

# What is WE-Women for Expo

WE-Women for Expo is an Expo Milano 2015 project set up in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and the Arnoldo & Alberto Mondadori Foundation.

The We-Women for Expo board of directors is formed by President Federica Mogherini, Honorary President Emma Bonino and Executive Chairman Marta Dassù.

**WE-Women for Expo** is a vast network of women from across the globe who have been called upon to share their ideas on the many aspects of sustainability and nutrition.

## Expo Milano 2015: for the first time women hold a central role

Women know that food is a universal right. They are **key players** in the provision of food and care to humanity: they are the custodians of food culture - the art and craft of food, its preparation and conservation – and are responsible for passing it on: they are producers of food - in developing countries it is still mostly women who work the land and in mature economies they hold professional and entrepreneurial roles in the food supply chain that are directly related to issues of health and safety, nutrition and wellbeing; they are the carriers of a creative culture on the subjects of food and nutrition.

Environmental sustainability is seeing a **new alliance between food and culture**, food for the body and food for freedom and intelligence. Because of this, women across the globe have been called upon to unite and, in turn, reach out, connect with and bring together the ideas of those around them - men, children and adults, the young and old - so as to educate and nurture a planet that is fairer, more balanced, more sustainable and open to the future.

# WE-Women for Expo, together for a new model of sustainability

WE-Women for Expo is particularly committed to **combating waste** and WE-Women for Expo aims to reason not on the logic of deprivation but quite the contrary, on prosperity. Taking into consideration existing resources and how to distribute them equally.

WE-Women for Expo looks at women and their everyday actions of responsibility and care, actions that form the stepping-stone towards a better future for everyone.

And it is precisely by putting to good use these virtuous practices that women across the globe want to share, that WE-Women for Expo aims to define new standards of sustainability. Because it is small gestures that can lead to big changes.

#### WE International

A network of women, international leaders and carriers of a distinctive message: the need to focus the world's attention on the issues of waste, food and of resources in general.

To do this, during these months leading up to Expo, WE International has organized and continues to organize institutional events in different countries worldwide (Iran, Great Britain, Morocco, Burma, USA), all with a common purpose: to compare and exchange ideas on the themes of combating waste and food security, intended both as security in the provision of food as well as the quality of the food itself that women have access to and, in turn, distribute to others.



## WE Ambassadors, a female outlook on the world

With the help of WE Ambassadors - women from Italy and abroad, writers, artists, actors, singers, scientists, business women, ordinary citizens, members of NGOs and associations, each and every one in her own way committed and sensitive to the subject of nutrition - WE-Women for Expo supports the Expo Milano 2015 journey with contributions from a female perspective to enrich the debate on sustainable nutrition. Turning women's innate capacity to "care for" into a universal model, a new approach to feeding the planet and rethinking its future.

# A platform for contemplating the future of the Planet

The WE-Women for Expo virtual platform - <a href="www.we.expo2015.org">www.we.expo2015.org</a> - acts as receptacle for collecting, comparing and sharing information to stimulate the debate on the Expo Milano 2015 key themes. A platform to give voice to the Ambassadors and hear every woman's story, project, business and creative solution on the theme of nutrition.

To describe the transition from waste to prosperity, from inequality to resilience, from exclusion to inclusion, WE-Women for Expo collects testimonies from the world of literature, art and theatre, as well as from the world of agriculture and science, the food industry and sustainability in general. Stories collected on site, but also portraits of great women from the past and present who have contributed to the development and empowerment of women in these fields.

WE-Women for Expo sets out to document the transition from food waste to responsible consumption by sharing positive experiences, hearing voices from the third sector, touching on the subjects of education and food safety and illustrating, through women, the trades and professions linked to the world of sustainability in the field of food and nutrition.

Throughout the duration of Expo Milano 2015, WE-Women for Expo will continue collect women's advice for taking care of the Planet and suggestions for combatting waste, with the view of creating a more equal and inclusive future.

# WE-Women for Expo projects

#### The Novel of the World

Writers from the countries taking part in Expo Milano 2015 have given life to a chorus of voices, a grand collective novel made of short stories, memories and sentiments that are invariably capable of evoking a different culture.

## The World's Dinner Table

A vast dining table of men and women to say WE is not only me. To explain that it is only by thinking in plural and reasoning in terms of sharing and waste prevention that we can achieve inclusive and sustainable development. The multimedia contributions of these global dining tables inspired by waste prevention will be shared on May 1. A real and virtual festive moment to recount the importance of daily nutrition across the globe.



## Competitions for Businesswomen

Two initiatives were set up between July and November 2014 in collaboration with the Italian Pavilion: WE–Projects by women, a competition for businesswomen or aspiring businesswomen, promoters of projects aimed at contributing significantly to the empowerment of women, to innovation, to environmental and economic sustainability; WE–Projects for women, a competition for projects that will directly or indirectly significantly improve the quality of life of women.

Both winning projects will be on display in the Italian Pavilion during the entire six months duration of Expo Milano 2015.

## Recipes for Life

Any woman can become part of WE-Women for Expo by sending in her *Recipe for Life*: a special dish that is somehow part of her personal story, her family history, the traditions of her homeland, her country; a recipe that can help promote a more sustainable future, an example of good practice for combatting waste.

# Women for Expo Alliance

The legacy of WE-Women for Expo is entrusted to the **Women for Expo Alliance**, a "Women's Charter" to make food a universal right, a collective document to be shared in order to remind us that *WE is not only me*.

#### For more information

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