



We are the Solution: Celebrating Family Farming in Africa!

Official Launch

World Social Forum – Dakar, Senegal

February 2011





The 2011 World Social Forum was held in Dakar, Senegal.

Participating organizations and individuals represented movements and causes from around the world but all shared a passion for social and economic justice.

Among the attendees, particularly from Africa, there was broad support for food sovereignty and biodiversity.





Rural women's associations displayed their local agricultural products at the forum, including traditional seeds.

Most groups sold all the products they brought.





ASPSP, an association working for the preservation of traditional seeds, marched on the first day of the forum.

The group also displayed many of their heritage seeds at their stand.



At the opening ceremony to launch We are the Solution, Senegalese government officials endorsed the campaign.

The campaign's 'Dakar Declaration' was read to all participants. It confirmed that traditional agriculture and local knowledge is the solution to the current economic and food crises.



The campaign is beginning with a focus on Women & Biodiversity, an initiative which is being shaped by twelve outstanding rural women leaders and their organizations.





Initial activities are already underway in five countries in West Africa. Coordination is provided by Fahamu with support from New Field as part of a U.S. donor collaborative.

Activities include exchanging knowledge about agro-ecological practices.





Seventy-five rural women leaders are receiving training and contributing to media and advocacy activities.





As they move the campaign forward, women farmers together with their organizations represent a strong voice in the movement for food sovereignty in Africa.

