



Women's Forum Italy 2015 *Nurturing a sustainable future* **29-30 June 2015, Milan**

1 June 2015

How can we guarantee healthy, safe and sufficient food for everyone while respecting the planet and its equilibrium? This is the question at the heart of the Expo Milano 2015 – and the inspiration for the Women's Forum Italy, taking place on 29-30 June as part of the Universal Exhibition.

Food clearly has gender dimensions. Women farmers produce more than half of all the food worldwide, and women still have the greater responsibility for buying and preparing meals. Women and girls suffer more from food insecurity than do boys and men. They are also more susceptible to obesity and far more vulnerable to eating disorders. The Women's Forum Italy integrates these kinds of gender issues into its agenda. Our framework is *diversity of voice on a sustainable food future*: we seek to enable women leaders from different sectors and parts of the world to be heard alongside their male counterparts on the question of how we are to feed our planet.

Three program streams, drawn from the Expo, will nourish discussions at Women's Forum Italy:

- Feast and famine: A contemporary paradox
- The future of food: What will we eat in the future?
- Sustainable food = An equitable world

The Women's Forum Italy is an initiative of the Women's Forum for the Economy & Society together with Valore D. We are honored and delighted that this first Women's Forum event in Italy has been selected to open the Expo's Women's Weeks. This series of conferences has been coordinated by Women for Expo (WE), the Expo Milano 2015 network of women from around the world speaking out and acting jointly on issues surrounding food and sustainability. More than 500 participants from around the world are expected to attend the one and a half days of the Women's Forum Italy. The topics are as fascinating as they are challenging and important. And Expo Milano 2015, which is hosting this Women's Forum event, is a discovery and learning experience not to be missed.

*Please join us for the Women's Forum Italy,
placing women's culture at the heart of Expo Milano 2015!*



Monday, 29 June

12:30-14:00 Registration with finger food and coffee and tea available

14:00-14:15

Forum welcome

14:15-15:45

Opening keynote address

14:45-15:45

Our visions for a better agricultural value chain

In these opening interviews leaders from the private sector, civil society, and government stir our imaginations with their bold plans for how to improve our agricultural value chains from the farm to the final consumer.

15:45-16:15 Networking break

16:15-17:15

Innovators for a more equitable world

Talk leadership approaches with some of the innovation leaders who are inspiring and supporting action to improve access to energy and food and making gender equality part of normal business.

16:15-17:15

Urban agriculture: Making it commercially viable

What is working/could work to scale up urban farming, and make it a viable commercial option to supply food locally to rapidly rising city populations?

16:15-17:15

Empowering women, ending hunger?

Why empowering women and girls is critical to addressing world hunger, and the changes in policies and practices most needed to make a difference.

16:15-17:15

Water at the heart of agricultural sustainability

Agricultural use of water is reaching a crisis point, with many large food producing countries at or near their renewable water resource limits. What are some realistic solutions, considering technology as well as policy, to reduce water use and create a more sustainable water footprint for food production?

17:15-17:30 Room change

17:30-18:30

Hunger and obesity: The two faces of malnutrition in the world today

Our world is awash in calories; 2.1 billion people are now considered overweight or obese. Yet overeating coexists (often side by side) with undereating; nearly one in three children in the developing world is underweight today. What are governments and the private sector doing right to address these public health threats? What actions still need to be taken? What stands in the way and how could this be changed?

18:30-19:00

Keynote address



20:00-23:00

Cocktail & opening dinner

Tuesday, 30 June

10:30-11:00 Welcome and late registration (coffee and tea available)

11:00-12:00

How to power agriculture in the future?

We need to improve energy efficiency in agriculture -- and make energy sources cleaner and renewable -- to have sustainability for our planet. How are these challenges being met?

12:00-13:00

How to feed the world in the face of climate change?

Some solutions to maintaining crop yields despite extreme weather. And some of the issues that still have to be addressed.

13:00-13:15 Room change

13:15-14:15

Networking lunch

14:15-14:30 Room change

14:30-15:30

Waste not, want less? Tackling commercial and household food waste

Half of the food produced each year ends up being wasted. So isn't solving food waste crucial to solving hunger -- and how to make a waste revolution?

14:30-15:30

Champions for sustainability

A dialogue with some remarkable entrepreneurs from different countries about how they have made sustainability their core business.

14:30-15:30

Farmers and finance -- the missing link

Why access to finance is a key challenge for farmers in developing countries -- and what is needed in finance terms to support these farmers to improve productive efficiency and adopt better technologies.

14:30-15:30

Food safety and risk: How to restore consumers' trust?

Consumer confidence in Europe has been battered in recent years by some major food supply chain scandals. The European and global food chains continue to grow in volume and complexity. What must be done to address consumers' concerns and ensure proper supply chain controls?

15:30-15:45 Room change

15:45-16:30

Four tech innovations to give us hope for the future



16:30-17:30

Can we feed the nine billion sustainably?

The Green Revolution brought us drastic increases in food productivity. Yet critics of industrial farming argue that it destroys biodiversity as well as harming environmental and human health. So can sustainable farming methods actually produce the yields necessary for our growing populations? Doesn't agribusiness have a crucial role to play too, as it makes substantial efforts to improve productivity while tackling sustainability?

17:30-18:00 Networking break

18:00-18:45

Slow, collaborative, local – and exported?

Local food production. Collaborative agriculture. Slow food (good, clean, fair). But can it also be food for export?

18:45-19:15

Closing keynote address

19:15-20:00

Thanks and closing cocktail

21:00-23:00

“Wounded to death” - “Ferite a morte”

“*Ferite a Morte/Wounded to Death*” is a theatrical piece on the subject of femicide written by Serena Dandini. “Wounded to Death” is a collection of monologues, which was performed by First ladies, ministries, journalists, writers, artists and actresses from NY, Washington, Lisbon, Geneva, Brussels, Paris, London, Tbilisi, Istanbul, Tunis and Mexico City.

Join us for an exceptional moment of emotion and sharing.