

# INFOPOVERTY SEMINAR AT COP22 DECLARATION

---

Marrakech 17th November, 2016, h.9.00 am COP22 HQ - Green Zone, room 5

---

## The participants of the Infopoverty Seminar at COP22

- addressing the Marrakech Declaration, and the African Action Summit deliberations.
- underlining that the preservation of soil against desertification and floods, the waste of water and resources, are primary issues in combating climate change and that it is needed to empower traditional cultures and sustain rural communities to guaranty food security for all.
- bearing in mind the lack of tools, information, competences and technologies that affect the rural conditions in Africa, and other LDC - Least Developed Countries.
- considering that the evolution of ICTs, that are changing the lives of people, thanks to global connectivity and the utilization of mobile devices, are able to become the means for self-empowerment in order to achieve social-economic development at personal, local, regional and national levels.

## The participants of the Infopoverty Seminar at COP22

after wide discussion on the World Food Security e-Center (WFSeC) presentation, given by the President of OCCAM Mr Pierpaolo Saporito, and the interventions, among others, by Mrs Claudia Sorlini (Past President Scientific Committee EXPO 2015), on e-agriculture, Mrs Simona Palermo (Project Development Manager at PTP, Science Park, Lodi, Italy) on the role of plant and animal genetic diversity in coping with climate change and guarantee food security, Mr Hassan Ghazal (President of Moroccan Society for Telemedicine/University Mohamed I) on linking telemedicine with food security services, Mr Christopher Smithers (President of the Smithers Foundation), on climate change effects on mental health, H.E. Madina Rahaman (Vice Minister of Health, Republic of Sierra Leone) on the priorities of her country, Mr Toky Ravoavy representing Madagascar, on the appeal to relaunch the UN Millennium Village of Sambaina, founded by OCCAM on 2006.

### state that

- the effective and timely capacity to confront needs emerging from rural communities, thanks to the digital services provided by high-level centers of excellence, networking as services providers through the Infopoverty platform, able to share competences with remote users, transfer useful info and tutoring data, connect local institutions with the main structures for assistance and facilities, tailored on their own policies.
- the modality of transferring adequate technologies to public and private users, in terms of scalability and self-sustainability, with a clean energy supply, considering that each device or tools is designed to be powered by solar cells.

- the validation of previous experimentations by the UN system actuated in the ICT-villages, among which Sambaina, the UN Millennium Village created by OCCAM in Madagascar in 2006.
- the easy approach and low cost of the digital services provided by the WFSeC, able to be activated on demand worldwide, by local or national institutions, aimed to achieve the SDG and the COP 22 tasks.
- the large network of the prestigious services providers – such as Christopher D. Smithers Foundation, Italian Association for the Agricultural Science Societies AISSA, Scientific Committee of Desertification Research Centre of Sassari, PTP Science Park, seven Universities of Milan for EXPO, Ordine degli Ingegneri di Milano, Confconsumatori and Oklahoma University-Infopoverty Institute- which guaranty the high quality and the success of the action of WFSEC, as practical tools to transfer in reality the issues of COP, and SDG, placed in the hands of users, who will have direct access to the capacity solving facilities of the WFSeC.

### **The participants of the Infopoverty Seminar at COP22**

#### **recommend**

- to all those who took part in the COP22: to participate and support the WFSeC as a powerful tool for rural development and urban nutrition.
- To the delegations of all countries: that they adopt this model, adhering to the WFSeC, in order to be inserted as facilitator to plans of rural development.
- to the ICT private sector: to join in this effort to open new perspectives and markets for social-economic development to Africa and the LDC.
- to civil society: to associate in the WFSeC, this new center of e-services, in order to take advantage of accelerating their purpose and sharing experience, solutions, best practices empowering the common effort to achieve the COP22 proclamation and UN SDG, creating a common universal platform able to accelerate human knowledge, and capacities in confronting the XXI century challenge: a clean planet, zero hunger, the end to poverty; giving dignity and freedom to each human being.

### **The participants of the Infopoverty Seminar at COP22**

#### **decide**

to address the issues highlighted by H.E. Madina Rahaman, Vice Minister of Health of Sierra Leone, and Mr Toky Ravoavy, representative of Madagascar, and to commit the center to start to provide digital services to sustain Sierra Leone in its emergency of post-traumatic stress affecting the population after the epidemic of cholera and ebola, and to support the relaunching of the Sambaina Millennium Village.

### **In conclusion, the participants of the Infopoverty Seminar at COP22**

- thank the UN system for their support and collaboration in this project, born in the ambit of the Infopoverty World Conference (IWC), the annual forum held at UN HQ in NY, and in particular, thank the Smithers Foundation for the patronage, European Parliament Commission, the Italian Ministry of Environment and Foreign Affairs, the Minister of Sierra Leone, the Primature of the Congo RD, the African Union representatives, AISSA, PTP, Center of Desertification, IFTC-UNESCO, Comune di Milano, Regione Lombardia and EXPO for their support, and OCCAM for its leadership.
- Decide to arrange the follow up at UNHQ, NY, on 20 April 2017 in occasion of the XVII Infopoverty World Conference.