

## **Bio Thais Corral**



Thais Corral's global leadership journey has covered a complex spectrum of experiences which emerged due to major changes which happened in the late 20s century. As part of the Women's Global Movement, she was one of the leaders of women's participation at the Earth Summit in 1992. Together with American Congress representative, Bella Abzug and Nobel Award Winner, Wangari Mathaai, she founded WEDO (Women, Environment and Development Organization), which played a major role at UN Global Conferences throughout the 90s. WEDO continues to be an important women's global advocacy organization. In 2006, it received the Champion of the Earth Award by United Nations Environment Program.

Since 1992, Thais has been implementing global and local initiatives geared to strengthen and implement the sustainable development platform. She is the founder and current director of two non-profits very active in Brasil, Rede de Desenvolvimento Humano (REDEH) and Communication, Education and Information on Gender (CEMINA). Among their accomplishments are: the design and coordination of a national multistakeholder consultation for the development of Brazilian Agenda 21 in partnership with Brazilian Ministry of Environment; the coordination of a major International Conference on Indicators for Quality of Life organized in 2003; and the design of a project to empower women in water management in the Northeastern Brazil. The World Water Forum, held in 2003 in Kyoto, selected this particular water management project as a world best practice.

As a social entrepreneur, Thais conceived and implemented a women's radio network which links 400 women's radio programs and their communities throughout Brasil. The network was built over 20 years through dialogue and innovative projects, which nurtured collaboration and shared results. Today many of these programs have integrated ICTs and community telecenters as part of their operations. The project is considered a best practice worldwide.

Currently, Thais is part of the board of directors of a major global initiative to face climate change and poverty reduction. **SouthSouthNorth** ([www.southsouthnorth.org](http://www.southsouthnorth.org)) is now based in 6 countries (Brasil, SouthAfrica, Tanzania, Mozambique, Bangladesh and Indonesia). Its focus is to leapfrog projects that contribute to mitigate and adapt to climate change simultaneously addressing the poverty issue.

Thais also occupies key positions in major global leadership organizations. She is the co-chair of the Global Leadership Network ([www.globalleadershipnetwork.net](http://www.globalleadershipnetwork.net)), the chair of LEAD-Brasil

([www.abdl.org.br](http://www.abdl.org.br) ) and a board member of LEAD International ([www.lead.org](http://www.lead.org))

Throughout her career, Thais has received several awards. as an acknowledgement for her leadership abilities and accomplishments. She is a LEAD fellow. Thais was the recipient of the “100 Heroines Award”, the “Award Abril Mulher” for her contribution to the improvement of the status of women in Brazil. She was also recognized as “the Woman of the Year in 2001” by the Brazilian National Council of Women and has received the “Rio Mulher Award” in 2004. In 2005, she was awarded the Tech Award by the Tech Award Museum on Innovation, a major Silicon Valley award for projects that demonstrate innovative uses of technology that benefits humanity.

Thais holds a master degree from the Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University . Has published articles and papers in selected magazines and books worldwide. She is one of the editors of the book, Leadership is Global published in 2006.

She serves on the advisory board of outstanding international organizations: Coexistence International ( [www.coexistence.net](http://www.coexistence.net)); Ethical Market Place ( [www.ethicalmarket.com](http://www.ethicalmarket.com)) and Global Change Community ( [www.generativeialogue.org](http://www.generativeialogue.org)), Instituto Akatu for Conscious Consumption ([www.akatu.org](http://www.akatu.org)) .

With her friend, Sandra Guimarães, she is a founder of the GeoPoint, Vista Alegre, Center for Human Development.