



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

## PRESS RELEASE

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- **WWSF Prize for women's creativity in rural life - 10 Laureates receive the Prize in 2009**
  - **International Day of Rural Women – 15 October** - *Open Letter to rural women of the world 2009*
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- WWSF takes great pleasure in announcing to the media and to the international community the **10 winners of its annual Prize for women's creativity in rural life 2009**. The award (\$ 1000 per Laureate) honors creative and courageous women and women's groups around the world for their contribution 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 354 prizes in more than 100 countries. The work of the 10 Laureates 2009 is published on Internet and in

our Global Newsletter Edition 17a. We hope that their stories inspire you and encourage others to make their mark in promoting the human rights of women, ending poverty and marginalization, preserving the planet, and safeguarding our cultural heritage. [www.woman.ch/june09/home.php](http://www.woman.ch/june09/home.php)

A Traveling Exhibition profiling the Laureates is presented at various conferences and gatherings. A permanent exhibition is open to the public at WWSF HQ, 11 av. de la Paix, 1202 Geneva.



- To celebrate **International Day of Rural Women – 15 October 2009** - a WWSF annual global awareness campaign to increase knowledge and empowerment, initiated in 1996 and promoted annually ever since, has become a United Nations Resolution Day in 2007 (A/Res/42/146), a result of 13 years of lobbying and campaigning by WWSF. The theme of the Open Letter to rural women of the world 2009 is **"Claim your Right to Health and Well-being!"** available on Internet [woman.ch/june09/women/2-poster.php](http://woman.ch/june09/women/2-poster.php)

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WWSF wishes to express gratitude to its sponsors who make its Prize program and the International Day of Rural Women campaign possible. For further information on how to nominate prize candidates for 2010, visit our web site [www.woman.ch/june09/women/1-introduction.php#5](http://www.woman.ch/june09/women/1-introduction.php#5) or contact us directly at [wwsf@wwsf.ch](mailto:wwsf@wwsf.ch)

**The empowerment of rural women is an absolutely indispensable step in view of reaching household food security and the UN Millennium Development Goals.**