



PRESS RELEASE



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| I | WWSF Prize for women's creativity in rural life - 10 Laureates receive the Prize in 2011 |
| II | International Day of rural women 15 October - Open Letter to rural women of the world 2011 |

I 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 2011**. The award (US\$ 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, development and peace. Established in 1994, WWSF awarded to-date 375 prizes in more than 110 countries. The work of the 10 Laureates 2011 is published on Internet and in our Global Newsletter Women - Edition 2011.

http://www.woman.ch/index.php?page=laureates-2011&hl=en_US
<http://www.woman.ch/uploads/newsletter/NLwoman2011.pdf>

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 achieving the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

An exhibition profiling all the laureates is presented at various conferences and gatherings with a permanent exhibition open to the public at WWSF 11 av. de la Paix, 1202 Geneva.



II To celebrate the **International Day of Rural Women – 15 October 2011** (an annual WWSF global awareness campaign initiated in 1996 to increase knowledge and empowerment and declared a UN Resolution Day in 2007) WWSF publishes its annual **Open Letter to rural women of the world**, theme: **“Claim your Right to Land and Inheritance”** available on Internet http://www.woman.ch/index.php?page=2010-2&hl=en_US



How to nominate candidates for 2012 http://www.woman.ch/index.php?page=nomination-guidelines&hl=en_US

WWSF expresses gratitude to all the members and sponsors who make the annual Prize program and the International Day of Rural Women – 15 October campaign possible.

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