

## **Paving way for women leaders**

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THE **Foundation for Australian Agricultural Women** will be unveiling a series of new initiatives throughout the year, including the Global Interactive Library and the unique Innovation Labs to provide women in leadership in rural and regional Australia with further learning, business and sponsorship opportunities.

The challenges of rural and regional women in leadership require different solutions to their urban counterparts, and FAAW has designed tools specifically for women living and working in rural and regional areas.

FAAW president Jane Cleeve said the new initiatives would introduce greater diversity of opportunities.

“We will be enriching rural and regional Australia as women in leadership will have better connections with business leaders who will help women make things happen, whether they are organising a community event or have a revolutionary business idea.”

A tele-learning series successfully launched in 2009 will continue in 2010. The tele-learning series, which can be accessed from any landline, connects women from around the country with leadership expertise.

The purpose of the series is to empower women to become more effective and confident leaders at home, in the community and in business. The project is supported by funding from the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) as part of its Recognising Women Farmers initiative. The Global Interactive Library is expected to launch mid-2010 with four distinct sections, including an online information resource.