OBSERVATORY FOR CULTURAL AND AUDIOVISUAL COMMUNICATION
CREATED BY UNESCO IN 1997, ACTING AGENCY OF THE INFOPOVERTY PROGRAM

Infopoverty World Conference 2007

HARNESSING THE USE OF ICTS
TOWARDS THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

April 19-20 2007
New York (UN Headquarters) – Milan (Politecnico di Milano) – Paris (UNESCO) – Geneva (DSF)
Tegucigalpa (Ministry of Communication) – Rabat (Ministry of Communication)

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It is now clear that fighting poverty, besides being the first and most important among the Millennium Development Goals, is the most effective way to widen the markets: the gradual access to the digital revolution of the currently excluded 5 billion people is the key element for development, and we are already experiencing some of its effects.

New information and communication technologies are the primary engines of this phenomenon, as they will lead other industrial, commercial and financial entities in the globalization processes.

What a few years ago seemed a philanthropic utopia has now become a mainstream guideline, shared by decision makers and entrepreneurs who identify themselves in the Millennium Declaration and the Millennium Development Goals endorsed by the United Nations.

In order for this process to be successful it is now crucial to individuate solutions fit to the needs of the populations currently excluded, which are different from those of industrialized countries, made prosperous by a century of widespread electricity, roads, railways, centres of competence, universities, hospitals, industries and distributors.

As is not possible to create from nothing those enormous infrastructures, new strategies able to grant sustainable and rapid results are needed, alternative from those that made development possible in the XIX and XX Century in Europe and North America.

In regards to power supplies, for example, innovative forms to produce decentralized clean energy is necessary, due to the effects of global warming: the Kyoto protocol gathers the first and the third world in a united process.

It is also important that single brand production, presently fragmented and too competitive, is substituted by a more organic cooperation, to grant safe water, more efficient cultures, health and education systems able to cope with emergencies, means of communication adequate to the variety of languages and traditions, microcredit systems to activate small entrepreneurship, etc.

The coming of broadband brings forth a unique opportunity to provide directly and immediately services to communities, thus solving for the major part the health, educational, economic and productive gap of those populations, giving them new tools for development.

Individuating and applying this kind of solutions is the main aim of the Infopoverty World Conference since 2001 when, following the first ICT Villages created by OCCAM in Honduras, the Conference was created to present them to the international community, trying to activate it on this effort, which, apart from its philanthropic purposes, is mainly aimed at applying science and technology to support sustainable development.

After the positive results of the previous editions of the Conference (www.infopoverty.net) the focus of this year's edition is on exploring possible converging objectives of the first and the third world: if we want to promote global development and widen the markets, new solutions have to be

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With Special Consultative Status at ECOSOC
Formally Associated to the NGO Section of the UN Department of Public Information
Participant in the UN Public Private Alliance for Rural Development
Participant in the UN Global Alliance on ICT and Development

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implemented in regards to energy, water, ICT tools and applications, new products and production models.

Hence, **to integrate** is the first keyword: between fragmented productions, hostile competition, proprietary standards, secret and public interests in commending positions.

To innovate - the second keyword - means mutating the present balances that have given birth to our unbalanced reality, trying to solve the present conflicts, calling on all the most active and competent stakeholders to elaborate common future scenarios.

To globalise, finally, does not mean to homologate, but to holistically widen the innovative process anywhere, creating critical masses that would make innovation and integration worthwhile.

The Conference will thus focus on 6 steps of elaboration:
- To understand new technological horizons and orient them so that they can be effective tools to fight poverty.
- To highlight social utility of ICTs in the widening of markets - in order to avoid the exploitation of single applications favouring interest of minorities to the disadvantage of the potentials of new markets - and to launch concrete proposals of bulk purchases of new technological solutions (connectivity, clan energy units, safe water kits, bed-net,medical devices, mobile learning, mobile banking and microcredit, etc.).
- To evaluate and implement the best practices that have had a greater impact in the development of disadvantaged communities, including the lessons learned in the ICT Villages.
- To compare different national strategies to fight poverty and international development plans to integrate them and make them efficient, avoiding squandering, duplication, obsolete models.
- To individuate modalities to provide global broadband connectivity, both terrestrial and satellite, in order to create adequate platforms for e-services (telemedicine, e-learing, e-governance, e-banking, etc) key to development.
- To create a strong polarity around the Global Alliance for ICT and Development as main instrument of integration of major stakeholders, able, thanks to its critical mass and authoritativeness, to overcome the present cultural, economic and social obstacles and to contribute to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

These issues will be talked by the prestigious speakers of the Infopoverty World Conference, which is co-organised by OCCAM with the UN Global Alliance for ICT and Development Secretariat, the European Parliament Office in Milan, Politecnico di Milano and the Infopoverty Institute of the University of Oklahoma.

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The Agenda

Politecnico di Milano, Milan
Aula Magna (S.01), Piazza Leonardo da Vinci

United Nations, New York
Room 8, UN Plaza

PARALLEL SESSIONS

Thursday April 19, 2007

10.00 a.m. **Working session**
COME LE NUOVE TECNOLOGIE CONTRIBUISCONO ALLA
LOTTA ALLA POVERTÀ
How new technologies contribute to fighting poverty

Presidente: Alberto Rovetta, Politecnico di Milano
Rapporteur: Roberto Rossi, OCCAM

Davide Diamantini, Università Milano Bicocca; **Stefano Rolando**, IULM;
Alberto Schiraldi, Rotary 2040; **Emanuela Colombo**, Politecnico di Milano;
Renato Cortinovis, Rotary 2040; **Chiara d'Imporzano**, Associazione
Monserrate; **Gianluca Di Pasquale**, Ingegneria senza frontiere; **Fulvio
Falcone**, Rotary 2040; **Agostino Faravelli**, Patologi oltre Frontiera;
Alessandro Frigiola, Policlinico S. Donato IRCCS; **Alfredo Ronchi**, Medici
Framework; **Stefano Scotti**, METID; **Carlo Iantorno**, Microsoft; **Silvano
Falocco**, Ecosistemi; **Giuseppe Bonsignori**, Geologi senza frontiera

1.00 p.m. **Lunch series**
TERZO MILLENNIO: L'AFRICA CHE EMERGE
Third Millennium: Africa is emerging

Emanuela Colombo, Politecnico di Milano; **Carlo Pretara**, Council of
Students, Politecnico di Milano; **Claudio Avella**, Ingegneria Senza Frontiere
Milano; **Dr. Ernest Sanga**, Director, CERAD; **Dr. Bernardino Hopffer
Almada**, Cape Verde; **Dr. Elena Badalamenti**: Vice Honorary Consul
Burkina Faso; **Dr. Emile Butoyi**: Consul Burundi

4.00 p.m.   **APERTURA DEI LAVORI**

Giulio Ballio, Dean, Politecnico di Milano
Staffan De Mistura, Director, UN System Staff College

10.00 a.m.   **OFFICIAL OPENING SESSION**

Guido Bertucci, Director, Division for Public Administration and Development Management,
UNDESA
Sarbuland Khan, Executive Coordinator, UN G@ID
Pierpaolo Saporito, President, OCCAM
H.E. Marcello Spatafora, Permanent Representative of Italy to the UN

4.30 p.m.

ICT PER LO SVILUPPO: ALLARGARE I MERCATI PER AUMENTARE L'UTILITÀ SOCIALE

Alberto Rovetta, International Federation for Mechanical Sciences Development
Maurizio Decina, Professor, Department of Electronics and Information, Politecnico di Milano
Luigi De Vecchis, President and CEO, Nokia Siemens Networks Italia

6.00 p.m.

NUOVE SOLUZIONI PER LE COMUNITÀ SVANTAGGIATE: GLI ICT VILLAGES

Susanna Bina, Managing Director, TILS
Carlo Petroni, Pianeta Agile Energy Systems

10.30 a.m. **Session 1**

ICT FOR DEVELOPMENT: WIDEN THE MARKET AND INCREASE SOCIAL UTILITY

Chair: **Motoo Kusakabe**, Senior Advisor to the President, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development

Arthur Cole, Infopoverty Institute, The University of Oklahoma
Terri Hasdorf, USAID
Steven Rockefeller, Rockefeller Foundation*

12.00 a.m. **Session 2**

NEW SOLUTIONS FOR THE NEEDS OF DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES: THE ICT VILLAGES

Chair: **Joe Shirley Jr**., President, Navajo Nation

Hiroshi Kawamura, DAISY Consortium
Carolyn Hannan, Director, Division for the Advancement of Women, UNDESA
Art Reilly, Senior Director for Strategic Technology Policy CISCO Systems
Fred Tipson, Director for International Development Policy, Microsoft
Cream Wright, Chief of Education Cluster, UNICEF
Gerardo Zepeda Bermudez, Vice President, OCCAM

3.00 p.m. *Room 9* **Session 3**

STRATEGIC WORKING SESSION ON EDUCATION

Chair: **John Steffens**, Vice Provost Emeritus, Public Service Institute, The University of Oklahoma

Participants will include key representatives from Bridgestone Firestone and Western Heights Schools along with Cisco, Intel, Microsoft, Mizuni, The Republic of Liberia, Mid-American Christian University, Rotary
International, Schools Interoperability Framework Assn (SIFA), USAID, UNESCO, OU

GENEVA, Digital Solidarity Fund
Guy Olivier Segond, President, Digital Solidarity Fund
Hugh Peterken, Head, IT Department, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras
Rasel Antonio Tomè, President, National Commission of Telecommunications

Friday April 20, 2007

European Parliament Office in Milan
Palazzo delle Stelline Sala Verdi, Corso Magenta, 61

United Nations, New York
Room 8, UN Plaza

2.00 p.m. **Sessione Europea**

L'ESPERIENZA DELL'EUROPA A 27 PER PROMUOVERE LE TIC: UN MODELLO VINCENTE DI COOPERAZIONE INTERNAZIONALE

27 Countries Europe to promote the ICTs:
a successful model of international cooperation

Moderatore: **Maria Grazia Cavenaghi-Smith**, Director, European Parliament Office in Milan

Vittorio Craxi, Sottosegretario di Stato, Ministero degli Esteri*
Mariolina Moioli, Assessore Politiche Sociali, Comune di Milano
Mario Mantovani, Vicepresidente Assemblea ACP- UE, PE
Umberto Guidoni, Del. Interparlamentare UE-USA; PE
Cristiana Muscardini, Vicepres. Comm. Commercio Internazionale, PE
Antonio Panzeri, Vicepresidente Comm. Occupazione e Affari sociali, PE
Guido Podestà, Delegazione Relazioni con Afghanistan, PE*
Cristina Castelli, Dir. Master Emergenze, Università Cattolica
Marina Gersony, Giornalista, Saggista - Internet ed immigrazione
Otto Bitjoka, Presidente Fondazione Ethnoland
Anton Mangstl, Director of the Library and Documentation Systems Division, FAO

9.30 a.m. **Session 4**

FIGHTING POVERTY IN NATIONAL E-STRATEGIES AND INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLANS

Chair: **Amir Dossal**, Executive Director of the UN Fund for International Partnerships

Ziad Haddara, Senior Programme Officer, UNDP/ ICT for Development in the Arab Region
Renate Bloem, President, Conference of NGOs in Consultative Relationship with the UN - CONGO
H.E. Zina Andrianarivelo-Razafy, Permanent Representative of Madagascar to the UN
H.E. Francis Lorenzo, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Dominican Republic to the UN
H.E. Ismael A. Gaspar Martins, Permanent Representative of Angola to the UN

11.00 **Session 5**

BROADBAND SATELLITE PLATFORM FOR E-SERVICES AND INTEGRATED TERRESTRIAL INFRASTRUCTURES

Chair: **Giuseppe Viriglio**, Director of EU and Industrial Policies, European Space Agency

John E. Davies Vice President, World Ahead INTEL
Joseph O. Okpaku President, Telecom Africa Corporation for Good Governance
Natale Lettieri, Head of Operations and Customer Service, Skylogic
Bjarke Nielsen, Djursland International Institute of Rural Wireless Broadband

RABAT, Morocco
Mohamed Nabil Benabdallah,
Minister of Communication

LIMA, National Congress of Peru
Mercedes Cabanillas Bustamante,
President, National Congress

12.00 **Session 6**

GLOBAL ALLIANCE FOR ICT AND DEVELOPMENT: THE NEW CHALLENGE TO ACHIEVE THE MDG

Chair: **Sarbuland Khan,** Executive Coordinator, UN G@ID

Pierpaolo Saporito, President, OCCAM
Motoo Kusakabe, Senior Advisor to the President, EBRD
John Steffens, Vice Provost Emeritus, Public Service Institute, The University of Oklahoma
Joe Shirley Jr., President, Navajo Nation
Amir Dossal, Executive Director of the UN Fund for International Partnerships
Giuseppe Viriglio, Director of EU and Industrial Policies, European Space Agency

FINAL DECLARATION

PARIS, UNESCO Headquarters
Abdul W. Khan Assistant Director General for Communication UNESCO

* invited