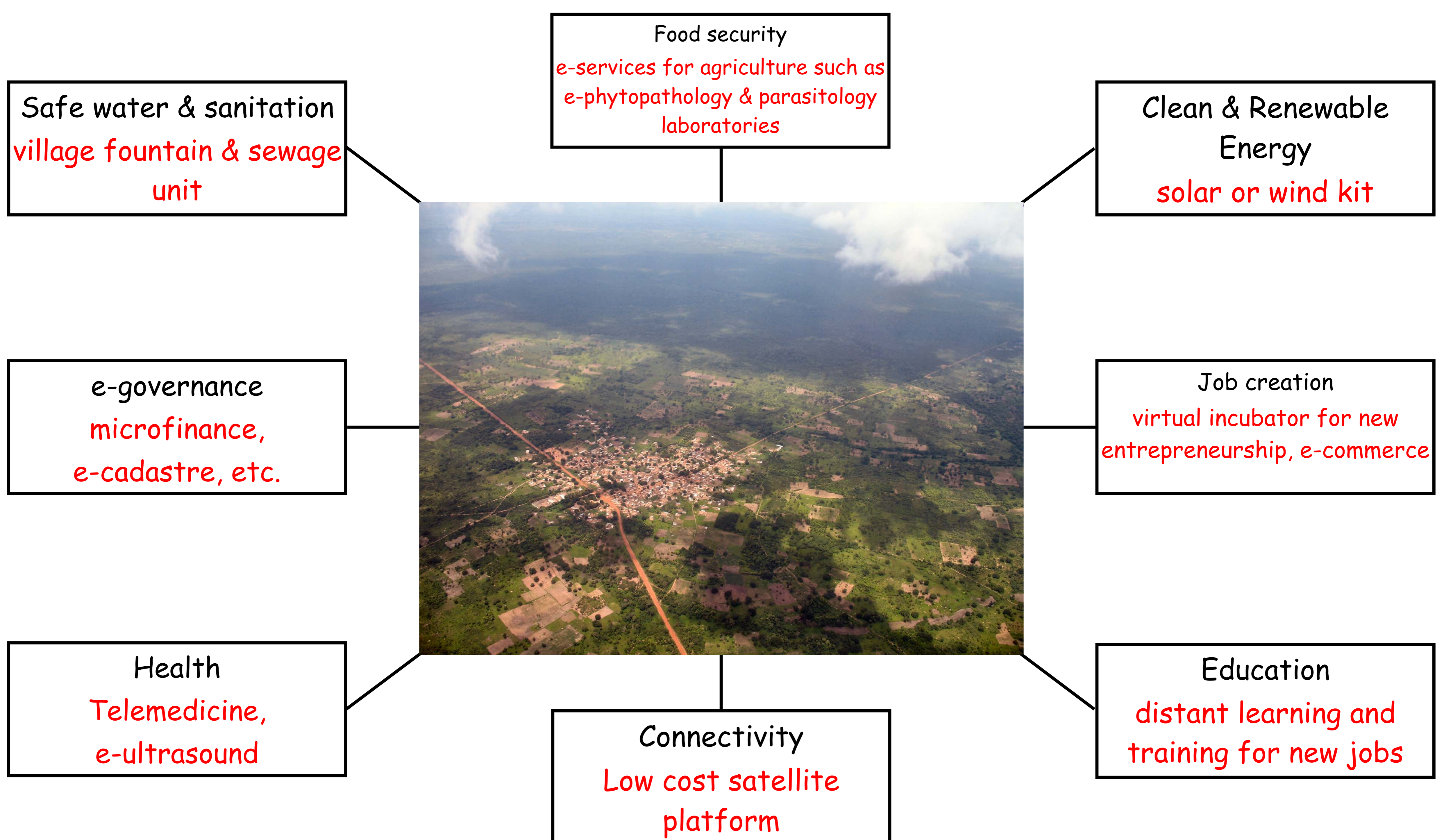


# Infopoverity Programme

## ICT VILLAGE MODEL

How to fight poverty:

a holistic approach to analyze the cause and provide high tech low cost solutions



The first phase of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), organized by the United Nations in Geneva in December 2003, finished with the approval of the declaration of principles and action plan by more than 100 countries which took part in the summit.

One of the main objectives was to provide connectivity and services for development to all poor communities of the world by 2015.

To achieve this goal, after the first projects in Honduras and in the South Lebanon were completed, OCCAM convened the Infopoverity Seminar, which took place on June 24, 2004 in Hammamet (Tunisia) to begin a wide consultation process between the main stakeholders of ICT4D and prepare the Tunis phase of the WSIS planned for November 2005.

It was retained that the objective laid down in Geneva in 2003 would have been carried out only if the theorization of a model of flexible intervention easily replicable in other poor communities would be individuated, thus providing connectivity and services that can promote endogenous and sustainable development.

(The Advisory Board, created in Hammamet, includes representatives of the main international organizations

ESA, FAO, IFRC, ITU, UNDP, UNESCO, World Bank), companies, universities, research and development centres and the civil society.

Moreover, the Advisory Board closely collaborated with the partners of the Infopoverity Programme and with participants of the fifth Infopoverity World Conference that took place in May 2005 at the UN Headquarters in New York.

The Advisory Board activity was based on the principle that only sustainable development can guarantee poverty eradication. This is the reason why it is essential to move from humanitarian aids to investments for development.

Three sectors of intervention were identified retaining high priority in the fight against poverty through the ICTs:

1. **telemedicine**: to provide medical services through ICT where distance constitutes a critical factor, for professionals.
2. **e-learning**: to promote remote teaching, making it interactive not only for the primary and secondary schools, but also for continuing education

3. **e-governance**: to enhance services related to the public administration.

In order to further advance in this efforts, 4 areas of activities related to the model of the ICT village were identified:

**broadband platform** to be used as support for the poor communities, for appropriate services provision.

b. **reliable e-services** adapted to the needs of the communities and constantly improved on the basis of the feedback of all the actors engaged in the projects.

c. **Research and development** of new products, services and procedures, expressly created for new markets.

d. Identification of the **needs** of communities and end-users in developing countries.

The modelling work was concluded in November 2005 in Tunis during the second phase of the World Summit on the Information Society, which certified the validity of the ICT village model and suggested its implementation in other developing countries, in particular, in Madagascar and in Dominican Republic in the framework of the UN Public-Private Alliance for Rural Development.