

“ONE DOLLAR FOR DEVELOPMENT”

E-GOVERNMENT APPLICATION REUSE INITIATIVE AT THE PRICE OF ONE DOLLAR

FORMIT's core proposal is the “One Dollar for Development” initiative.

The underlying rationale for this initiative is that sustainable MDG-based strategies of developing countries require significant public investments to spur local scientific innovation and technological development. The G-8 Countries have successfully developed and deployed several e-Government applications to improve governance and boost their socio-economic development. Such applications are already in use in many key areas such as Justice, Security, Healthcare, Welfare, Transport and Education. Without having to reinvest and at a fraction of the initial development costs, most of these applications could be easily duplicated, re-deployed and put in use in developing countries to support local innovation and technological development especially in the field of governance. The initiative aims at making available at no cost e-Government applications owned by developed countries to developing countries by encouraging promotion of North-South cooperation, including triangular cooperation, which complements North-South cooperation, as an effective contribution to development and as a means to share and transfer good practices and technologies. The initiative urges donor countries and international organizations, including all those within the United Nations system, to strengthen their technical support to such activities.



In support of the “One Dollar for Development” initiative, developed countries owning such applications will make available their in use software to developing countries at a symbolic price of one dollar (the price of the CD-ROM used to store the application).

“One Dollar for Development” will be promoted through a powerful multi-stakeholder not-for-profit partnership which will include the United Nations, civil society, Academia and the Governments.

The initiative will be developed at regional and country level in three interconnected phases:

Phase I: Capacity Building.

Organisation of capacity building workshops in the Regions of the world, through the UN-NGO-IRENE network. These workshops will aim at transferring knowledge to officials of non-G8 countries in an effort to strengthen their human capital.

Phase II: Needs Assessment.

Initiates and puts in place methodologies and actions to assess the ICT needs of Governments in interested non-G8 countries. The needs assessment will go from the high political level to the strictly operational level and will be integrated with the identification of pilot initiatives.

Phase III: Development of pilot initiatives.

Launch of pilot initiatives as vehicle to promote best practices and good governance. Identify software applications in developed countries to meet the requirements emerging from the needs assessment in Phase II, arrange the transfer of such software applications from donor countries to non-G8 countries at a symbolic price of one dollar. Support non-G8 countries in the local customization of those one-dollar applications encouraging local human resources, local entrepreneurs and public-private partnerships.

FORMIT

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“ONE DOLLAR FOR DEVELOPMENT”

Initiative

NGOs Forging Powerful Partnerships: Political, Public and Private



THE THEME FOR THE 2005 HIGH LEVEL SEGMENT

“Achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, as well as implementing the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits: progress made, challenges and opportunities”



BACKGROUND

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR NON-G8 COUNTRIES ON THE MANAGEMENT ON PUBLIC PROCUREMENT OF TECHNOLOGIES

The UN Millennium Development Goals include a commitment from Member States to "ensure that the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communication technologies ... are available to all". ICTs can also play a vital part in helping us achieve the broader goals of the Millennium Declaration be it poverty eradication, democracy, governance, sustainable general socio-economic development.

With a view to supporting the use of ICT by Governments of non-G8 Countries, from 6 to 10 December 2004 FORMIT had organised in Rome, at the FAO HQ, the "International Programme for non-G8 Countries on the Management of Public Procurement of Technologies in the ICT and Healthcare Areas" – Workshop. The initiative had the objective to improve the capacity of non-G8 Countries to exploit technologies for their socio-economic development, balancing the relationship between public administration's contracting authorities and technology suppliers.

The training programme conducted by FORMIT targeted senior government officials from the non G-8 Member States in charge of procurement of technologies for public administration and health care systems. The workshop received an excellent response from 63 delegates representing 34 Member States. Through this initiative FORMIT made an effort towards bridging the digital divide, focusing specifically on the important role of ICTs towards implementing the MDGs.

The capacity building workshop was supported by the Chief, NGO Section DESA in accordance with ECOSOC Resolution 1996/31.

Issues raised by participants at the workshop confirmed the importance of mainstreaming Information and Communication Technologies as an important tool towards achieving the millennium development goals for the socio-economic development of non-G8 Countries including bringing a set of recommendations for action.

FORMIT committed itself before the participants to studying, designing and supporting at international level initiatives and actions to promote the transfer of ICT towards non-G8 Countries with the proposal of "One Dollar for Development". To further its commitment, FORMIT participated in various events in the international arena, in particular intervening in the Fifth Latin Media, IT and Telecommunications Conference, UN, New York and a statement at the NGO Forum in preparation of the HLS of ECOSOC, UN, New York (E/2005/NGO/1).



ABOUT FORMIT

STRATEGIC AND OPERATIONAL SUPPORT TO PUBLIC ADMINISTRATIONS IN THE AREA OF ICTs FOR 20 YEARS

FORMIT Foundation, a not-for-profit entity established in 1985 in Rome, Italy, is in Roster consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC). Since its establishment FORMIT supports the introduction and use of technology in sectors of collective interest in a complete independence from industry and technology suppliers.

FORMIT qualifies as a competent focal point to support the processes of technological innovation through scientific research, technical support, analysis and industrial, financial and socio-economic evaluation.

FORMIT strategically and operationally supports Governments and Public Administrations in the successful utilisation of technological innovation, integrating the needs of citizens and enterprises and the corresponding reaction of the public apparatus.

Particularly non-G8 Countries require systems and technology purchased by public tenders. These technologies are key to the internal socio-economic development, especially when aimed at improving the efficiency of Public Administrations, of Government and collective interest systems including public healthcare systems.

FORMIT believes that one of its primary missions is to support the non-G8 Countries in accessing information, knowledge, skills and experiences which enable them to maximise the benefits which they can obtain from ICT by supporting the public procurement process on one hand and supporting development aid in this particular field on the other.

Since the last 20 years FORMIT has supported the following projects and initiatives:

- Adoption of ICT by Governments and Administrations in Italy and Worldwide;
- Aided Ministries, Public Administrations, Public Bodies managing areas of collective interest to reap the advantages of technologies;
- Executed approximately 100 large scale projects to deploy ICT initiatives in the public sector;
- Supported Public Administrations to manage ICT projects whom overall value is more than 1,000 million Euro;
- Carried out training activities for over 1,000 industry researchers and about 8,000 officials skilled through FORMIT's Centre for Training Methodologies and Practices;
- Carried out its operations nationally and internationally, through locally established branches.

www.formit.org

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STRATEGIC PARTNERS

UN-NGO-IRENE

UNITED NATIONS NGO INFORMAL REGIONAL NETWORK



TECHNICAL COOPERATION PARTNERS

FORMIT

FOUNDATION FOR RESEARCH ON TECHNOLOGY MIGRATION AND INTEGRATION, A NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION IN CONSULTATIVE STATUS WITH THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL OF THE UNs

FORMIT

OTHER PARTNERS

DESPACHO DE LA PRIMERA DAMA

OFFICE OF THE FIRST LADY OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, DR. MRS. MARGARITA CEDEÑO DE FERNÁNDEZ



COPDES

PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION ON MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DOMINICAN REPUBLIC



GIVE THEM A HAND

INFORMAL COMMUNITY BASED PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE WHICH BRINGS TOGETHER MEMBER STATES, NGOS, PRIVATE SECTOR, ARTISTS AND UN STAFF-TOWARDS ACHIEVING THE MDGs



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