

## Preface

This volume concludes the Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation's *What Next* project, which, over several years, reflected on the Foundation's work since its 1975 report, *What Now: Another Development*, and explored new challenges ahead.

Through a series of seminars, meetings and workshops in places ranging from Dehra Dun to Mexico City to Ottawa, civil society activists, academics, media people and government officials, among others, met for intensive discussions and debate on a wide range of issues.

Participants in the *What Next* process mapped out and analysed scenarios linking areas such as the convergence of new technologies, knowledge systems, economics, corporate concentration of power, civil society struggles for deeper, structural change, and visions for alternative futures. This volume shares some of the insights and ideas stemming from this process.

For the Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation, the project culminated in the *What Next Forum*, which took place at Uppsala Castle in September 2006. Over three days, more than 300 participants from many parts of the world and different spheres of life engaged in workshops and seminars. As a final follow-up, the Foundation organised a *What Next Feminist Seminar* at the end of January 2008. Like several other projects and activities originally initiated or supported by the Foundation, its participants will continue their work independently. In a similar vein, the newly established *What Next Initiative* intends to explore and develop in its own way the ideas and perspectives that guided the overall *What Next* project.

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