



# MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN ICVOLUNTEERS AND FONDAZIONE MONDO DIGITALE

#### **BETWEEN**

The non-governmental organization, **ICVolunteers International Federation**, with headquarters located at 104, rue de Carouge, 1205 Geneva, Switzerland, Hereafter called "ICVolunteers" Represented by Mrs. Viola Krebs, In her capacity as Executive Director,

#### AND

The non-governmental organization, **Fondazione Mondo Digitale** with headquarters located at Via Umbria 7, 00187-Rome, Italy, Hereafter called "FMD" Represented by Mrs. Mirta Michilli In her capacity as General Director.

#### Article 1: Context and definition

ICVolunteers is an international non-profit federation specialized in the field of communications, in particular languages, cybervolunteerism and conference support. Its Headquarters is at 104, rue de Carouge, 1205 Geneva, Switzerland. Its aim is to mobilize, train and coordinate volunteers for social, humanitarian, scientific and ecological projects and conferences. Development, exchange of information and service towards society at large are the key elements shared by the communities or organizations involved and by the individuals volunteering through the organization (e.g. CyberVolunteers Programme facilitating South-South exchanges and capacity building of volunteers promoting, also including North-South and South-North cooperation) and to lead initiatives linked to volunteerism.

The FMD is an NGO founded by the Municipality of Rome and 6 large ICT companies, including Acea, Unisys, Wind and Intel. Its headquarters is at Via Umbria 7, 00187, Rome, Italy. The FMD's core mission is to spread the benefits of ICTs-based innovation in the school system and among the disadvantaged sectors of the population (e-inclusion). The strategic areas of working are: ICT for an inclusive ageing, ICT for integration of immigrants/refugees, ICT for global education and e-inclusion, ICT for 21<sup>st</sup> century education, ICT for accessibility, ICT for students with special needs, ICT for equal gender opportunity and Action Research and Development (AR&D). Over the years, the FMD has led many e-inclusion and ICT-based educational initiatives at local/national/international level.

# Article 2: Basis of the partnership

The present partnership shall be based on the trust and mutual respect between ICVolunteers and FMD.

The signatories are committed to respecting the Statutes and the Code of Ethics of both organizations.

The collaboration shall be carried out as described hereafter.

# Article 3: Nature of the partnership

**Whereas** ICVolunteers has a mandate to foster initiatives in Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs), involving volunteers as well as stakeholders of the public and private sectors, including the academic sector;

Whereas FMD is active in improving the well-being and development of the populations of emerging countries and developing regions;

**Agreeing** that by working in a partnership, the two parties can collaborate in the use of Information and Communication Technologies and cyber-volunteering through actions and initiatives in accordance with the Millennium Development Goals of the United Nations and the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper. Among the activities are also efforts to train young people in order for them to integrate into labour market given their socio-professional situation;

The collaboration agreement between ICVolunteers and FMD concentrates notably on the following points:

- Joint exploration for an effective and innovative use of ICTs for development, which would contribute to the reduction of the digital divide; this includes the use of the virtual social innovation environment, Phyrtual.org;
- Exchange of expertise and information linked with ICTs for development;
- Promotion of the FMD objectives among the international partners of ICVolunteers and promotion of the CyberVolunteers Programme among young people and engineers likely to contribute to FMD and ICVolunteers projects;
- FMD and ICVolunteers will proceed with a cross-fertilization of their experiences and expertise and plan to work together in the implementation and evaluation of their programmes;
- The name and/or logo of FMD and a description of the Programme will be published on the Internet portal of ICVolunteers;

• The name and/or logo of ICVolunteers as well as a description of the CyberVolunteers Programme will be published on the FMD Internet portal.

# **Article 4: Project Management**

Prior to the implementation of each project, a project agreement, including a detailed budget, will be prepared and signed by the two parties, in order to establish the roles and responsibilities of each of the parties.

# Article 5: Reports and Responsibilities

Follow-up and evaluation of the activities: Both commit to conducting a periodic follow-up and an evaluation of the programmes which are jointly implemented;

Reports: Activity and financial reports for the activities implemented jointly are created by the two parties;

Responsibilities: The two parties commit, within their possibilities, to making the implementation of projects efficient in order to guarantee their success.

#### **Article 6: Conditions for volunteers**

The conditions listed in the document entitled "Volunteer Charter" of ICVolunteers will be adopted as a working base for the volunteers mobilized by ICVolunteers. Where necessary, these conditions may be modified by mutual agreement.

Prior to the participation in a new project relevant to the partnership, the volunteers will be invited to sign the aforementioned documents, thus accepting the working conditions.

#### **Article 7: Conflict resolution**

The two parties accept the Memorandum of Understanding in a spirit of mutual trust and agree that any unexpected circumstances which may arise during the evolution of the partnership shall be resolved in a spirit of mutual understanding.

Should a conflict arise, this will be resolved in a peaceful and amicable manner. The parties commit to making every possible effort to resolve the problem through dialogue and negotiation.

# Article 8: Modifications of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

This MoU will be subject to an annual revision in order to strengthen the cooperation between the parties.

#### Article 9: Period of the MoU

This MoU will remain in force until it is terminated by one or both parties, by mutual consent.

# Article 10: Withdrawal from the MoU

One of the parties may withdraw from the MoU by giving the other party a written notice of six (6) months.

# Article 11: Date of entry into force

This MoU shall be initiated upon signature by the two parties.

Signed on 17 February 2012 by:

For Fondazione Mondo Digitale

For ICVolunteers Federation

Mirta Michilli

General Director

Viola Krebs

**Executive Director**