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Item 13 of the provisional agenda

Presentation of the IFAP Project:

“ICT Caravan Project & Conference”



United Nations
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ICT Caravan Project & Conference

Overview of the Association for Intercultural and Interreligious Dialogue (ADICR)

The Association for Intercultural and Interreligious Dialogue (ADICR) is a non-profit association that seeks to promote dialogue between people of different cultures and religions and to enhance people's self-awareness and personal reflection on the attainment of a more just society. As part of this effort the ADICR promotes activities aimed at fostering cultural diversity, citizenship, training and entrepreneurship, cultural and artistic exchanges, the rights of Women as well the value of tolerance. Together, these interventions represent an important contribution towards greater social cohesion in our increasingly diverse societies.

The ADICR has been advancing its mission through the organization of conferences, seminars, and forums that bring together thought leaders from the public, intergovernmental, private, civil society, academic and youth sectors to explore, debate and develop solutions.



Figure 1: a) Ms. Irina Bokova, Director General of UNESCO and guest of honor at the b) ADICR Colloquium on "Relaunching economic activity and exchanges with the Middle-East: Reflection, creativity and growth" held on 9 October 2012 at the Palais du Luxembourg in Paris under the patronage of Mr Jean-Pierre Bel, President of the French Senate.

Activities undertaken by the ADICR

The Association was created in 2002. Since 2008 the ADICR has been supporting policy discussions on key issues affecting Europe and nearby regions such as the Mediterranean.

Leveraging its considerable convening power, ADICR has brought together eminent statesmen and leaders from across a range of sectors and institutions to support a re-visioning and re-orientation towards the development of more sustainable and inclusive approaches and societies. For example, in partnership with the European Parliament, ADICR has explored issues such as entrepreneurship within France and Europe with a view to not only addressing the economic aspects of the fiscal crisis but also its urgent social and human dimensions. This exploration has placed particular emphasis on the needs of youth and the aged. In a similar manner, ADICR with the French Senate in 2009 undertook a critical examination of the role of women in French Society. Together with actors from across educational, social, economic and religious sectors an agenda for developing and advancing adequate and appropriate responses have emerged from these discussions.

Equally, ADICR has been giving attention to the implementation of concrete projects that serve as living examples and proofs of concept for the recommendations and consensus that emerge from its policy forums. Recognizing the importance of empowering, unlocking and directing the aspirations and potential of young people, ADICR has been addressing the needs of young women and young men, particularly those living in disadvantaged areas and smaller cities. ADICR's work has focused on developing ICT-skills based programmes delivered over several months through mobile ICT Caravans. The ICT Caravans provide a modular platform y equipped with training and learning equipment. This format it provides flexibility, adaptability and allows these trainings to be readily replicated in areas where they are needed.

Activities developed around the ICT Caravans have been undertaken in concert with local municipalities and other city actors. These partnerships have served to ensure complementarity, coherence and relevance enabling training to be delivered to the locales where they are most needed with minimal delay. In turn the municipalities have provided the necessary utility connections and contributed to the elaboration of the training programmes. The programmes which are operated over several months also provide opportunities for the development of civic awareness and youth engagement. On successful completion, participants receive diplomas, which provide an accreditation of their competencies and enhance their employability. The graduation ceremonies held in the presence of the President of the Municipal Council, municipal officials and other organizers serve to publicly recognize these achievements and to build the esteem of participants. The ICT Caravans are thus a proven, flexible and turn-key solutions for supporting youth empowerment through the development of ICT-skills that in turn bring a range of socio-economic benefits to communities. To date, almost 700 young women and men have benefited from the ICT Caravans.



Figure 1: *Colloquium organized by ADICR in partnership with the European Parliament*

Proposed Activities

Strengthening the role of Youth around the world; particularly in Europe and the Mediterranean; to promote social cohesion, intercultural and inter-religious dialogue, citizenship and equality between women and men is an ADICR objective. This goal may be supported and advanced through a joint project by ADICR and UNESCO's Information for All Program (IFAP).

This cooperative initiative would consist of a conference and country projects jointly planned and implemented by ADICR and IFAP across several geographical regions.

It is envisaged that the conference would be held in June 2016. The event would provide a platform for assembling around 200 key stakeholders including Government ministers, municipal authorities, representatives of civil society including youth and women associations, as well as experts, educators and practitioners from related institutions and disciplines.

The conference would provide a platform for discussing and debate needs and responses to the challenges being faced by young women and young men across the regions represented at the conference. On this basis, a number of pilot countries would be selected. The content and objectives of training activities to be carried out in response to the challenges discussed would be identified. The scope of these regional projects, as well as the selection of pilot countries would be jointly determined by IFAP and ADICR.

Country projects will be developed around training based on ADICR's ICT Caravan methodology which typically require about three days of training per week over a six-week period. Persons completing the programme will receive diplomas and will also benefit from mentoring and coaching support in their efforts to find jobs or establish their own enterprise. It is envisaged that 9 training programmes will be conducted in each country with a focus on disadvantaged and rural areas. As part of these efforts and to ensure sustainability and create a multiplier effect the project will integrate a train-the-trainer component. The train-the-trainer component will be targeted to municipalities and municipal partners and serve to equip them with the necessary skills to continue implementing the ICT Caravan method beyond the completion of the project. The project is expected to benefit around 1,000 young women and young men in each participating country.



Figure 2: An ICT Caravan project in Rwanda

Preliminary Budget

a) Organization of a 2-day Preparatory Conference

Rental of conference venue:	€ 10,000
Simultaneous Interpretation (Arabic, English and French)	€ 14,000
Air Travel, Accommodation & incidental for 20 selected participants	€ 35,000
Conference communication and document preparation	€ 20,000
Consulting Fees (conference logistics and fund-raising activities)	€ 25,000
Receptions, welcome dinner and related conference hospitality	€ 15,000
Miscellaneous expenses:	€ 2,500

Estimated Conference budget **€ 121,500**

b) Organization of ICT Caravan Training Events

Six-week long ICT training and mentorship for 100 young women/ men ^{1*}	€ 20,000
<i>Total costs @ 9 trainings per country</i>	€ 180,000
Assuming 3 countries	€ 540,000

Estimated ICT Caravan Project budget **€ 540,000**

c) Development and maintenance of a project website and related technical consultation and activities

Estimated Activity budget **€ 132,000**

d) Technical support provided through the IFAP Network

Estimated budget **€ 223,000**

Total Project Budget (a+b+c+d) **€1,016,500**

¹ Leasing of the ICT Caravan, utilities and related permits for set-up as well as Training of Trainers to be covered by the Municipality and local partners