



WWSF Women's World Summit Foundation
Fondation Sommet Mondial des Femmes
Fundación Cumbre Mundial de la Mujer
Frauen Weltgipfel Stiftung

P R E S S R E L A S E

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- I 14 Laureates receive WWSF Prize for women's creativity in rural life 2007**
 - II World Rural Women's Day – 15 October 2007 - Open Letter to rural women of the world !**
 - III 0.7% Fund: launch of an Investment Fund for the empowerment of rural women and children**
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The empowerment of rural women is an absolutely indispensable step in view of reaching the UN Millennium Development Goals.



I WWSF takes great pleasure in announcing the **14 winners** of the **Prize for women's creativity in rural life 2007** to the media and the international community. The award (US \$ 3000 for selected organizations in Africa, and \$ 500 for all other Laureates) honours creative and courageous women and women's groups around the world for their contributions in improving the quality of life in rural communities, for protecting the environment, transmitting knowledge and standing up for human rights and peace. Established in 1994, WWSF has so far awarded 331 prizes in more than 100 countries. The work of the 14 Laureates 2007 is published on Internet and in our Global

Newsletter Edition 15a. We hope that their stories inspire you and encourage others to make their mark in promoting human rights, ending poverty, preserving the planet, and safeguarding our cultural heritage.
www.woman.ch/women/1-laureates.php

A Travelling Exhibition presenting all Laureate profiles was inaugurated in Geneva at the CIGC and subsequently presented at the Geneva Book and Press Fair (March); the Civil Society Development Forum (June); the International Women's Peace Conference (Dallas-Texas, July), and will be presented in September at the United Nations in Geneva. A permanent exhibition is open to the public at WWSF HQ, 11 av. de la Paix, 1202 Geneva.



II To celebrate **World Rural Women's Day – 15 October 2007** - an annual global awareness campaign to increase knowledge and empowerment - WWSF published and disseminated its **Open Letter to rural women of the world** with the focus on the theme **"Claim your right to food"**. A poster and the Open Letter are also available on Internet:
www.woman.ch/women/2-poster.php

III WWSF brings to your attention on this year's World Rural Women's Day the launch of its newly created **0.7% Fund**, which aims to develop an effective partnership with governments and civil society to help finance WWSF empowerment programs for rural women and children. www.woman.ch/fund/7-introduction.php

WWSF wishes to express gratitude to its sponsors who made the 2007 Prize program and the World Rural Women's Day campaign possible. For further information on how to nominate prize candidates for 2008, visit our web site www.woman.ch/women/1-guidelines.php?lg=1 or contact us directly to receive our "Global Newsletter (Women's Section) "Empowering Women and Children" at info@wwsf.ch