

TOWARDS A WORLD COOPERATION SYSTEM FOR TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT

The first informal meeting on the follow-up
of the EXPO KIP Pavilion

All participants of the international meeting held on 24 October, at the conclusion of the KIP Pavilion's experience at EXPO 2015, expressed their willing to collaborate together to promote an innovative development cooperation between local communities of the South and North, giving priority to the objectives of the 2030 Agenda, approved by the UN General Assembly in September 2015.



The KIP Pavilion - *Attractive Territories for a Sustainable World* - has been a place where 269 organizations (National, Regional and Local Governments, UN Agencies, Universities, Associations, Enterprises) of 30 different countries held thematic international meetings and 58 expositions to successfully present their experiences.

On the First of July 2016 the KIP International School has organized an informal meeting between a restricted number of Italian partners and representatives of international organizations to debate on the follows-up arising from the experience gathered in the Pavilion.



The meeting was organized in collaboration with the UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe. The office operates in Venice since 1973 with activities for all areas of science and culture of South-East Europe and the Mediterranean Basin, with a particular attention to sustainable development of the territories included in the World Heritage List and in the network of Biosphere Reserves of the MAB Programme.

At the meeting participated representatives of the UNESCO Venice's Office, the KIP International School and thirty representatives of the following organizations: International Network of Bio-districts and Eco-Regions (IN.N.E.R); World Agricultural Heritage Foundation; *Mediterraneo Sociale* Consortium; International Network of Social Economy; *Città della Scienza* of Naples, Campania Region; Network of the Emblematic Communities of



the Mediterranean Diet; *Italia Lavoro* of the Ministry of Labour and social policies; Nomisma Foundation; *Agenzia Italiana per le Aree Interne* of the Italian Government; ISMU Initiatives and Studies on Multietnicity; OXFAM NGO; *Fondazione di Comunità* of Messina; Bicocca University of Milano; University of Padova.

During the meeting all networks declared their interest to jointly work towards the objectives for the development of territories expressed in the Manifesto lunched at the KIP Pavilion. The activities presented at the KIP Pavilion have been mentioned as already a common heritage of the newborn Network, which it was agreed to call International Network for Territorial Development Cooperation, in line with the Manifesto.

All participants contributed with a deep discussion, rich of ideas and full of proposals. Perspectives emerged are briefly as follows:

- Keep the network operating in an informal way until it will be possible to formalize it; maintain the connections and the flow of information based on emails exchanges and other web social means. The mailing list of the KIP Pavilion partners will be distributed in order to involve other interested actors.
- To inform partners about the different initiatives that each participant has in place and use the network connections to strengthen them and the common activities already taken by the partners.
- Take thematic initiatives open to historic and new partners about interesting topics emerged during the meeting. The network will work on these issues producing documents, organizing meetings and events at local, national and international level, by taking concrete initiatives of international cooperation or in support to territorial development processes.
- Work together for a political and cultural campaign addressing the themes expressed in the Manifesto, showing how the territorial approach can be a strategic tool to change the overall quality of development in line with the principles of the UN Agenda 2030.

Representatives of the UNESCO Venice's Office have stressed that the International Network of the UNESCO MAB programme is a historic and useful framework for the territorial experiences associated in the KIP Pavilion and the new network, for sharing information about practices and identifying common initiatives to be implemented. Procedures for conferring the title of UNESCO Chairs in training initiatives of the network may also be introduced.

It was also agreed to accept the proposal of the Municipality of Naples, sent through a message of the Councillor Alessandra Clemente, to host the next meeting in Naples, date and programme to be still defined, to put on the agenda the opportunity of setting up the Permanent World Conference for the Territorial Development Cooperation. Partners of the Pavilion that deem it useful can take the initiative to organize other informal meetings to prepare the event of Naples.

