

PRESENTATION

'Collective creativity' is a concept launched by IN magazine, Milan 1972, and diffused from California by Jim Burns' homonymous book published in 1974. It signals the new electronic era of widespread interactivity and social media, where anybody can create and share messages and receive feedback, able to influence large masses of people.

The enormous energy arising from the opportunities that the employment of digital tools creates causes important repercussions in society, orienting political and social-economic trends. In other words: people have a voice and are no longer totally subject to the establishment.

This identifies new active roles for individuals and communities, increasing democracy and other assets of institutional power; so these are no longer reserved to elites but open to the new movements that express priorities and needs arising from the bottom. These are the roots of the new digital era, where nobody must be left behind.

The **Infopoverty** World Conference organized by OCCAM, with the patronage of the European Parliament Information Office in Milan, has since 2001, following the proclamation of the Millennium Development Goals, focused yearly at the United Nations Headquarters in New York on innovative solutions and best practices, elaborated, together with the United Nations system, governments and the civil society, to empower the fight against poverty. The Conference represents, for its continuity, operational capability and strong interoperability with the UN system, a unique global forum, gathering together leading experts, academics, opinion leaders, managers, government officials, and philanthropists.

In particular, it has given rise to the **Infopoverty Programme**, which promotes and realizes actions on the ground using ICTs as tools of development, creating the UN Millennium Village in **Sambaina** (Madagascar) and ICT Villages in Honduras, South Lebanon, Navajo Nation, Lesotho and Ethiopia.

The previous editions of our conference, collected in the e-book "**17 Years of Infopoverty World Conference: the digital revolution in the words of the protagonists (2001-2017)**", generated the launching of new concrete approaches for the achievement of the SDGs: such as the global platform, led by the World Food Security E-Center, to provide e-services on Food Security, e-health, distance learning and training, directly to communities in need, and sustaining several local projects in **Tunisia, Malawi, Mozambique, Sierra Leone, Suriname, Vanuatu, Zambia, Madagascar, Niger**, in the ambit of the Global Alliance.

The discussion will be articulated on this premise and focus on the five points below:

- 1 migrants and refugees: people who possess nothing except their personal mobile
2. the update of the **Infopoverty** program projects launched in 2017, as best ICT practices
3. Focus on Africa: the smart ICT challenges for development
4. New proposals to contribute in accelerating the UN2023 agenda in sync with the AU 2063 agenda
5. Final synthesis and approval of the **Infopoverty** Program 18/19

DRAFT



CONTACTS

OCCAM
Headquarters
Via Duccio di Buoninsegna, 21—20145 Milano
Tel. +39 028057573
occam@occam.org
www.occam.org
facebook.com/occam.milano
twitter.com/occam_milano

Permanent Representative
to the UN in New York
Toshiko Murata
murata@occam.org

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT
Information Office in Milan
Corso Magenta, 59—20133 Milano
Tel. +39 024344171
Fax +39 02434417500
epmilano@europarl.europa.eu

Government Liaison and Protocol
Gloria Kins—Society & Diplomatic Review
131 E 66th Street, New York
Tel. +1 212 6281743
kingsgroup@aol.com



*Under the patronage of the
Presidency of the Italian Council of Ministers*

COLLECTIVE CREATIVITY: THE DIGITAL SPRING OF INNOVATIONS AND ACTIVE PARTICIPATION



INVITATION

APRIL 13, 2018

New York, UN Headquarters - Conference Room 12

in videoconference with:

Milano, **European Parliament** Information Office - Sala Conferenze

live streaming on



www.occam.org

www.infopoverty.net

PROGRAM

New York, United Nations Headquarters, Conference Room 12

10:00-10:30 (NYT) – Opening Session

H.E. [Amb. Sebastiano Cardi](#), Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative of Italy to the UN

UN high level delegate

General Introduction: [Pierpaolo Saporito](#), OCCAM and [Infopoverty](#) President

Videoconference with
Milan, European Parliament

10:30 - 12:00 (NYT) – 16:30 - 18:00 (CET) First Session

Videoconference with
Milan, European Parliament 16:30 - 18:00 (CET)

IS A EURO-AFRICAN DIGITAL ALLIANCE POSSIBLE?

Migration is affecting the European equilibrium: after a century of colonialism in which the Europeans utilized Africa as land to be exploited, the globalization of markets requires policies of economic win-win integration to balance the great European resources and competences with the wealth Africa possesses: its soil, with its oils, minerals, and fertile land, empowering the people with skills in order that they can overcome poverty.

The widespread digital tools in common use that everybody now possesses can help achieve these results; building bridges to deliver e-services as the main support for new and effective forms of cooperation, surpassing old practices and stereotypes of charity-giving. In order to achieve and spread this vision, the digital dimension breaks through boundaries and walls.

If the international community is able to drive all the digital revolution stakeholders to invest in this direction, young Africans will no longer need to emigrate and, following the 20-30 UN agenda, no-one will be left behind.

Speakers: Members of [Europarlament](#), African leaders, Ambassadors, UN Agencies, NGO, Public and private institutions, Main Stakeholders, ICT Companies, Experts

PROGRAM

New York, United Nations Headquarters, Conference Room 12

12:00-13:00 – Second Session

INFOPOVERTY PROGRAM REPORT ON PROJECTS IN ACTIONS

***SCHEDULE TO BE DEFINED ON THE BASE OF THE PROJECTS ENDORSED
BY THE XVII INFOPOVERTY PROGRAM***

14:30-16:30 – Third Session

**FOCUS ON HOW DIGITAL REVOLUTION OPERATES
IN AFRICA AND IN THE LAST DEVELOPED
COUNTRIES**

-Many African governments are confronting the enormous gap in terms of poverty and lack of competences with a policy based on the building capacity of telecom users to further their needs and opportunities. Thanks to the massive sharing of knowledge and technology policies, we are able to revert the traditional attitude of the donors into a real co-management development plans, with stakeholders oriented to build a win-win alliance where human capital will be empowered in a wide job-creation policy, in order to contrast migration. Donors become investors who create smart consolidated development. The session focused on Africa and the LDC will explore this new kind of vision emerging from the African 2063 Plan and its convergence with the 2030 UN agenda, presenting the most significant ICT solutions to be proposed for the [Infopoverty](#) Program 18/19

PROGRAM

New York, United Nations Headquarters, Conference Room 12

16:30-17:30 – Fourth Session

**NEXT DIGITAL SOLUTIONS TO ACHIEVE THE UN AGENDA 20-30
IN SINERGY WITH THE AFRICAN 2063 PLAN**

The rapid growth of digital innovation, influencing companies, institutions, and people, is causing huge changes; difficult to understand because the times are not ripe and these are in constant flux. This uncertain situation could create some difficulties in the development of ICTs. This is the reason why it is necessary [research](#) for the best practices to support innovation and research; this is the only way to help the population and to empower the fight against poverty. In this context, the role of the UN with the main stakeholders and investors is to further the development of ICTs.

This section will focus on presenting and discussing new solutions for the development of new technologies worthy of being supported by the best companies and investors, whereby social responsibility is linked to sustainability and the opening up of new markets

17:30-18:00 - Fifth Session:

CONCLUSIVE ROUND TABLE

Chair: [Pierpaolo Saporito](#), President, OCCAM and [Infopoverty](#)
With [the Chairpersons](#) of all the Sessions: *will formulate the results of the Conference and define them in the traditional Final Declaration, which will be delivered to the entire UN-System and the Governments.*

**ENDORSEMENT OF THE FINAL DECLARATION OF THE 18th
IWC**

In-between sessions, UNAFF, OCCAM and IFTC-UNESCO present short movies on the themes of [Infopoverty](#) in the ambit of 8th SIGNS OF CHANGE / 14th UNAFF TRAVELING FILM FESTIVAL NEW YORK

introduced by [Jasmina Bojic](#), Founder and Director, UNAFF/UNAFF Traveling Film Festivals

19:00 Reception & the Smithers Foundation Award Ceremony for Guillermo Del Toro, winner of the Smithers Award 2017