



Parlamento europeo
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a Milano



XVIII INFOPOVERTY WORLD CONFERENCE

APRIL 13TH 2018, UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS, NEW YORK

PRESS RELEASE

NEW TECHNOLOGIES TO FIGHT POVERTY AND SUSTAIN AFRICAN COUNTRIES TO SOLVE THE SOURCES OF IMMIGRATION.

On April 13th, in the UN headquarters the XVIII Infopoverty World Conference will discuss the importance of ICTs for sustainability and put forward low-cost digital solutions having high social impact.

OCCAM was created by UNESCO in 1996 and has a special consultative status with ECOSOC since 2005.

The aim of the IWC is and has always been to promote and strengthen the social use of ICTs (Information and Communications Technologies) in order to overcome inequalities and allow everyone to benefit from the advantages offered by the digital revolution. Better and free health services, high quality education and food security for all. Addressing the plight of immigration and social unrest at the source has become not only possible but necessary. The draining of resources and brains from developing countries to developed countries has contributed to impoverish them. The whole planet is now interconnected. This will allow the poorer countries to take full advantage of the opportunities offered by the ITCs if we all get together and help them achieve this goal, the Millennium SDGs .

Addressing the topic of *"COLLECTIVE CREATIVITY FOR DIGITAL INNOVATION: FORGING INCLUSIVE PARTNERSHIP TO SUSTAIN PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT"* is the key to achieve this aim. Important innovations will be presented at the IWC by various Governments and Institutions within the UN system, among which Japan, the US, India, Brazil, Rwanda and Italy. One very important project, the *"World Food Security e-Center"*, created by a network of Universities and Italian laboratories, is the most important legacy of EXPO 2015 and can provide digital services in the field of food security, telemedicine and education to communities and institutions of the countries in need. This will strengthen their ability to use their own resources for the good of their own people – thus interrupting the damaging colonial-rooted vicious circle of impoverishing the poor. This will give them the opportunity to embark on a real a sustainable development course, respectful of the environment and of human rights.

Among other best practices selected for sustaining African development policies, we report *"eMedMed"* (for telemedicine services in the South Mediterranean); *"Renewable energy solutions"* (for renewable energy in order to decentralize energetic infrastructure); *"1Billion Voices Digital Expo"* (created by Dominika Žak as a direct link for people with disabilities from all over the World); the *"Smiling Foundation project"* (by Lidwine Meffo), to teach African women how to read and write and how to take care of the children; the *"Mental Health Program"* (promoted by Columbia University in Mozambique); the *"Social Injustice Action"* (supported by the Christopher D. Smithers Foundation); *"E-money services"* (of the Nippon BFC, on microfinance/blockchain); *"Digital Unify Program"* (e-learning started by STMicroelectronics Foundation for the creation of new jobs); *"Improving the agricultural productive capacity"* (launched by the Government of

Sao Tomé and Príncipe along with the Alisei Onlus and Por Qua Tela); “*Affecting Change*” (developed in Kenya, on HIV/AIDS and rural development); “*Smart Villages*” (presented by Eugene Grant, mayor of Seat Pleasant, USA, for the transformation of the African villages into smart villages); “*Clean Water for Africa*” (conducted by ACRA Onlus e integrated on smart irrigation by Irritecc), in addition to other projects and actions, all characterized by strong high-tech innovations.

The Conference, established in 2001 and declared “*United Nations Flagship Event Initiative*” has been gathering in the course of these years more than 1000 leading actors of the digital revolution, to raise the bar for fairer, more open and inclusive societies, where nobody can be left behind, and where new technologies have to play a primary positive role aiming to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, proclaimed in 2015 by the 198 countries of the UN.

TO PARTICIPATE TO THE CONFERENCE:

Registration form

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfMj5PJW5_2hkNuw5WOB36ZmGoIRZFhDoEMIQZ7jX331ZzYhg/viewform

The Conference will be streamed live on webtv.un.org

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