

THE EXPERIENCE OF THE KIP PAVILION AT EXPO 2015 HAS NOW CONCLUDED

October 31 ended the experience of the KIP Pavilion at EXPO 2015. The KIP International School is especially proud to have built the Pavilion exclusively with private funding and that it was made available to governments, international organizations, ninety-four groups and networks bringing together several thousands of public, private and associative organizations from forty countries.

All the partners self-financed their participation, making EXPO also an opportunity to inform and mobilize their respective territories. They exhibited their products, photos, videos and documents about their best experiences, and organized creative events that drew thousands of visitors and animated the KIP Pavilion.

Representatives of EXPO 2105, the Governments of Italy, Senegal and Mali and International Organizations such as SICA (Secretaría de Integración Social Centroamericana), the UN Team at Expo, FAO, UNESCO, UNICEF, IFAD and UNAC participated in and co-organized many of these events.

The Local Economic Development Agencies of over twenty countries organized by the ILS LEDA network, and many LEDAs of European countries organized by EURADA, fuelled exchanges and new partnerships with many other groups around the world and led to an agreement with the Governments of Senegal and Mali to help them in their national policies in support of local development.

A week of events with the Government of Senegal and its local communities led to new partnerships of decentralized cooperation. The Legislative Assembly of the Emilia Romagna Region animated the Pavilion around experiences of participatory democracy and promoted work-study opportunities around the world for young scholars through the Rene Cassin Prize. The magnificent photo exhibit,



Extra-ordinary food - Along the path of food, organized by the Association *Obiettivo sul Mondo* and IFAD, highlighted indigenous knowledge about food production. UNICEF and the Italian Cooperation held an important international meeting on nutrition. The international seminar, titled *The Culture of Differences for Coexistence and Territorial Development*, was an opportunity to involve some of the women who are leading actors in the development of their territories and to underline that starting from a local level permits us to value women's practices so as to transform the exclusion into a possibility of sustainable development for the entire society.

Several international networks displayed some of the best results of their work: Slow Cities, in enhancing quality of life, proximity agriculture and cultural heritage and traditions; Emblematic Communities of the Mediterranean Diet, in facilitating collaboration among farmers, tourist operators, small businesses, services, public administrations, associations and citizens; Eco-Regions and Bio-Districts, in illustrating the experiences of organic productions and sustainable territorial development; Social Economy, in strategically activating social enterprises to combat poverty and exclusion; Local Action Groups of Spain, in their local development schemes; International Slow Tea International and Italian association; The World Agricultural Heritage Foundation, in supporting the *Globally and Nationally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems*.

Many cities, local communities and their associations illustrated some of their good development experiences based on the sustainable use of natural resources, local food, promotion of human rights and citizen participation, as well as art and international cooperation activities: National Association of Italian Municipalities - ANCI, Global Local Forum, Italian cities of Milan, Lecco, Reggio Emilia, Naples, Frosinone and Cosenza; Kaolack and Sédhiou (Senegal) Jingdezhen (China), the Carnia Mountain Community, the Sardinian Geomineral, Historical and Environmental Park, the Italian Network of Social Farms, the Liguria, Emilia Romagna and Sardinia Regions, the Province of Manitoba (Canada), Rincones del Atlántico, disseminating knowledge on natural and cultural heritage of the Canary Islands (Spain).

The associations and NGOs that participated had the opportunity to highlight some of their innovative activities of development and international cooperation: Oxfam, Arbio, Aifo, Nomisma, Vis Roberis, Save the Children, Formattart, Diamocilamano, Energia per i Diritti Umani, Fondazione Codice Italia, Fondazione Pietro Paci, Devnet International and Devnet Tokio, Apau, Apimed, Assolombarda, Cascina Clarabella, Teen Theatre, Sri Lanka Italia Business Council, Società



dei Territorialisti/e, Zen Tea Association, Diotima.

Rimond Company build the Pavilion and others companies supported activities and illustrated their products of excellence: Cix, Silk Road Cultural Committee, Cramst, Maioli, Maylink, Ihavebao, Cantina Tollo, Sistema Colline Romane, Carsa, Solwa, Cap, Compagnia della Qualità Latte Nobile, Eustachi, Great Public Relations Consulting (Shanghai) ItaliaCamp, Bic Lazio, Formaper.

In its outdoor spaces, the Pavilion hosted the UN Garden, built with private financing mobilized by the KIP International School, and proudly displayed Marco Cavallo led by the Permanent Conference for Mental Health Worldwide *Franco Basaglia*, the Social Flight One, a plane built in jail through the project *Wings of Freedom* of the Mediterranean Social Consortium, and the trees of the biodiversity project of the Maioli Group. The restaurant managed by the Cramst Cooperative was not only a place to eat well at affordable prices, but also a lively gathering place. In the square and open spaces cultural events, theatre, music, tastings and many other activities took place. The Project *Patch for Future* of the Symbola Foundation, through which school children and visitors to EXPO expressed their ideas on the future of development and ended with the creation of a Globe, the largest structure made with children's drawings produced by the artist Howtan Re. Famous Chinese

musicians, painters, sculptors, potters, tailors, calligraphers and filmmakers made their best works known to an international public. The poet Leo Zanier and philosopher Aldo Masullo made participants dream and reflect.

The University of Milan Bicocca coordinated a Summer School with Cuban, Argentinean and Nicaraguan Universities that was the first step of an International PhD on Human Development that will start in 2016. The Universities of Milan (Bicocca, Politecnico, CIELS, Umanitaria, Confucio Institute), Florence (ARCO), Perugia and Parma participated in various activities.

KIP and its partners have helped to show that the EXPO could be a great opportunity to learn about many experiences that show that the intelligent production and consumption of food can be an opportunity for local, peaceful, sustainable and quality development. Many activities increased cultural and political awareness that development of the future must be based on partnerships between local experiences of all countries that seek to build attractive and inclusive territories, as indicated by the words of the UN Secretary General in the closing ceremony of EXPO.

Building on the experiences that animated the Pavilion, the KIP International School launched the idea of creating a global system of cooperation for



territorial development around which an international group was constituted. The next meetings will be hosted by the City of Naples and UNESCO's Venice office.

The KIP Pavilion has now closed its doors, but its message will continue.

