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Women's World Summit Foundation - WWSF



Meet the ten Laureates receiving the WWSF - PRIZE FOR WOMEN'S CREATIVITY IN RURAL LIFE 1 October 2020

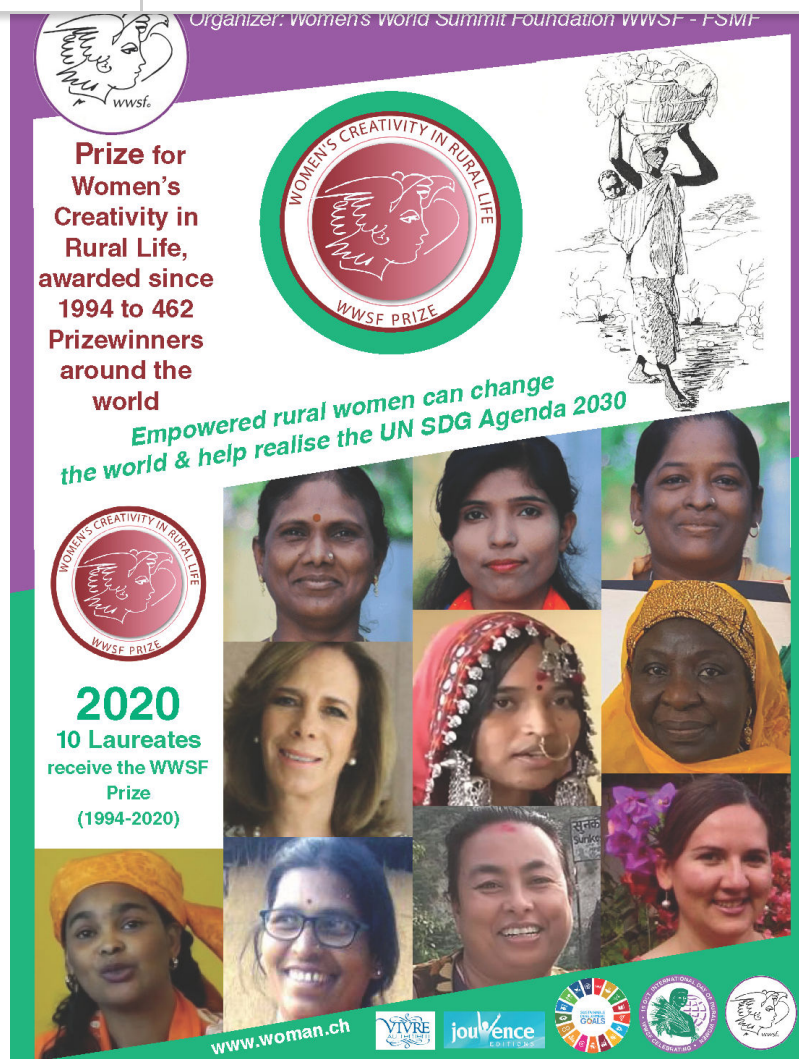
Dear Partners and Friends,

We hope that you and your loved ones are staying healthy during these continued challenging times. In spite of much suffering, we wish to share with you a happy occasion, which is the announcement of our prizewinners receiving our annual award, the Prize for women's creativity in rural life.



Read about their creative and courageous work presented in the **2020 Prize brochure**, published on our website.

<https://www.woman.ch/campaign-17-days/wwsf-prize-for-womens-creativity-in-rural-life/> Three among them were participants in the one-year « **JAI JAGAT March for Justice and Peace** » from New Delhi to Geneva, in order to claim their right to land, water, and the forest at the UN in Geneva, and countering oppressive policies, laws, and governments. Due to COVID-19, the march was interrupted in February 2020 in Armenia and is postponed to 2021 to terminate in Geneva with a wake-up call to respond to the world's deepening economic, social and environmental crises. « Our world can be different if we are not indifferent ».



The empowerment of rural women is one of our annual women's rights programs, which includes to-date 462 laureates honored with an award of US\$ 1000 per laureate. (1994-2020)

WWSF congratulates the ten prizewinners for their creativity and courage in a world that is still struggling to recognizing rural women's contributions to food security, ending hunger, building peace, reaching the Sustainable Development Goals, and coping with the COVID-19 pandemic. True Heroines who deserve our recognition and compassion.

We also acknowledge all the Prize nominators, who send us the yearly candidates from which we choose our prizewinners. Their tireless work to compile all the information we need for nominations to be accepted is a work of great solidarity and service towards others who deserve to be recognized. We humbly ask them to organize, if possible, local award ceremonies, especially on **15 October - International Day of Rural Women**, and give credit where it's due. The WWSF poster for the International Day is attached for your publicity of events to commemorate the Day and celebrate the prizewinners.



"Rural Women represent a quarter of the world's population and they play a critical role in maintaining and improving rural livelihoods and strengthen rural communities."

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In closing, I wish to share with you the following message from *UN Women*: *"Unless measures are taken to shield the most vulnerable, by this time next year 435 million women and girls will be living on less than \$ 1.90 a day worldwide." The pandemic will push 47 million more women and girls below the poverty line, reversing decades of progress to eradicate extreme poverty.* <https://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2020/8/press-release-covid-19-will-widen-poverty-gap-between-women-and-men>

"The empowerment of rural women and girls is essential to building a prosperous, equitable, and peaceful future for all on a healthy planet."

In solidarity and partnership,



Elly Pradervand, WWSF President / CEO

in collaboration with WWSF Board members and the Prize Team

Gentle reminder: You can still join in our *"17 Days of activism campaign for the Empowerment of rural women leaders and their communities 1-17 October"* and register your action plan at <https://www.woman.ch/registration-form-for-the-campaign-17-days-of-activism-for-the-empowerment-of-rural-women-leaders-and-their-communities-1-17-october/>

17 Days of Activism
1-17 Oct.
For the Empowerment of Rural Women Leaders and communities

Participate in the annual 17 Days Campaign!
To Empower Rural Women Leaders & their communities

- Build** local/national broad alliances with grassroot groups and rural networks
- Nominate** candidates for the WWSF annual Prize for Women's Creativity in Rural Life
- Meet** local government representatives and advocate for legislative changes in compliance with CEDAW, the Beijing Platform for Action and the Sustainable Development Goals - 2030

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About us: The Women's World Summit Foundation (WWSF), created in 1991 in Geneva, Switzerland, as a not-for-profit, humanitarian, international, lay organization for the realization of women's and children's rights, mobilizes via its annual campaigns, round tables, world days and prize awards civil society actors to catalyze increased action for change. Thank you!

"Whatever you can do or dream you can, begin it; Boldness has genius, power, and magic in it."

- Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

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