



## PRESS RELEASE

### **NEW TECHNOLOGIES FOR FIGHTING POVERTY AND IN SUPPORT OF THE AFRICAN COUNTRIES SOURCES OF IMMIGRATION.**

At the UN in New York, on April 13, the XVIII Infopoverty World Conference will address the topic of the supportive use of ICTs and propose high social impact low-cost digital solutions.

OCCAM – UN-Affiliated Observatory on Digital Communication – created by UNESCO in 1996, strengthens, by arranging this Conference, its action aiming to promote the use of ICTs (Information and Communications Technologies) on the social level in order to overcome inequalities, health and alimentary problems, social unease, thanks to the fact that nowadays everyone on the planet is connected and can thus utilize and share useful digital services for development, especially for those in need.

Addressing the topic of *“COLLECTIVE CREATIVITY FOR DIGITAL INNOVATION: FORGING INCLUSIVE PARTNERSHIP TO SUSTAIN PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT”*, important innovations will be presented by various Governments and Institutions within the UN system, among which Japan, the US, India, Brazil, Rwanda and Italy, in which the *“World Food Security e-Center”* stands out, created through a network of Universities and Italian laboratories that aims, as legacy of EXPO 2015, to provide digital services in the field of food security, telemedicine and education to communities and institutions of the countries in need, in order to strengthen their ability to use the often neglected existing resources and to start them towards a sustainable development course, respectful of the environment and of the 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), *“Smiling Foundation project”* (by Lidwine Meffo, that teaches to African women how to read and write and how to take care of the children), *“Mental Health Program”* (promoted by Columbia University in Mozambique), *“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”* (developped 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 seen 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 constituting the UN.

TO PARTICIPATE TO THE CONFERENCE:

Registration form

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfMj5PJW5\\_2hkNuw5W0B36ZmGoIRZFhDoEMIQZ7jX331ZzYhg/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfMj5PJW5_2hkNuw5W0B36ZmGoIRZFhDoEMIQZ7jX331ZzYhg/viewform)

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

Contacts

OCCAM@OCCAM.ORG, TEL. +39 02 80 57 573

OCCAM: UN-Affiliated Observatory on Digital Communication

Headquarters

Via Duccio di Boninsegna, 21  
20145 Milano (Italy)  
+39 02 8057573 |  
occam@occam.org

www.occam.org -  
www.infopoverty.net  
facebook.com/occam.milano  
twitter.com/occam\_milano

Permanent Representative to the UN in New York: Toshihiko Murata - murata@occam.org  
Permanent Representative to the UN in Geneva: Inge Leutscher - il@excellence-international.ch  
OCCAM-CICT seat at UNESCO: Rue de Miollis 1, Paris (France) - +33 145672840  
International Media Partner: Society & Diplomatic Review  
131 E 66<sup>th</sup> st. New York, NY (USA) - +1 212 628 743 - kinsgoup@aol.com