaders in STEM, and girls who want to work in STEM and can not afford, etc.

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## Sophie Magner dit Weitte

Deputy Treasurer

A graduate engineer from Ecole Centrale Paris (Master of Science in Engineering), Sophie has developed a technical, managerial and international career in major industrial groups such as Peugeot Citroën in France, Abbott Laboratories in the United Kingdom, Rolex in Switzerland, and Caterpillar in Belgium. Sophie, as an independent industrial engineering consultant, has been contributing for the past 2 years to the growth of one of the most promising English biotechnology start ups in the United Kingdom, Oxford Nanopore Technologies. Sophie is a STEM professional and a woman who has worked mainly in managerial teams with a high male representation, or even as the only woman in the Management team. Sophie, as co-founding member of Womenvai brings her experience and willingness at the service of the development of professional equality for men and women in Europe, including Belgium, where she has now been living for more than 10 years. One of the projects she supports is the creation of a comic strip for the public to make engineers and scientists in Europe more visible. The aim is to encourage young girls to embark on STEM careers and to raise awareness both among their entourage and educators!

## March

**Napoli, Italy**

**International Women Day celebrations with our partner INWES**

As the occasion of the 8th march events, some of our founding members were invited to talk at the conference organized in Naples, Italy, by the president of the Foundation of the Order of Engineers of Naples and president of the new structure of the CFS-Centro di Formazione e Sicurezza (Training and Security Centre of Naples), under the theme :”The place of women in projects with high technological added value and initiatives to attract young people to our professions ”

## April



**Geneva, Switzerland**

**World Summit of Information Society- WSIS**

Our NGO was invited by our key partner AB5 Consulting to moderate a high-level panel at the International Telecommunications Union headquartered in Geneva, which organizes every year the WSIS. The panel welcomed secretary of States and ministries of Benin, Romania and Switzerland, and discussed «Artificial Intelligence and private data: the importance of multidisciplinary engineering and various technical skills».

## May

**Paris, France**

**EPF Ecole d'Ingénieurs Workshop on Artificial Intelligence: What's in for Ethics and Technical perspectives?**

In May, at EPF Engineering School, in partnership with the Berkeley University, our NGO was invited to moderate the morning session of the workshop, focusing on legal and policy issues, and big data management, the role of engineers and scientists and the need for regulatory frameworks.



## June

**Geneva, Switzerland**

**Meteorological Technology World Expo**

Early June, this international exhibition was held in Geneva for the first time, in partnership with the World Meteorological Organization, where Swiss Engineering Geneva chapter, one of the key partners of our NGO, was a special Guest speaker at a conference on «Modernization of meteorological services: the case of a Least Developed Country”. Showcasing and discussing the latest and next-generation climate measurement and forecasting technologies and services were addressed at this occasion.



**Bonn, Germany**

**Bonn Climate Change Conference (SB50)**

This conference was the opportunity for us to take part in a Marketplace focusing on progress, improvement and further work to be undertaken under the Lima Work Programme on gender and its gender action plan. This was also the opportunity for parties and entities who have invested or participated in activities in support of the LWGP and GAP to showcase their action and share experiences.



### Tunis, Tunisia Regional congress of the WFEO

Our NGO co-founders president and vice-president, representing respectively Swiss Engineering Geneva and Suez Environment, were invited to speak at the occasion of the annual regional congress of the WFEO on the theme «Engineering and food security in Africa», and had the advantage of contributing to the Declaration of Tunis as women engineers, experts and practitioners, representatives of civil society, at the invitation of the Order of Tunisian Engineers, and under

the patronage of Unesco. The work revealed the strong involvement of our businesses in achieving the sustainable development objectives SDG#2 «fight against hunger», SDG#12 «responsible consumption», and SDG#13 «climate change».

### Basel, Switzerland Global Summit of Women

The # GSW2019 held this year in Basel was a unique opportunity for our NGO to be represented, thanks to the affiliation of our president to the French Association of Women Engineers. Indeed, the summit was the opportunity to exchange with 1,065 women and men leaders of the economic, social and political world coming from 70 countries.

## July



## October



### Katowice, Poland Event Impact Mobility rEvolution'19

This event focused on the future of intelligent mobility, the transportation industry and new tech. We animated a Panel on the evolution of transportation where we shared examples of how gender issues may have influenced your own transport decisions and how appropriate balance between efficiency and safety of transportation for Women.

### Cotonou, Benin A training workshop for the Amazones du Digital

Eight of our co-founding members, representing their own organizations, namely AB5 Consulting, the ATFI (Tunisian Women Engineers), Swiss Engineering Geneva, EPF Ecole d'Ingénieurs, ABshore, Suez Environment, Moinas & Savoye, INWES, contributed to develop, facilitate, manage offline, the four days training and coaching program for young women entrepreneurs in technological fields linking digital and socio-economic sectors in regions of the developing world (agriculture, tourism, energy, etc.). Under the patronage of the Ministry of Digitalization of the Republic of Benin, a training was held in Cotonou, and addressed important themes including strategic planning, marketing, commercial development and presentation of their business plan, followed by the final pitching competition for twenty candidates known as the "Amazones du Digital".



## December

### Madrid, Spain:

**A last but not least milestone: being present at the COP 25!**

To conclude the year 2019, womenvai co-founders and its partners, including the WFEO committee of Women Engineers and the International Network of Women Engineers and Scientists, organized a side-event held during the week 2 of the COP25 on the theme «boosting the ambitions of our modern society», with concrete proposals, around projects to strong technological component aimed at modernizing infrastructure while preserving short circuits and an ambitious and realistic climate action plan.



***If you have wonderful ideas and energy to contribute to our platform, please join us because we need YOU! ...as we already are working on our 2020 programme!***

### Our Financial supporters:



[ab5consulting.com](http://ab5consulting.com)



[abshore.com](http://abshore.com)



[aivazian-moreau.com](http://aivazian-moreau.com)



[swissengineering-ge.ch](http://swissengineering-ge.ch)

### Other Supporting partners:



## Who we are: the co-founding members

### Executive Committee

Yvette Ramos, president, France/Switzerland  
Lylían Coelho-Ferreira, vice-president, France/Brazil  
Inès Aivazian, treasurer, France  
Sophie Magner, deputy-treasurer, Belgium/France  
Lidia Zakowska, secretary general, Poland  
Susana Viseu, Deputy Secretary General, Portugal

### Ethics Committee

Soizic Vangrevelinghe, France  
Denis Aivazian, France,  
Sangeeta Wij, India

### Communication

Ariane Barbier, France  
Asma Brini, France/Tunisia  
Camille Coq, France  
Guillaume Pahud, France/Switzerland  
Denisse Salas, Bolivia/Switzerland

### Projects

Liliane Dorveaux, France  
Marwa Zaghib, Tunisia  
Nadia Souissi, Tunisia  
Betty Bonnardel-Azzarelli, UK/ France  
Lidia Santiago, Portugal



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