OBSERVATORY ON DIGITAL COMMUNICATION
CREATED BY UNESCO IN 1996, ACTING AGENCY OF THE INFOPOVERTY WORLD CONFERENCE

THE PRESIDENT

Milano, 7 April 2023

OCCAM – Observatory on Digital Communication at the UNCTAD 26th Commission on Science and Technology for Development

27 / 31 March 2023 • Palais des Nations, United Nations in Geneva
Rewatch [here](#)

From March 27 to March 31, as Regular Observer to the UNCTAD CSTD, OCCAM – the Observatory on Digital Communication, was invited to participate and intervene at the UNCTAD **26th edition of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development** held at the Palais des Nations of the United Nations Office in Geneva.

The United Nations Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD) discusses how the digital revolution affects development and offers new strategies in view of a sustainable future for all. The forum analyzes and frames the critical issues influencing science and technology at multilateral and governmental levels. The 26th edition of the Commission addressed two important topics: technology and innovation for cleaner and more productive and competitive production, and ensuring safe water and sanitation for all: a solution by science, technology, and innovation.

Arch. Pierpaolo Saporito, President of OCCAM and the Infopoverty Programme, had the opportunity to present the follow-up of the XXII Infopoverty World Conference "*The Digital Citizen: duties and rights to build a fairer future Society*", held the past 1st December at the UNHQ in New York and streamed on the UN Webcast, whose inputs and contributions were collected into the Final Declaration to launch the **XXIII edition of the Conference**. With the title "*Asynchronisms in the Digital Transition*" and scheduled for **October 2023** at the UNHQ, the Conference was endorsed by the Commission and opened the call to submit topics to be addressed. This year Conference will complement a series of official meetings and efforts OCCAM has promoted for the past three year in the aftermath of COVID-19 for the establishment of a *fairer, more inclusive and sustainable Digital Society*, where no one is left behind, towards the achievement of the SDGs and beyond.

It is in this context that OCCAM announced the **Golden Algorithm Award**, first launched in December during the discussion by the eminent participants, endorsed and validated by the Commission to identify and promote the most innovative digital solutions that are ethical and that ensure human rights in line with the common good established by the principles of the UN Charter.

Organization in Special Consultative Status with the UN
Economic and Social Council since 2005
Formally Associated to the UN Department of Global
Communications
Member of the UN Global Alliance on ICT and Development
Participant in the UN Public Private Alliance for Rural
Development

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Collecting these issues is the **Infopoverty Programme** that applying digital innovations to local needs and knowledge towards a generalized e-welfare for all, pledges to address and operate on some of the pivotal priorities to be tackled, encompassing e-learning, food-security, telemedicine, the rural-urban divide, and e-welfare. Ongoing projects, including the **EU H2020 EWA-BELT Project** and its results, **the ICT Village Model** and its pinnacle, the *ICT Village of Sambaina in Madagascar*, the **telemedicine** efforts promoted in synergy with the University of Insubria, and the broadband connectivity opportunities to be exploited, were presented and validated.

In order to activate a complementary process of development involving all levels of Society and capable of disentangling the chaotic digital context where algorithms lead to further complications and contradictory platforms, and in line with its original mission, OCCAM – Observatory on Digital Communication commits and receives mandate to guide the harmonizing processes towards a fairer Society.

To re-watch the intervention by Arch. Pierpaolo Saporito,
please visit www.occam.org/26-cstd or click here