FONDAZIONE
BANCO DI SICILIA

Telemedicine and distance learning Project

Mission

To intensify and strengthen the telemedicine activities within the *DREAM* programme by S. Egidio Community and develop distance learning programmes for technical, medical and nursing staff.

In the fight against HIV, *DREAM* represents a pattern appreciated worldwide for its effectiveness, high level standards and obtained results. The project shifts the attention from a humanitarian approach tied with the sanitary emergency to a substainable development oriented approach, since it's aimed at implementing infrastructures in the involved Countries and training for the skilled staff on the premises.

Goals

1. To provide 20 *DREAM* centres the required infrastructures for the telemedicine and distance learning activities
   - Videoconference equipment
   - *Internet* connection
   - Satellite and local plexus
   - Photovolcaic pannels

   This will allow *DREAM* centres to develop distance diagnosis and health care activities that the whole community can benefit.

2. To pool a new excellent telemedicine centre through the *DREAM* centre in Messina

   The S. Egidio Community Centre in Messina has already been working on developing *software* required by the telemedicine activities and reporting, treating and clearing useful data. Today the purpose is establishing a high level new technological and data processing centre worldwide, in the fight against HIV. In accordance with the sicilian universities the project aims at creating new speciallization university courses of studies.

   Centre activities:
   - advanced research
   - software development for the data management in real time, and A.I programmes for the HIV cure
   - epidemiologic data processing and information delivery

3. To develop and start stuctured learning programmes for medical, paramedical and it expert resources on the premises

   New standard courses are scheduled for:
   - Computer engineers in order to manage database and computer programmes
   - Doctors willing to practise medicine
   - Technicians who are in charged to operate only in the molecular biology laboratories

   Applicants will be subject to an internship programme at the *DREAM* biology department and hopefully 20% of them will be hired.

   In a long term, more specialized distance and local university courses will be activated in accordance with universities and science institutions[1].

[1] Among these: Università di Catania, Università di Messina, Università di Tor Vergata, Università la Sapienza, Istituto Superiore della Sanità; Istituto Nazionale per le malattie infettive "Lazzaro Spallanzani".

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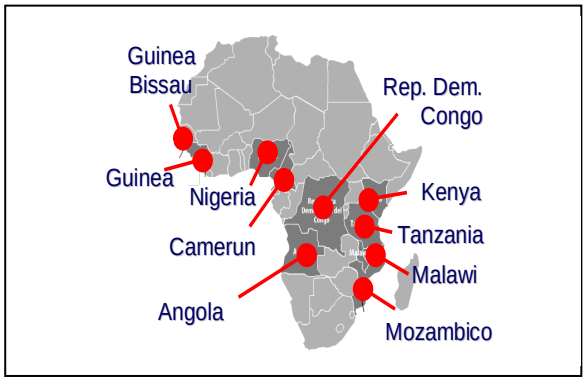
African Countries Partners
The project involved Countries are 10: Mozambique, Malawi, Kenya, Tanzania, Nigeria, Camerun, Angola, Democratic Republic of Congo, Guinea Bissau, Guinea.

The 20 centres start up will take 5 years.
In the first 2 years only 13 centres will be enabled:
- Mozambique: 5 centres (3 the first year and 2 the second)
- Malawi: 4 centres (2 a year)
- Kenya e Tanzania: 4 centres (one per Country a year)

From the third year , 1 centre in every Country in which *DREAM* operates (except Nigeria) will be outfitted



Investments
€ 17 milion within 5 years.

Mean
The start up initiative raises form an agreement between *DREAM* Fondazione and Fondazione Banco di Sicilia. The agreement foresees the *Steering Commitee* establishment aimed at coordinating and addressing the project activities.
The ***project owner*, Leonardo Palombi**, Epidemiologic Professor at the "Tor Vergata" University in Rome and Scientific coordinator of the *DREAM* programme will look after the project start up.

Benefits
- Africa:
  - Infrastructure development
  - Skilled local resources: the project aims at training **over 4.000 people**
  - It plans to get **over 150.000 new patients in the first 5 years**
  - New activities start up thanks to the project infrastructures
- Europe:
  - New private companies' partnership
  - *Business* opportunities
  - Favourable relationships with governments, institutions and african companies (market opening)
  - Favorable market position
  - Visibility (also thanks to Taormina Forum)

The HIV in Africa
The fight against HIV is a crucial issue for the economic growth. The prevention (traditional approach) is not sufficient.
Today, the **67% of the HIV affected worlwide** (33 million people according the UNAIDS Agency) **live in Sub-saharian Africa** , and it's still the n° 1 cause of death.

- **Children:** the 90% of the 370.000 new deases they live in Sub-saharian Africa (they passed from 1.6 million in 2001 to 2 million in 2007);
- **Grown ups**: the 25% of the people between 15 and 49 years old is HIV positive This generates a lack of staff in all the sectors of the economical life and makes the companies less competetive

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***DREAM* data (up to February 2009)**

1.000.000 the number of people who benefited by the *DREAM* programme.

65.000 the HIV positive patients at the *DREAM* centres 15.000 are under 15.

37.000 patients who followed a retro viral therapy.

3.500 of them are under 15.

7.000 children not affected by a HIV positive mother in the course of the vertical-mother-son programme.

2.000 pregnancies being monitored within the vertical prevention programme.

64.000 people being tested for HIV at the *DREAM* centres.

350.000 the medical visit being made at the *DREAM* centres.

98% of children not affected by the HIV positive mother thanks to the anti-retro viral theraphy.

95% the percentage of people following the prescribed cures. The highest rate of the Sub-saharian Africa which corresponds more or less to the rate of the United States.

150.000 the viral charge being processed at the *DREAM* molecular biology laboratories since 2002

400.000 the CD4 tests being processed at the molecular biology centres.

10 the coutries in which *DREAM* is operative or in course to be: Mozambique, Malawi, Tanzania, Kenya, Guinea Rep, Bissau, Nigeria, Angola, Democratic Republic of Congo, Camerun.

31 the number of *DREAM* centres in Africa.

18 the working molecular biology centres.

14 the panafrican training courses being carried out..

3.300 the trained professionals (doctors, nurses, biologists, experts, centre coordinators, house operators).

€ 400 per person the annual cost for the anti-retro viral therapy.

€ 150 per person, the annual cost for the laboratory analisies

€ 600 per patient the annual cost for the anti-retro viral therapy together with the laboratory analisies and the house assistence.