

IDEASS PROGRAMME REPORT 2010



IDEASS

Innovation for Development and South-South Cooperation

EL SALVADOR
GUATEMALA
HONDURAS
NICARAGUA

IDEASS is the international programme for the dissemination of innovations to improve the processes of territorial development in countries. In 2010 IDEASS has operated at the international level and in the framework of the ART programmes (Governance and Local Development) underway in Albania, Bolivia, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic and Sri Lanka. IDEASS also supports the UNIFEM/UNOPS MyDEL Programme in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua.

The IDEASS website (www.ideassonline.org), which in 2010 registered an increasing number of visitors, has been the programme's international communication tool for sharing innovations and results of activities. It represented as well a significant promotional tool of the ART Initiative.

IDEASS identifies and promotes international innovations that have contributed to human development and the reduction of exclusion, unemployment and poverty. To disseminate these innovations concretely, IDEASS supports the implementation of specific initiatives to transfer the methods to countries, with the technical and financial support of international cooperation actors.

The **IDEASS** website (www.ideassonline.org), in December 2010, recorded 10.079 contacts and 123.741 page views from 101 countries. The top 20 countries accessing the site are in order: United States, China, México, Spain, Peru, Italy, Chile, Colombia, Argentina, Venezuela, Bolivia, Guatemala, El Salvador, Ecuador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Brazil, France, Japan, United Kingdom. The most visited sections of the site have been the news and banner section, the Internationals Catalogue of innovations and the technological reviews.

In the interested countries and at the international level, IDEASS

- *Builds an international supply of innovations*, identified in the countries and at the international level, among local actors in industrialised countries involved in decentralised cooperation.
- *Promotes innovation* among potential actors in countries and internationally. Promotion is accomplished by disseminating brochures presenting innovations, by organising specific events and technical exchange visit, by publishing technological reviews and disseminating information on innovations through the IDEASS website (www.ideassonline.org).
- *Carries out initiatives to transfer innovative know how* in countries, with actor interested in adopting specific innovations and with the technical assistance of the authors of the innovations.

At the international level, IDEASS operates through a secretariat based in the offices of UNOPS Rome at the FAO, in close collaboration with the headquarters of UN agencies, in particular with UNDP Geneva (Hub for Innovative Partnerships), UNOPS Geneva, UNIFEM's Central America and Caribbean Office in Mexico City, UNEP Europe in Geneva and ILO's Social Protection Service in Geneva.

In the countries, all activities are carried out in close collaboration with national institutions responsible for the promotion of science and technology (science and technology ministries, national science and technology councils, and science academies). In this way, IDEASS helps to improve the impact of the activities of these institutions on ongoing local development processes. Below is a summary of the main results achieved by IDEASS at the international and country levels during 2010.

TRANSFER OF INNOVATIVE KNOW HOW TO INTERESTED COUNTRIES

When the promotion activities has generated specific interest in an innovation, steps are taken to transfer the innovative know how to the country, which involves activities of various kinds. At the request of national actors and programme teams, the International Secretariat organises missions by innovation inventors to the country concerned. During missions, the following activities are carried out: *Innovation presentation through national event* is organised for the inventors to present innovations to competent national authorities, potential users, public and private bodies, universities, international cooperation organisations and UN agencies; *Formulation of the methodology transfer project* for the use of the innovation in the country with interested institutions and actors; *Contacts with potential sponsors*, to present projects and promote financial and technical participation in the implementation phase.

During 2010, the IDEASS International Secretariat has supported the ART Programmes realizing the following activities in the countries interested in implementing specific innovations:

- *Filtrón*. In Bolivia, in January 2010, the Vice-Ministry of Science and Technology implemented the preparatory activities for the introduction in the country of *Filtrón*, innovation of Nicaragua. In particular, a study was realized on the production costs, as well as analysis on local ceramic and pottery production centres, in order to select the possible location of production plants. A feasibility studio was also conducted on the needed equipment to produce *Filtrón* in Bolivia. The Minister of Environment and Water endorsed the promotion of *Filtrón* and instructed the National Service for Sustainable Sanitation Services (SENASBA) for organizing a National Seminar, involving representatives of the Deputy Minister of Science and Technology, SENASBA, the Ministry of Health and OPS / WHO.
- *Filtrón*. In Bolivia, the presentation of *Filtrón* took place on February 23, during the National Seminary "Technological proposals for dinking water supply" organized by the Ministry of Development Planning, the Ministry of Environment and Water, the Ministry of Health and Sports, the Vice-Ministry of Science and Technology, the National Service for Sustainability of Sanitation Services and the Unit of Health Promotion, in collaboration with UNDP ART GOLD Bolivia Programme and IDEASS. The innovation was presented by *Ceramistas por la Paz* of Nicaragua, authors of the innovation. The event was attended by representatives of local institutions, municipalities, services and departments of the prefectures, representatives of the Federation of Municipal Associations (FAM) of the various departments of Bolivia, UN and international cooperation agencies, and NGOs. In June 2010, in the

framework of a UNDP - Italian Cooperation joint mission, the Minister of Environment and Water stated that the use of Filtrón is a national priority.

- In April 2010, the Training School for Service Centers for the Entrepreneurial Endeavors of Women and Local Economic Development Agencies (ECCA) in Morazan, El Salvador, began to promote and disseminate IDEASS innovations for human development in the network of Local Economic Development Agencies (LEDA) and Service Centers for the Entrepreneurial Endeavors of Women (CSEM) of Central America. Through these activities, the ECCA has become a stable IDEASS collaborating center, capable of reaching structures operating in Central America, thus involving thousands of local development actors.
- *Kangaroo Mother methodology.* From 10 to 12 May 2010, the mission to Albania of public health authorities of Sri Lanka was held to interchange experience on the implementation of Mother Kangaroo methodology. During the mission, organized jointly by the Albania and Sri Lanka ART programmes, and IDEASS, the Sri Lanka delegation met the Albanian Health authorities and received information on the implementation of the Kangaroo Mother Care Method in Albania, in order to define conditions and needs for the application of the method in Sri Lanka. The Sri Lanka delegation was composed by the Consultant Community Physician and National Programme Officer of the Newborn Care Programme in the Family Health Bureau of the Sri-Lankan Ministry of Health, the Consultant Paediatrician from the Base Hospital of Diyatalawa in the Uva Province, the Medical Officer in the Mother and Child Health Office of Badulla in the Uva Province. At the end of the mission, the Sri Lanka representatives expressed appreciation for the mother kangaroo methodologies and drafted a plan of action for an immediate implementation in Sri Lanka.
- *The use of natural dyes.* On June 30, in La Paz, Bolivia the *Second Meeting on Knowledge and Learning about Natural Dyes* was held, organized by the Ministry of Productive Development and Plural Economy and the Ministry of Culture, in collaboration with the Network of Artisans with Cultural Identity (OPAIC) and the Crafts Foundation Jalsuri. The event was attended by over 100 representatives of national institutions, representatives of international cooperation and by artisans and experts in the use, management and production of natural dyes in the departments of Tarija, Santa Cruz, Chuquisaca, Potosí, Pando, Beni, Oruro, Cochabamba, La Paz and in other Latin American countries like Argentina, Guatemala and El Salvador. Interest in collaborating in the project was expressed by representatives of FAO, IICA - *Inter-American Institute for Cooperation in Agriculture* - National Herbarium, Institute of Ecology, Museum of Ethnography and Folklore MUSEF which will provide its laboratories and spaces to support the analysis, documentation and scientific systematization of plants and dyeing processes. At the end of the meeting the book *Natural Dyes in Bolivia. Traditional Knowledge for the Future* was presented and distributed.
- *Agricultural Towers.* From 11 to 18 July 2010 the mission to El Salvador of the French author of the Agricultural Towers and the Director of BIC Thesame of Annecy took place. The mission was organized by IDEASS in collaboration with the UNIFEM-managed MyDEL Programme and the ECCA School (Training School for Service Centers for the Entrepreneurial Endeavors of Women and Local Economic Development Agencies). During the mission, the ECCA and the LEDA Network of El Salvador, in collaboration with the Department of Economics of the Universidad Centroamericana "José Simeon Cañas" (UCA) and the MyDEL Programme, organized a national event in El Salvador on the promotion of the Agricultural Towers. The event involved about 100 representatives of national institutions such as the Ministry of Justice, FISDEL (Social Investment Fund for Local Development), ENA (National School of Agriculture), CENTA (Nacional Centre of Livestock Technology), the IFAD-PRODEMORO, the Universities of East and West, and other interested organizations of the territories where the five LEDA and CSEM of El Salvador operate. The innovation, which won the First Prize of the EBN (*European Network of the Business Innovation Centers*) - IDEASS Competition 2009 – for innovations for human development, raised great interest among the LEDA and the involved Ministries, which decided to implement 5 pilot projects of Agricultural Towers in the country. During the mission, the French delegation met the Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Livestock, the President of FISDL, the Head of Decentralized Cooperation of the Embassy of France and the Deputy Resident Representative of UNDP, also representative of FAO. The mission also visited the territories of the five ADEL and where the pilot project will be implemented: Chalatenango (Chalatenango ADEL), Apopa, area north of San Salvador

(ADEL OAT), San Martín (ADEMISS), Sonsonate (Sonsonate ADEL), San Francisco Gotera and Perquín (ADEL Morazán).

- *Services Centres for Women's Entrepreneurship (CSEM)*. In October 2010, the Local Economic Development Agency RUEDA of the Southern Province in Sri Lanka, started exchanging experiences with the Services Centres for Women Entrepreneurship (CSEM) developed in Central America and promoted by the UNIFEM UNOPS MyDEL Programme and IDEASS. RUEDA established contacts with the Training School for Local Economic Development Agencies and Services Centres for Women Entrepreneurship (ECCA), based in El Salvador, in order to obtain more information about its experience and increase effectiveness in supporting women community level enterprises, providing services such as market linkages, technology transfer, product development, financial support through credit programmes. A collaboration agreement between RUEDA and ECCA School has been established and a project document has been drafted and presented to potential donors operating in Sri Lanka.
- *Services Centres for Women Entrepreneurship (CSEM)*. In October 2010, the Local Economic Development Agency ADELNA of the Nampula Province in Mozambique began working on a collaboration agreement with the Training School for Local Economic Development Agencies and Centres for Women's Entrepreneurship (ECCA) in Central America. Through this agreement, ECCA will provide remote technical assistance to support ADELNA in the steps necessary to design and implement a platform CSEM within its structure. In addition, ADELNA will provide ECCA with information on its successful experiences and practices so that they can be disseminated to LEDAs and CSEMs in Latin American countries.
- *Solar still for drinkable water - SOLWA*. In October 2010, the methodologies of the IDEASS innovation *Solar Still SOLWA* for drinkable water production from polluted or salt waters raised the interest of different institutions in charge of Science and Technology and NGOs in Peru, Bolivia and Ethiopia, to start pilot projects for the implementation of SOLWA in these countries. The projects, which will receive technical assistance from the University of Venice (Italy) and the NGO Ce.Svi.Te.M. of Venice will start in early 2011 and foresees the involvement of the Trujillo National University (Peru), the Research and Development Technology unit of the National Service for Sustainable Basic Sanitation Services SENASBA (Bolivia), and the NGO "Terra del Terzo Mondo" of Treviso, for a project in Ethiopia.
- *Naturalistic engineering methodologies*. During 2010, promotion of environmental engineering methodologies continued in Colombia. In particular, the officers of the UNDP Office in Bogotá involved in climate change issues, have established a collaboration agreement with the University of Florence, which involves the construction of two pilot projects in the departments of Valle and Nariño, open to participation by other interested national universities. The Department of Tolima has expressed interest in participating in the school-yards, to reproduce these new methodologies in their own territory.
- *Stabilak*. During 2010, efforts continued to promote Stabilak in Bolivia and Dominican Republic, in the framework of national strategies for enhancing the dairy chain. These activities, carried out with high-level technical assistance from the National Center for Livestock Health (CENSA) of Cuba, author of the innovation, have been stressed and diffused by the Cuban press at the international level in January 2010.
- *Mental Health*. During 2010, the Mental Health Care Reform process continued in Sri Lanka, in the Uva Province, with the support of WHO and in close collaboration with the Umbrian Fund of Local Governments for Decentralized Cooperation and Sustainable Human Development (FELCOS) and IDEASS.

INTERNATIONAL SUPPLY OF INNOVATIONS

The IDEASS Catalogue contains qualified innovations from Albania, Brazil, Colombia, Cuba, Ecuador, France, Italy, India, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Portugal, Serbia and Spain. Five other innovations have been identified in different countries (Colombia, France, Greece, Italy and Nicaragua), and work is being carried

out with their inventors to produce the documentation. The commitment of the inventors in drafting texts is a prerequisite for their involvement in providing technical assistance for methodology transfer activities. This approach is especially and uniformly appreciated. To define innovations that will become part of the IDEASS Catalogue, the International Secretariat normally consult high level experts on these themes and experts working in various specialised international organisations. These experts assess the technical soundness of the innovations and their potential impact in developing countries.

Innovation research in countries

The innovation research in countries is an important aspect in terms of cooperation. Activities are carried out in close collaboration with national institutions responsible for the promotion of science and technology (ministries, councils, national science and technology agencies, and science academies). Through IDEASS, these institutions strengthen their capacity to valorise and disseminate innovations produced in their country because they can be directly used by actors involved in development processes.

In 2009 a specific project was set up in the Dominican Republic, in close collaboration with the Academy of Sciences, to identify the innovations launched by different institutions, organizations and universities, with a view to the production of a National Catalogue of Innovations. Through an initial undertaking of contacts at a national level, no fewer than 19 methodologies-technologies of interest were identified. In April 2010, the National Catalogue of Innovations for human development in Dominican Republic started to be constructed. The production of the Catalogue is being realized by the Academy of Sciences of the Dominican Republic, in collaboration with the Ministry of Science and Technology, the UNDP ART Programme and the IDEASS International Secretary, through the validation of innovations presented by different Dominican institutions and actors. The brochures, produced in collaboration with the authors of the innovations and related to issues of greatest impact in the country, will be promoted to foster the use of methodologies and technologies at the national level.

In June 2010, the Network of Local Economic Development Agencies of the Dominican Republic started participating in building the National Catalogue of innovations for human development. On June 18, at the UN RD Office, a meeting was held with the LEDA Network ADELDOM, to introduce the National Catalogue of Innovations and define the IDEASS strategy in the framework of ART GOLD RD Programme. Two representatives from each LEDA operating in the Dominican provinces of Dajabon, Bahoruco, El Seibo, Monte Plata and Valverde attended the meeting, besides Engineers of the INTEC University, which collaborates in the production of the Catalogue.

In June 2010, the Caribbean Scientific Union (CCC), an institution that associates the Academies of Sciences of the Caribbean Countries, presented in his website the National Catalogue of Innovations for Human Development of the Dominican Republic, realized in collaboration with IDEASS. The first 9 brochures realized have been published also in the IDEASS website, in a specific dedicated section, in the web site of the Ministry of Science and Technology and in the web site of the UNDP Country Office.

In Nicaragua, also, the National Council of Science and Technology (CONICYT) of the Vice-Presidency of the Republic of Nicaragua, in collaboration with the UNDP Office, the UNIFEM-MyDel Programme and the IDEASS International Secretariat, coordinated in 2010 the production of the National Catalogue of Innovations for Human Development of Nicaragua. The Catalogue was realized with the collaboration of the respective authors, and comprises the brochures of the innovations awarded in the various editions of National Innovation Contests organized by CONICYT. The innovations will be promoted in the country by CONICYT and UNDP to foster the use of methodologies and technologies at the national level. Some of the innovations in the National Catalogue were also part of the IDEASS International Catalogue, because of the interest raised by them in other countries and to their transfer potential. The first 6 brochures of the National Catalogue were published during 2010 in the IDEASS website, in a specific dedicated section.

During 2010, in Nicaragua, the fourth edition of the *National Award on Innovation for Human Development* was realized in collaboration with the National Council of Science and Technology, the UNDP Country Office, IDEASS and the UNOPS-UNIFEM MyDEL Programme. In particular:

- On May 31, 2010, the Nicaraguan Council of Science and Technology – CONICYT - and the other involved institutions held a planning meeting for the organization of the Competition. The meeting was chaired by the Vice President of the Republic, Jaime Morales Carazo, also President of CONICYT. Representatives of the Academy of Sciences, FUPADE, COSEP, CLARO, the MyDEL UNIFEM Programme, UNESCO, the UNAN University of Managua, as well as representatives of the Civil Society also attended the meeting. The 2010 edition of the competition, it was decided, will focus on innovative skills of women entrepreneurs.
- On July 2010 the Council of Science and Technology (CONICYT) of Nicaragua officially launched the Fourth Edition of the *National Award on Innovation for Human Development*. The contest was organized in collaboration with FUPADE, COSEP, MIFIC, CLARO, ACN, UNAN-Managua, CNU, COMTECH, Ave Maria College, and with UNDP, UNESCO, MyDEL UNIFEM-UNOPS Programme and the IDEASS Programme.
- On October 22, the Vice President of the Republic of Nicaragua, Jaime Morales Carazo, gave the prizes of the *IV Edition of the National Award on Innovation for Human Development*. The winners of the first three places 2010, selected by CONICYT with the organization committee from the 24 projects presented, have been: the project for moto-drillers, submitted by Mr. Daniel Querol and Victor Calderon de la Universidad Agraria; the project of a Kit for early diagnosis of Leptospirosis Humana, presented by Mr. Alberto Montoya; the Project for Energy Saving by Mr. Marco Cabrera Parrales. During the award ceremony, Mr. Claudio Tomasi, UNDP Deputy Resident Representative, acknowledged the contribution provided by the innovations to meet the Millennium Development Goals, as they seek to improve living standards of the most vulnerable communities.

IDEASS publishes standard documentation for organising competitions on its website, so that they can be replicated in other countries. These national innovation competitions, advertised in the media and open to all interested inventors, help expand innovation activities in countries. The promotion of innovations in participant countries generates considerable satisfaction for all stakeholders.

In collaboration with institutions and experts, specific innovations of international interest are also identified in the countries. In Colombia the production of the brochure on the national legislation for the inclusion of children with problems in normal schools is ongoing and in Uruguay a brochure is being produced on methodologies of recycling plastics, in collaboration with COOPIMA Cooperative and the Winner Program of DEVNET. In Costa Rica contacts with Earth University are underway to promote the methodologies for the production of paper from the discarded elements of bananas during the production process.

Innovation research at international level

The International Secretariat carries out work on a permanent basis to identify innovations that have the necessary requisites. High-level experts from different professional sectors are involved in this work. Collaboration agreements have been established with numerous UN agencies, cooperation programmes in different countries, non-government organisations, universities and research centres. Specific international activities also take place to identify innovations, in cooperation with interested organisations.

January 2010. Awarded the best innovations for human development of the EBN – IDEASS Competition

Agritowers for multi-level cultivation, the innovation presented by BIC Thésame of Annecy (France), and the author Jean Claude Rey, has won the award for the best innovations for human development. The award was jointly organized by EBN (the European Network of the Business Innovation Centers) and the IDEASS Program, and was concluded on the 27th of January 2010. The award giving ceremony took place in occasion of the 25th EBN Anniversary celebrated in Brussels at the Academy of Science.

Almost 200 people from 19 countries (Germany, Belgium, Spain, USA, France, Greece, Hungary, England, Ireland, Italy, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxemburg, The Netherlands, Portugal, Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland) participated in the event, in representation of the Business Centers members of EBN, the European Commission, and the United Nations.

Christophe Bouvier, Director of UNEP for Europe, participated in the panel for the selection. The award was given by Giancarlo Canzanelli, responsible of the ILS LEDA Program (*International Links and Services for Local Economic Development Agencies*) of the United Nations.

The first prize consisted in a visit to the LEDAs of El Salvador, potentially interested in the technological transfer of the innovation.

During 2009 EBN, the *European Network of Business Innovation Centers*, in collaboration with IDEASS, launched a second edition of the International Contest of best innovations for human development.

On April 2010, the innovations presented at the different editions of the EBN - IDEASS International Contest for Innovation, started to be published in the IDEASS and EBN websites. In collaboration with the EBN Secretary, a specific IDEASS brochure format was designed. The EBN-IDEASS brochures have been realized in collaboration with the authors of the different innovations and published in the sites, in a specific dedicated section.

In July 2010, the Directorate of International Cooperation of the Veneto Region (Italy), in the framework of the IDEASS – Veneto project, started collaboration for the identification and promotion of innovative methodologies and working tools which have been conceived and successfully implemented in the Veneto Region, in the different fields of human development. The innovations from Veneto will be published on the IDEASS website. The collaboration is intended to foster the establishment of partnerships between actors involved in the Veneto Region and those of the countries interested in the transfer of innovative know-how.

PROMOTION OF INNOVATIONS

The IDEASS website (www.ideassonline.org), managed by the International Secretariat, is available in English and Spanish and represents the instrument for the international promotion of innovations, for publicising the programme's activities and for involving new actors.

In particular, the site publishes innovation brochures, edited in English and Spanish. The inventors write a text for each innovation identified, using a standard format provided by the International Secretariat. The Secretariat oversees the production of texts and brochures, printed by a company contracted through tenders. The innovation brochures can be downloaded by anyone and easily packaged for dissemination. When promoted innovations arouse concrete interest, brochures are translated into the language of different countries (French, Albanian, Serbian-Croatian, and Portuguese) so that they can be used by interested actors and operators.

The innovation brochures are disseminated in international events held in different countries, involving representatives of national institutions and international cooperation. The brochures are regularly used by the inventors to promote their innovations in different contexts.

During 2010, other specific activities have been carried on. The *University of Crafts and Trades*, one of the IDEASS innovations, was successfully launched in the framework of the Forum – *Cultural Heritage and Economic Development, handicrafts a tool for Sustainability* - held on June 2-4 in Cairo (Egypt), organized by the Cultural Council of the Mediterranean Union, supported by the French Government. A PowerPoint in Arabic that presents the IDEASS innovations was prepared for the event.

In Trieste, Italy, More than 1500 people participated in the International Meeting *What is mental health today? Towards a global network of community health*, from 9 to 13 February 2010. Contacts with website and web TV came from 66 countries and 13,786 visitors contacted the meeting website in the period 18 January – 8 February. News about the meeting appeared in 38 national and international dailies, periodicals and papers. IDEASS, who was among the sponsors of the international meeting in Trieste, supports the mental health care reform process in many countries where ART Programmes are ongoing, in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Decentralized Cooperation Network of Italian Regions and Provinces. In September 2010, WHO designated the Mental Health Department of the *Azienda per i Servizi Sanitari* of Trieste as a WHO Collaborating Centre for Research and Training in Mental Health. Information on this important designation, such as program and material on the Trieste meeting has been published in the IDEASS website. The brochure which illustrates the methodologies of local services for mental health is currently under production.

In Havana, Cuba, from 5 to 10 July, 2010, the National Meeting on Natural Medicine and the Cuba-Sri Lanka Symposium of Ayurvedic Medicine, organized by the *Centro Nacional de Medicina Tradicional y Natural de*

Cuba (Natural and Traditional Medicine National Development Centre), partner of IDEASS took place. The methodologies adopted by the Centre, for *Integrating the practice of traditional and natural medicine into the health system* are promoted by the IDEASS Programme through a specific brochure. The program of the meeting was published and disseminated through the IDEASS website.

IDEASS carries out activities for enhancing the culture of innovation for human development at the international level. The IDEASS webpage is used to promote, through special banners, innovative methodologies for human development and initiatives carried out by institutions and organisations linked to the activities of the programme. Contests by other entities were promoted, as well as technologies that are particularly significant for resolving problems of international impact and events pertaining to the innovations promoted by IDEASS.

On demand of the different countries, in 2010 IDEASS started the production and the publication of technological reviews, concerning innovations in different fields of action and issues such as: sustainable and natural agriculture methodologies, recycling and reuse of materials, bio-constructions, alternative energy supply and others, intended as effective tools for local development and for the construction of local solidarity partnerships through an alternative economic approach. These reviews are produced by the International Secretariat or in collaboration with specialized institutions interested in participating in the IDEASS activity. These technical reviews are also promoted in the LEDA network, in collaboration with ILSLEDA programme.

During 2010, the publication *Technologies for the Eradication of Poverty*, which presents 495 technologies from numerous institutions and academies in the fields of Agriculture and Food; Water and Environment; Energy and Transport; Income and Industry ; Health and Hygiene ; Housing and Services, has been one of the most visited sections of the IDEASS website.

During 2010, the IDEASS website disseminated information and promoted the activity of numerous actors of development, in the *news* section of the site or through specific banners linking with the different institutional web-pages and/or circulating original informative materials, prepared by the IDEASS international secretariat according to the indications of the interested organizations. During the year, this information was mainly related to the fields of: eco-innovations; water and wastewater natural management; alternative energy; diffusion of science and technology in rural areas; social economy; support to women entrepreneurship; livestock sustainable methodologies; natural medicine; community health services; mental health reform processes; green economy.

In July, the book *Natural Dyes in Bolivia. Traditional Knowledge for the Future*, realized in occasion of the *Second Meeting on Knowledge and Learning about Natural Dyes*, was published on the IDEASS website. The meeting was organized by the Bolivian Ministry of Productive Development and Plural Economy and the Ministry of Culture, in collaboration with the Network of Artisans with Cultural Identity (OPAIC) and the Crafts Foundation Jalsuri.

In October and November 2010, the IDEASS website reported on the organization and the results of the Conference: “*Systems for Water Pollution Control*”, held in Venice from 4th to 9th October. The Italian Company IRIDRA, designated by the International Water Association (IWA) as Technical Secretariat for the organization of the conference, has been cooperating for years with ARPAT – Tuscany Regional Agency for Environmental Protection - in providing technical assistance to countries (in particular, Honduras, Cuba and Albania) in willing to get acquainted with methodologies on Constructed Wetlands in the framework of IDEASS activities and UNDP human development programmes at local level.

The Shanghai World Expo 2010

In May 2010 DEVNET, a non-governmental organization recognized by the ECOSOC of the United Nations, and UNOPS signed an agreement to cooperate at the IDEASS activity for the promotion of innovations.

In this framework, DEVNET hosted and promoted an exhibition of the IDEASS International Catalogue at the Shanghai World Expo 2010, in China, in the main hall of DEVNET Pavilion. During the Expo (1st May – 31 October 2010) hundreds of thousands of visitors of the Pavilion expressed great interest in the innovations displayed. At the conclusion of the event, the DEVNET General Director expressed great satisfaction about the results achieved and looked forward to continuing this fruitful cooperation through other initiatives. During the Expo, more than 3,800 visitors from China visited the IDEASS website. A Power Point in English and Chinese that presents the IDEASS innovations was produced for the event.

SUPPORT TO THE ACTIVITIES OF THE INTER AGENCY SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

During 2010, IDEASS collaborated with the Interagency Scientific Committee in carrying out many activities. Below is a summary of the main activities and results achieved.

- The Scientific Committee collaborated with the Cultural Council of the Mediterranean Union in the preparation and implementation of the Cairo Forum on *Cultural Heritage and Economic Development. Handicraft, a tool for sustainability*, 1-4 June 2010. In this occasion the SC presented the project for the *Mediterranean University of Craft and Trades* (UMM). The idea of UMM is supported by the Governments of Egypt, Italy and France. The formulation and promotion of the Project have led missions to France to define the operational strategies with the representatives of the Cultural Council, meetings with UNESCO, with the French Agency for Cooperation and a number of French actors interested. Funding proposals have been submitted to the French and Italian Cooperation
- The Scientific Committee collaborated with the UNDP ART Programme, at the request of the Ministry of Planning of Colombia and the Ministry of Social Action, in the formulation of a methodological note on the implementation of the national strategy against poverty. The note includes the enhancement of the Colombian local Governments in the formulation of the local Plans for poverty reduction, with the collaboration of all relevant institutions, civil society and the private sector. The document was used by many stakeholders in the country (Government of the Department of Tolima, LEDA national network) for the start of initiatives consistent with the proposed methodologies.
- Contacts have been established and documents produced by the Scientific Committee on possible joint initiatives with: UNOPS Office for Maghreb countries (promotion of LEDAs and IDEASS); Foundation for Southern Italy (IDEASS and Mediterranean University of Crafts and Trades); UNOPS Office in El Salvador and the Ministry of Economy in collaboration with the ECCA School (promotion of LEDAs, CSEM and IDEASS); ILO Office for Africa (LEDAs and IDEASS); ILO Office for the Promotion of Cooperatives (IDEASS); OECD LEED centre in Trento and Province of Trento (LEDAs and IDEASS); Observatory of Handicrafts of Florence (Mediterranean University of Crafts and Trades); Italian Cooperation and Italian Embassy in Senegal (LEDAs, IDEASS and Universitas).
- Operational contacts have been maintained with many offices of United Nations agencies potentially involved in the Scientific Committee activities. In particular with: UNDP Emergency office to promote the strategies adopted by the Prodere Programme in Central America in the '90s in other countries in crisis; ILO Offices responsible for aspects of social protection and interventions in countries in crisis to promote the local development approach; WHO Office for mental health to promote strategies for the implementation of territorial services alternative to institutionalization; WHO Emergency Office to promote the role of local communities during emergencies; UNEP Directorate for Europe for the promotion of strategies adopted by European local authorities aimed at fostering green economy and effective solutions to combat climate change.

A Project to build a *Mediterranean University of Crafts and Trades* was presented by the Inter-Agency Scientific Committee for Human Development Cooperation, at the presence of: the President of the Cultural Council of the Mediterranean Union; the Executive Director of the Centre of Industrial Modernization of Cairo; the Egyptian Minister of Research and Higher Education; the Egyptian Minister of Industry and Trade; the French Minister of Commerce, Small and Medium Enterprises and Tourism; the General Secretary of the French Ministry of Culture; the President of the World Council of Handicraft. The Forum was visited by more than 40,000 persons, from different countries. Expressed their intention to support the *Mediterranean University of Crafts and Trades*: the Director of the Regional Bureau for Science in the Arabic States of UNESCO; the Representative of UNIDO/Austria; the Director of Studies of the National Heritage Institute in Paris; the Representative of the National Confederation of Craftsmen of Italy; the President of the French University of Cairo; the Responsible of international relations of the French Society for the Encouragement of Art Professions (SEMA); the Curator of the Museum of the Mediterranean in Marseille; the Representative of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

- During 2010, the Scientific Committee collaborated to the publication of a fourth issue of the electronic journal *Universitas Forum*, which is widely consulted in the countries. The SC also supported the *Universitas* Programme in contacts with the IDRC for some research projects in collaboration with the ECCA School of the LEDA of Morazán (El Salvador).
- The members of the Scientific Committee participated in different courses, seminars, events and conferences: International Conference in Fortaleza (Brazil) with Edgar Morin on *The seven complex lessons in education*, at the presence of more than 1,000 participants; International Meeting in Dakar on the Europe/Senegal decentralised cooperation, in collaboration with the Italian Cooperation; 4-5 November 2010; International Course in Montreal on *Local Economic Development and Social Economy* in collaboration with the *Universitas* Programme and the Polanyi Institute of Concordia University; 25-29 October 2010; Teaching activities in academic courses of: Roma 3 University, Bologna University, Milano Bicocca University, University of Florence; International Conferences in Siena University, Trento Province, Ancona Region, Siena Province; International Seminar in Camerino on the International Manual for Human Development, from 19 - 22 January 2010 (see also *Universitas* Programme report); Human Rights Film Festival, Naples, 10-16 November 2010; Caritas Course in Rome (17 November)
- The Scientific Committee collaborated with different national and local Governments: with the Italian Government for its various multilateral activities; with the Brazilian Government, Brazilian Universities and UNESCO Country Office in Brazil for cultural activities based on the Morin proposals; with the Morocco Government for the Human Development National Initiative and for the training of trainers of social professions; with the Veneto Region for the International Manual and School; with the Marche Region for the preparation of an Intensive Course for development cadres from Albania; with the Tunisian Government for the implementation of the *Mediterranean University of Crafts and Trades* Programme.
- The Scientific Committee collaborated, at the request of the different organizations, in implementing the following activities: Support to the Permanent *Conference for Mental Health in the World, Franco Basaglia*, created at the conclusion of the international meeting held in Trieste, 9-12 February 2010, with the participation of more than 1,000 persons from forty countries; Support to ORESPER, CEDEP and other organisers of the *Five Continents Congress on Mental Health* to be held in Lyon in 2011, for the component “psychosocial aspects of development”; Support to European Committee: *Law, Ethics and Psychiatry* (CEDEP) for its annual Seminar in Brussels and for the preparation of the international meeting to be held in Paris, in June 2011; Collaboration with Albanian UNDP Country Office, Italian and Albanian Governments for the preparation of the International Meeting in Tirana (13 - 14 January 2011); Collaboration with the European Regions Committee (ERC) and European Parliamentarians in promoting decentralised cooperation with the Balkans and for the preparation of the European Meeting of Decentralised Cooperation to be held in 2011 in Tirana.