

TELEMATIC "PIAZZE" IN THE 8.000 ITALIAN COMMUNES: AN INFRASTRUCTURE OF PUBLIC UTILITY AND SYSTEM COUNTRY AT SECURITY SERVICE IN THE INFORMATION SOCIETY AGE

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INTRODUCTION

A sequence of "bits & bytes", about both "Millenium Bug", and the virus "I love you", becomes a threat for social security, for the economic industrial systems of the entire project, and those who hold the secrets of these revolutionary arms are the billionaire princes of the software or a joker hacker. In practice in the age of global networks Security could end hanging from a wire in which flow "bits & bytes" and depend on a company of individuals, neither more and neither less than what happened for some aspects before the end of the cold war and of the dismantling nuclear heads agreement, so who held "the nuclear case" had also in his own hands the humanity destinies.

Enormous masses of digital data are changing the relationship between humanity and information, above all after the advent of Internet. In his book 'Data Smog: How to survive to the informative deluge' - David Shenk asserts "The problem is not the access to information, the real challenge today is to filter the enormous amount of the available information in order to find what is really necessary". The unstoppable flow of data that, as text and images, is produced by humanity is of 1.500.000.000.000.000.000 bytes (1,5 exabytes). "Nowadays they are above all the individuals who create and distribute an enormous amount of information - professor Peter Lyman asserts, one of the authors of the survey carried out at the "University of California" and in which it has been quantified (for the first time in digital units) the information produced on the entire project - It is a big revolution, a really democratic movement".

Just the e-mail produced every year by people, over a thousand billion messages, exceeds 500 times in amount of data the number of the pages available on Internet. To this deluge of information it is answered with another deluge, that of "the informative filters" made of research engines (yahoo, excite, altavista, google, arianna, virgilio, etc.), of iper-specialistic sites in a particular field, with prototypes like a federal super portal called "Eiha?!?" realised in Sardinia inside the Crs4.

"Eiha?!?" is a telematic model that can be extended to every territorial reality and that turns upside down the hierarchical pyramid imposed by the models of the American filters (like Yahoo), with a system not organised from the apex, but disseminated in a capillary way and able to put in and elaborate the information starting from the realities operating on the territory. One of the most important innovations regards the attempt to escape from the cultural homologation in course with the dissemination, the learning and the protection of the minority languages. Currently inside the portal it is present the "Ditzonline", a dictionary of the Sardinian language with an orthographic corrector and soon it will be the same for Gaelic and Corsican, thanks to a collaboration in course with Corsica, Ireland and Canary Islands. (ANSA - 16 October 2000).

We should ask ourselves whether this virtual world, made of enormous amounts of data, of informative filters or of federal super portals, is really the only frontier of Information Society, or it is rather a way to construct the future putting at the centre of everything technologies and functions, completely forgetting the real needs of man. We are persuaded that in order to return to put at the centre of the development the real needs of man, and first of all security in the widest sense of the word, it will have to prevail again

the physical of the relationships among the human beings, relegating the virtual world to the role of instrument satisfying real needs in the living and working context.

Numerous are the terms coined to evoke new city scenarios where immaterial and material realities, virtual and physical world, interactive communication at distance and communication face to face will meet. Some remind city places symbols of the tradition, such as the Village, the Agorà, the "Piazza", the Theatre, the Port, the Café, the City, others a more recent past, such as the Centre, the group, the office, others connect the concepts of Global, Telematics, Multimedial, Digital, Invisible, Virtual, Media, etc. to that of public and community. In these numerous real items that come through Internet and the mass media there is the sign of the great difficulty existing to define new places in which virtual and physical meet in order to be at man's and his own security service (social, working, environmental,..): wired City - City of the networks - Telematic City - Invisible City - digital City - Netpolis - Netville - Global Village - glocal Village (global+local) - Telematic "Piazze" - Information "Piazze" - Telematic Agorà - Multimedial "Piazza" - Cyber "Piazza" - electronic "Piazza" - cultural "Piazza" - virtual "Piazza" - universal "Piazza" - digital "Piazza" - digital Forum - Multimedial theatre - Equipped multimedial areas - Decentralised installation technological units - Community of Networks - Community Technology Centres Network - Integrated Community Networks - Monasteries of the III millenium - public Centres of communication - Multimedial centres - Centres of integrated telecommunication - Telecar - Centres of telecar - telematic City groups - Bureaux de Voisinage - Electronic cottage - Internet café - Internet Shop - Internet Corner - Media Library - Tele Palace - Media Building - Game Centre - Video Centre - Telecottage - Tele Business Centre - Multipurpose Community Telecentre - virtual Bank - telematic Bank.

The proposal Telematic "Piazze" was born in order to answer to the human need of greater and faster mobility of ideas/acquaintances at Global/Virtual level (Global Village), preserving at the same time social life, the environment and the Local economic development (Glocal Village).

A NETWORK OF TELEMATIC "PIAZZE" IN THE 8.000 ITALIAN COMMUNES.

All over the world public or private initiatives are multiplied, or public and private together, in order to realise infrastructures of service for the territory opened to all the citizens and based on the massive use of the Information Technology. Waiting for the realisation of the wiring projects in order to carry the optical fibre and the wide band within every house walls, offices', factories', institutions and private people/companies look for alternative strategies in order to satisfy the access demand to the telematic freeways not only from part of the Society of Information pioneers renamed with the acronym GINS (Global Intellectual Nomads), but also of those who will never be GINS for their age, for info-telematic acquaintances, for global life style, etc.

The Global Intellectual Nomads, the new ones, with a prevailing age coming from 15 to 35 years old, already move from a part to another of the world for job, study, amusement and free time reasons and in all their activities they always have constant need to connect to the network because they work or enjoy using and consuming information and services, using more and more the "brain" (from here the Intellectual of GINS) and less and less the "arms". The key-words of this new age of access for everyone, for GINS and for non-GINS are: Telecentre, Telecottage, Videocentre, Internet Cafè, Internet Shop, Media library, Telematic "Piazze", etc.

By now the initiatives in course are so many and in so fast evolution that it is not easy to monitor them all. From Canada, where through the programme Community Access Program (CAP) ([http://cap.ic.gc.ca /](http://cap.ic.gc.ca/)) it has been started a project in December 1999 in

order to realise 10.000 Public Telecentres, to Australia (<http://www.teleservices.net.au/>), to England, where at the middle of '99 thanks to Easy Group started the largest Internet Café of the World (<http://www.easyeverything.com/>), open 24 hours a day, to Madrid (Spain) that has announced the realisation of Telecentros públicos (<http://www.civila.com/hispania/autonomia/telec-elmundo.htm>) in its own region, up to Africa in which 5 pilot projects of "Multipurpose Community Telecenters" have been started and to other numerous initiatives in Europe (<http://www.eatur.com/twa.htm>), USA (<http://www.ctcnet.org/>), and in numerous other countries (<http://www.telecentro.net/>).

It is spontaneous to assume that in a short/middle period (within 2003-2006) Systems Country will be distinguishable as systems Country equipped with a network of Telecentres, Telecottages, Videocentres, Internet Café, Internet Shop, Media Libraries,.....and in Systems Country not equipped this way.

Numerous projects and realisations exist also in Italy. They can be led to places opened to all the citizens for access to Internet and other telematic services, but they are isolated projects and initiatives still searching for a reference model.

Moreover it is not definite at all that such infrastructures, once working, represent effective instruments to modify the current functionalities of the territory rendering it fit to the attainment of the double objective of the Sustainable Development and of the mass information Society, objective ever pursued by Telematic "Piazze" Association. The attainment of "Sustainable Development & mass information Society" demands a process with the individual requirements at the centre, the needs of the social and economic development with an active participation of all the citizens and with the recourse to a very aimed use of all the opportunities offered by the acquaintances and markets globalization.

The Association, with a name given at the moment of foundation in 1993, has meant to choose a name that has as reference a place symbol like the "Piazza", as a place of participation and fights for democracy, freedom, for emancipation, as a place of solidarity and social cohesion, of collective participation to shows and concerts, as a place of exchange of ideas (agorà of thoughts and philosophies) and commerce (market "Piazza"), as a place of public services at citizens disposal, as a place in which communication and collaboration create great conveniences for everyone.

The XXI century "Piazza" has to be considered as a new city place with a strong potential of attraction of flows of daily mobility where to recover the semantic value of the "Piazza" of the past, for the development both of social and professional relations; a place in which are combined the ancient functions of socialization, of information exchange and of commercial exchange typical of the market "Piazza", to new functions and aspects of interactivity at distance typical of tele-activities (tele-training, tele-job, tele-medicine, tele-shopping, tele-banking, etc.).

The Telematic "Piazze" should be constituted by various closed and open spaces able to satisfy an immense range of cultural, educational, recreational, communicative requirements and of commercial exchanges; new public places re-valorized therefore for city functions where should cohabit spaces to socialise, for commercial exchanges and for tele-activities and where, both the inhabitants and the passing people, could use richer and integrative telematic instruments regarding those habitually available in houses or offices.

New instruments "tele, video, Internet, media, telematics, etc." are only some of the instruments to put at the service of the rebirth of this place symbol of the local social and economic development which represented in a far away past the meeting, the interaction and participation place of all citizens to the development and to local economy, differently

from city places that refer to the concept of Centre (Telecentre, Videocentre, multimedial Centre, etc.) or Office (Teleoffice) or Palace (Telepalace) etc.

The Telematic "Piazze" model could become the model of concrete reference in terms of infrastructure at the territory service for the XXI century in order to create the conditions to realise a federation made of local social and economic development that conjugates rules, principles and global values, that conjugates technological development and sustainable development, giving everyone equal opportunities to enter the Society of information as protagonists, to young people and the old ones, the rich ones and the poor ones, to those following different political faiths, to the mountain inhabitants and those of plain, to everyone without any distinctions of classes, age, census and of living or working place.

It is also partially from the considerations illustrated up to now that was born the proposal that Italy has to quickly provide itself (within 2003-2006) of a network of 8,000 Telematic "Piazze", at least one for every one of the 8.000 Italian Communes, because the competitiveness of the system Italy has to be considered in perspective in the context of competitiveness among systems Country and on specific solutions adopted by every system Country taking into account their recent or ancient history, the urban model of the cities, the model of private and public transports, etc. We think that the concept of Telematic "Piazze" is mainly suited to the Italian cities and to all the European Countries and to the Southern Mediterranean ones that, for history and urban planning conformation, have known along the pre-industrial centuries models of social and economic local development, and the "Piazza", for better and for worse, has always been at the centre of such development.

For example it is probable that the model of a network of "public Telecentres" chosen by the Canadian government is very suited for the specificities of this Country that has got a modern urban planning developed during the last 200 years. Canada has started a project of public investments in December 1999 for the realisation of 10,000 Telecentres, in 5.000 rural localities with less than 50,000 inhabitants and in 5.000 city localities with more than 50,000 inhabitants. In May 2.000, and unexpectedly before the fixed expiration, financing demands for 5.000 rural Telecentres had already arrived.

We want to emphasise once again that the fundamental difference among a telematic "Piazza" and a Telecentre, a Telecottage, a Videocentre, an Internet Shop, etc. consists in the fact that the Telematic "Piazza", beyond the technological components always updated for everything regarding the Information Technology, has a whole of components of strong impact on social and relation life, on the economic development model, on the urban planning, on the networks of transport and for mobility, and therefore also on Security.

MAIN CHARACTERISTICS THAT DIFFERENTIATE TELECENTRES FROM TELEMATIC "PIAZZE"

It is difficult to bring the main characteristics of these new systems (telecentres, telecottages, Internet shops, etc.) back to a precise directory, but we can try a first subdivision in three categories:

1. "systems" oriented mostly towards the social concern, like the network of the 400 Community Technology Centres in USA <http://www.ctcnet.org/>;
2. "systems" oriented mostly towards the telematic business like the network of over 10 Internet Shop <http://www.easyeverything.com/> realised by Easy Group and in rapid expansion in Europe and also in USA (New York);

3. "systems" for the promotion of a business different from the telematic one, as the Internet Cafes where the Internet work stations are put at free disposal by the manager of a bar in order to attract the customers.

Usually all these systems rise where there is a strong demand of access to Internet or to multimedial work stations, and this is both in order to resolve social problems (e.g.: schooling) and to make business.

According to us these models of "systems", or exclusively oriented to the social concern (completely free services distributed) or exclusively oriented to the business (localised in places traditionally crossed by great flows of potential customers such as historical centres, railway or tube stations, etc.), are not sufficient instruments to realize the passage from industrial economy to de-materialised or telematic economy based on the binomial "Sustainable Development & Societies of Information".

We think that the "Internet shops - <http://www.easyeverything.com/>", like those in dissemination from the middle of '99 in all the great cosmopolite world-wide capitals, beginning from London, to Madrid, to Amsterdam,Rome, New York, etc, with a number of work stations for the access to Internet that goes from 300 up to over 800, are not a sufficient instrument in order to contribute to modify the current functionality of the territory and to make it suited to the productive requirements of assets/immaterial services, of new de-materialised economy that for the Association vision will have to be about:

- social cohesion.
- social and economic local development in competitiveness with the global system.
- mass hire of products and services.

This does not want to be a criticism to the Internet Shop model, but an ascertainment that regards all the "systems" oriented only to the market. The Internet Shops (<http://www.easyeverything.com/>) or the Internet Points like NetGate ([http://www.thenetgate.it /](http://www.thenetgate.it/)), even though remain models of "systems" to be imitated for the standards de facto that thanks to them are delineating in order to concur the access to Internet in places opened to the public and crossed by great flows of potential users/customers, they become in the end an example of a further concentration of services inside the historical centres, the stations.

After all, the telematic networks exclusively employed in this way are not useful to de-localise services and activities on the whole territory, but rather they in the end "de-localise workers and citizens" in places where everything is already concentrated: services, job, business, etc., without favouring the necessary right re-distribution on the territory of activities, job, etc. for local social cohesion, recovery and city requalification, development of peripheral and poor areas, etc.

The problems above emphasised are matters of general character that directly invest the sphere of the social concern and of the political choices for the economy and territory development and certainly they cannot fall on the entrepreneurs responsibility that have to exclusively worry to catch the market opportunities where there is market.

THE SOCIAL AND BUSINESS MODEL OF TELEMATIC "PIAZZE"

Telematic "Piazze" are represented as a technological network on the territory of public utility, and therefore they have to be considered for their realization as a work of primary

urbanization, of social importance and general interest, in order to allow everyone the access to "telematic freeways", as well as this happens by means of the highway network that allows everyone the access to "universal service - asphalt freeways", thanks to which anyone can go from a place to another with whichever available means and for whichever purpose.

This means that the territory of the "Piazza" (building and what is around it) must be rigorously public and as well as the telematic connections from Telematic "Piazza" to Telematic "Piazza" (public telematic freeways). Continuing with the analogy, therefore as the management of the sections of "asphalt freeways" is entrusted in concession to private companies that present the best offer, in the same way the management of "public telematic freeways" will be attributed, according to the competitiveness rules, to Societies public and private together. Always for analogy with the asphalt freeways, where in large service areas different services are in competition (for example more petrol pumps of different marks or refreshment services, etc.), also in the Telematic "Piazza" the telematic services will have to be supplied, either on cost or on value basis, according to competitiveness rules, allowing all the citizens, but also the enterprises or the freelances, the approach to both free services (certificates, etc.), social ones (telematic schooling, support for new occupation, tele-vote, etc.), and to pay services (tele-job, telebanking, teleshopping, telebooking, telemedicine, etc.).

With the term Telematic "Piazze" we mean after all to emphasise the role of city, social and economic regeneration that these new places must have giving life to the meeting between "local/reality" and the "virtual/global" one in order to realise a development based on the objectives indicated in three city scenarios by Direction XII Science and Technology (project ACT-VILL) of the European Union for environment-city of the XXI century, context in which it lives over 80% of the European population:

the agorà city: a city centralised on man with a total harmony between the take-overs and the city space, between the social cohesion and the economic development.

the glocal city (global/local): a city with a greater balance between the processes of globalization and the ability to value local resources and the various specificities and attitudes.

the sustainable city: a city able to resolve the inner problems generated, without transferring them to others or to the future generations.

The Telematic "Piazza", in the ambit of its own structures, must carry out different roles and functions:

- to aim to computer science and multimedial schooling of the citizens, promoting the dissemination of updated acquaintances for the use of instruments and technologies of the last generation;
- to carry out the role of incubator of enterprise, putting at new disposal of entrepreneurial initiatives in the field of high-tech equipment, services and know-how; representing the point of contact among various entrepreneurs; gaining credit as a place of access to information and interactive services at the cost and at the value;
- to have an important function at interpersonal relations level proposing, also offers of services of entertainment, cultural and the free time initiatives, as a place of socialization and meeting where it becomes possible to compare and to exchange ideas, opinions, information;
- to cover an important role also in urbanistic field, raising the degree of good living and effectiveness of the city system determining, as it often happens, the recovery and/or

the requalification of the buildings in which it is placed and inserting or starting programmes of re-valorization of quarters or wider strategic projects.

- to have the role of economic fly-wheel of the system country whereas also and above all the *venture capitalist* can reduce the economic risk timely activating the Italian and European laws that distribute financing for projects having particular purposes (technological innovation, employment in Southern Italy, employment for young people, energetic saving, etc.).

THE CENTERS OF TELECAR FOR THE SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY

Making reference to a future scenery with a presence of a Telematic "Piazza" in every quarter of middle-big cities, in the industrial districts, in small countries and tourist resorts, it is indispensable to complete this same scenery imagining an organising model of physical mobility that takes into account totally different ways of life and job from the current ones, with consequent radical changes also in the way of using all the means of transport, included the car. Let us imagine that the spaces around the telematic "Piazza" had been transformed in "a living-room without roof", in a place where next to the recovered areas now green and society spaces, are created ways along which we can walk, or use tapis roulant or special electrical vehicles or those fed with bio-fuel.

It remains the problem of the re-organisation of the movements on middle/long distances by means of cars. Until today we have been accustomed to consider the different means of transport in competition among them: car against tube, train against car and truck, airproject of middle range against train.

The "telematics" will have to concur to upset such a way of thinking allowing to create a "mobile" network of connection among the requirements of mobility at local city level (tube and car maybe electrical), on the middle distances (personal car for greater flexibility of use), on the middle-long ones (train for its competitiveness) and on the great distances (airproject).

Those garages or parking areas next at the points of connection and correlation among the different types of mobility, could start working again as Centres of Telecar of quarter or of industrial district in order to offer innovative services such as:

- guarded parking, car maintenance for people living close to the centre or passing people;
- services of car-hire answering to the requirement of the moment (great and comfortable for travels along the freeway, small and at electric traction for the city, with or without driver, etc.).
- Smart Card for the access to the network of services for sustainable mobility (reservation, hire of personalised vehicles, informative attendance, etc.) and their payment.

The network of the Centres of Telecar for sustainable mobility will have to be provided for its working of a powerful info-telematic system in order to concur kinds of co-operative "inter-operability" among the various hire companies, analogous to those adopted and widely tested in the "inter-operability" model among the various airlines so we always have in real time the possibility for example to verify the availability of a flight and reserve it by means of Internet or the telephone.

TELEMATIC "PIAZZE" AND TELECAR CENTRES: utopia or necessity?

"Sustainable Development & Society of mass Information" is the "binomial-challenge" to which we ever mean to bring our contribution with the proposal Telematic "Piazze" & Centers of Telecar", a proposal we introduced in numerous conventions and also last year for the Forum of the Society of Information ("Telematic "Piazze" for new a model of development" - <http://www2.palazzochigi.it/fsi/ita/contributi/gruppo1/piazze.htm>).

In all these occasions we have asserted that, in order to realise the Telematic "Piazze" & the Centres of Telecar in all the about 8.000 Italian Communes, public investments are necessary, without such investments, it is easy to foresee that the access to the "telematic freeways at wide band" will be maybe available only and exclusively where there is market, that is to say where the privatised Societies of TLC will be interested to wire, with the result to let some territories become economically strong and integrated in the global economy, other territories neglected and destined to the economic decline. This is in a total contrast with the mission of the Association Telematic "Piazze" that is syntonized, since beginning of the 90's, with requests and principles on Sustainable Development and Society of the Information come out at international and particular level:

- Agenda 21 - Earth Summit in Rio (1992);
- White Book of Delors and Bangemann Report;
- Programme ACT-VILL (1994-1995) of the Direction XII Science and Technology of the European Union for the XXI century city (Urban Utopias: new tools for the renaissance of european cities - Agorà City - Glocal City - Sustainable City);
- The Society of Global Information - G7 (1994 - Naples);

Guidelines for the XXI century City - Habitat II (Istanbul 1996). The requests and the principles on Sustainable Development & Society of Information, that are referred to the documents or to the above said events, are currently re-proposed, in a opportunely suitable and updated way, in the "Guidelines for the Local Agendas 21" of the handbook ANPA2000 (National Agency for Ambient Protection) and in the Action project "e-Europe 2002 - An Information Society For All" that has been introduced to the European Council - to Feira in Portugal between 19/20 June 2000. (ref.:http://www.palazzochigi.it/fsi/ita/eEurope/actionproject_ita.htm http://europa.eu.int/comm/information_society/eeurope/actionproject/index_en.htm).

The privatization of the field of the TLC, actually, would seem to be an inadequate instrument both to guarantee what enunciated in e-Europe 2002 project (universal access for everyone and everywhere), and to contrast phenomena linked to the development of the Society of Information and that have deep social, environmental implications, etc., such as:

- the "digital divide" between info-poor and info-riches, between old and young people, a problem raised many times by the Vice president Al Gore himself in America, country with the most elevated percentage of Internet users in the World;
- the increase of psychosomatic diseases linked to the social isolation provoked by the tele-activities (telejob, e-banking, e-commerce, etc.) at home or in office in front of a work station;
- the multiplying on the territory of telematic infrastructures, from the antennas for mobile phones, to the satellite ones, to the infrastructures and European optical fibres dorsals, because of competition on infrastructures, and therefore of the tendency of the different managers, in case they have the possibility, to equip with infrastructures of property.

The privatization of TLC infrastructures is a very good thing and is producing many positive effects on the market, such as the reduction of the telephone rates and the start of many innovative telematic services, but it is not sufficient however alone to realise the bases of an Information Society that is coherent and developed in every territorial component and that touches all the social classes, the institutions and the companies.

It remains constant in the Italian history the fact that the public intervention has always been fundamental in order to guarantee the democratic development of access to job, to the assets and the services when great technological and epochal revolutions happened. It is necessary a multi-regional co-ordination, since now the Structural Funds 2000-2006 are managed by Regions, in order to convey quota part of the same Funds to an infrastructure of public utility and of System Country such as the network of 8.000 telematic "Piazze", that has got Local characteristics, but also Global ones when we talk about making reference to the standards of the telematic connections and to those of the access to the services. In other words, it is about putting into effect, starting from the requirements of the Communes, a co-ordination from the bottom that, through the provinces and the Regions, is able to convey Public Funds (European, national, regional) to the realisation of the infrastructure Telematic "Piazze", an infrastructure at the service of the new-born Information Society .

It will have to be repeated a model of co-ordination among Institutions analogous to the one that once allowed the passage from the agricultural Society to the industrial one with the Municipal Schools of '800-'900, where the mass schooling took place, or more recently in 60's -70's with the realisation of the highway network, a very rapid development of the industrial Society was favoured opening to the communication and to the commercial exchanges great areas before isolated.

In the new-born Information Society job will no longer consist in producing more objects, more material assets, but more ideas, more acquaintances, more material assets but at highest immaterial content, as a tele-car of where the 80% is represented by bits & bytes (design, aesthetics, know-how, telematic on board services, hire services, etc.) and only the 20% by raw materials (steel, plastic, etc.). The new economy based on the knowledge and the acquaintances presupposes for its realisation the existence of such a social and city context to favour people creativity and therefore the production of ideas, of bits; this will not reveal in all the possible evolution in the context of present city places, such as roads, parks, factories, offices, etc. that have characterized and continue to characterize the contemporary metallurgic and mechanics civilization. So there is the necessity of revalorizing all the territory in order to adapt it to the new telematic civilization, to new productive functions based on human creativity, on social relations, on ideas exchange, and this both at local and at virtual Communities level, redesigning new city contexts in which inserting Telematic "Piazze" & the Centres of Telecar.

Such infrastructures at the territory service are instruments able to give a great contribution both to the three fields towards which Innovative Actions 2000-2001 are oriented. (1% Structural Funds that is 980 billions) (regional economy based on the acquaintance and the technological innovation; the society of information at the regional development service (eEuropa - regio); the regional identity and the Sustainable development), and to answer to the guidelines traced by the European Commission for the structural funds 2000-2006 (98,000 billions) (Urban Initiative - Territorial pacts for occupation - EARTH Pilot Projects - RECITE Pilot Projects -Innovative Actions).

The initiative carried on by the Association is not a utopia, but a necessity of historical and epochal cycle to accompany and to govern the transition from the industrial economy to the de-materialised economy, from the metallurgic and mechanics civilization to the

telematic civilization. Recapitulation of NEEDS to which the initiative Telematic "Piazze" & Centers of Telecar will contribute to give solutions:

- The private Telecom(s) will not be allowed to carry the wide band where there is no market with the consequent risk that entire areas of the Country will stay behind and others will be strengthened; this is a problem that politics must resolve.
- Projects for "Sustainable Development & Information Societies" will have to be valid for both society and economy;
- Necessity to contrast the two more imposing phenomena of mass possession of the end of this century, such as "the possession of space office and relative multimedial work station & of parking place and relative car of property", through the re-orienting of these two same phenomena, characterised by dissipation of territory and raw materials, in mass hire of multimedial work stations in the Telematic "Piazze" and of services for sustainable mobility in the Centres of Telecar.
- To organise the mass hire for all those goods and services that can be used then at time and consumption demands a cultural change in which all the citizens have to be involved and giving them the perspective of a better quality of life from all the points of view;
- To favour the substitution of traditional jobs (little "mind" and a lot of "arms") with new jobs mostly "mental" (a lot of "mind" and little "arms");
- To revalorize the habitat for the requirements of new styles of life and job of the Information Society to have beautiful, aesthetic, friendly cities, ...SAFE because people live there happy and in complete harmony.

The expected advantages in terms of socio-urbanistic and economic impact of the two infrastructures "Telematic Piazze & Centres of Telecar" are identified as

- smaller territory consumption thanks to the recovery of buildings or industrial areas in disuse and of the spaces for new city functions - parking with the possibility of access for all the citizens to the systems and hire services of "telematic work stations" and "tele-car";
- re-orienting of phenomena of mass excessive consumption of material assets towards the mass use-hire of services and material assets (e.g.: telematic work station of collective use, Tele-Car) of really immaterial content (above all for those assets used a little regarding their duration of life);
- self-regulation of the uncontrollable phenomena linked to interactivity at distance dispersed and accidental on the metropolitan territory with the creation of strong Points of social and economic attraction;
- re-orienting of the present flows of traffic after the rising of Telematic "Piazze" and Centres of Tele-Car of quarter or district that will concur the Telejob, the access to telematic services and to the great majority of functions of the modern city;
- auto-reorganisation of the infrastructural and functional system of the territory in its complex;
- creation of check and management points of phenomena such as electromagnetic pollution, the "global" electronic commerce that cuts out the economic "local" realities, etc;

- greater control on the computer science piracy thanks to the fact that it is easier to study systems "against piracy" for a limited number of Telematic "Piazze" (about 20.000 in Italy if realised also in every quarter of the great metropolitan areas) regarding to the controlling of 19,000,000 (approximately the number of the Italian families) systems of access to the telematic familiar home networks (if the Telematic "Piazza" does not exist in the telematic city);
- less amount of electronic trash and other refusals at a parity of a continuous adaptation of technological infrastructures as a result of obsolescence;
- start of a model of Sustainable development and therefore of new occupations connected to "immaterial / de-materialised" economy, certainly less polluting than the one tied to material assets economy.

The advantages in terms of environmental improvement of life and job for the citizens and the entrepreneurs are identified as :

- Modernization of the system of services distribution for the citizens and the entrepreneurs.
- Modernization of the relationships public-private people/companies.
- Increase of private and public consumptions in the field of tourist, computer science, culture and commerce thanks to the widening of the user public.
- Occupational increases and new professional activities that derive:
 1. from the realisation of the network of Telematic "Piazze";
 2. from the management of the network of Telematic "Piazze";
 3. from the widening of market spaces of the telematic system in its complex;
 4. from the opening of new markets for the multimedial productions.
 5. from the diffuse qualification of the students of the secondary schools and the university ones.

Realization of Telematic "Piazze" will generate a sensitive impact on occupation, not so much in direct terms (people assigned to the management of the Telematic "Piazze" services) as in indirect terms as a result of: incentive towards accelerated processes of telematic and multimedial schooling and of new professionalities development; priming of processes of job-creation based on new services for enterprises and citizens, centralised on equipments and services available in the Telematic "Piazze"; creation of an induced market of development of "contents" (multimedial data banks, entertainment, etc.) and of relative services. Moreover, against the emergency of social outcasting, Telematic "Piazze" contributes to create a new civic infrastructure that promotes the socio-economic integration of minorities and the equal opportunities in the ambit of a society in progress, promoting the knowledge and the understanding of new technologies and professional specializations.

Finally we could expect a great potential for the revitalization of the quarters (also during the evening hours) and therefore, indirectly, increase the environment good living and security.

Expected advantages for local Public Administrations (Communes, Provinces, Regions), and particularly for Communes, are identified as:

- To approach services and information to citizens improving their quality.
- To lighten the direct pressure on offices laying the bases for a more modern use of the staff, aimed and effective.
- To offer the support of the innovative technologies to small and average enterprises, to the craftsmen, the traders, the professionals, the voluntary service and the labour and category organizations, operating on the territory.
- To prime a "back-image" useful for the promotion of the territory.
- To approach the innovative technologies to people and to render their use and utility more and more "familiar".
- To increase the possibilities of access to means and to the communication that means allow.
- To promote new activities and above all new professionalities on the territory.
- To be the incubator for the development of new needs and new jobs at disposal of students, unemployed people, new forms of voluntary service.
- To be the occasion in order to realise a project of recovery of buildings, abandoned areas, to contribute to the overcoming of city fragmentation and the absence of identity, priming processes of new rooting and integration founded on:
 - auto-centred development
 - valorization of the local resources (human, entrepreneurial, environmental, cultural etc.).
 - a new opportunity for the local Public Authority to assume an entrepreneurial role, starting projects of recovery and requalification based on conditions of project financing agreed between Public Authority and private operators.

PUBLIC FINANCINGS FUNCTIONAL TO THE REALIZATION OF TELEMATIC "PIAZZE" & THE CENTERS OF TELECAR"

The sources of financing for planning, realization and management of the network of Telematic "Piazze" & Centres of Telecar have to be searched in the ambit of the financing programmes of the EU, in the national funds and the regional ones assigned to the Sustainable development, to the use of technological networks, to the environmental safeguard, etc.

INNOVATIVE ACTIONS of the period 2000-2006

We can cite some initiatives of the EU on the topic "Sustainable Development & Society of Information ":

1. The Commission has adopted its guidelines for Innovative Actions of the period 2000-2006. According to the modalities in the article 4 of the regulations 1783/1999 concerning the FESR (GU L 213 of 13 August 1999) and on initiative of the Commission, the Funds can finance innovative actions that contribute to the elaboration of methods and innovative practices aimed to improve the quality of the interventions for the objects 1, 2 and 3. In particular the innovative actions will have to carry out an experimentation and catalyst role and to explore the future guidelines of the regional

policies in strategic fields for of the European Union regions in development delay, on three priority topics (<http://inforegio.cec.eu.int/innovating>):

- regional economy founded on the acquaintance and the technological innovation;
- eEuropaRegio: the society of information at the service of the regional development;
- regional identity and sustainable development: to promote the cohesion and the regional competitiveness by means of the integrated formulation of the economic, environmental and social activities.

2. In the ambit of the Information Society promotion (The EC Information Society Project Office (ISPO) Actions for the Information Society - <http://www.ispo.cec.be/>), it has been selected and rewarded as the best project of July/ August 2000, the "ISIAS" project (New Models for Regional Sustainable Development in the Information Society - http://www.ispo.cec.be/showcase/projects/Proj_month/i_public.html), a transnational project among European Regions right on the thematic "Sustainable Development & Information Society"(ref.: <http://www.isias.org/>).

3. European Regional Information Society Association - <http://www.erisa.be/about/>

STRUCTURAL FUNDS 2000 - 2006

The Structural Funds 2000-2006: an opportunity to be used in order to finance the realization of Telematic "Piazze" in the 8,000 Italian Communes.

The Structural Funds 2000-2006 are for Italy about 98.000 billions, included the national co-financings, and whose management will be entrusted mostly (about 70%) to the responsibility of the Regions.

The Portugal would seem has already decided to assign the 30% of the structural funds assigned to it exclusively to the development of Information Society.

If 30 % had to become the parameter of reference also for the other European Countries, and therefore also for Italy, this would mean to be able to decide about over 29.000 billions for projects linked to the development of Information Society.

The proposal Telematic "Piazze" - <http://www.piazzetelematiche.it> - includes the creation of a network of at least 8,000 Telematic "Piazze", one for every one of the 8,000 Italian Communes, with the perspective to contribute with it both to "Sustainable Development & Mass Information Society", and to the revalorization and the innovation of three industrial fields:

(hypothesis of cost of 3 billions per Telematic "Piazza" X 8,000 Communes = 24,000 billions):

- 8,000 billions to the field of building for city recovery and requalification;
- 8,000 billions to the field of technological infrastructures (connections TLC, LAN, server, multimedial work stations, etc.);
- 8,000 billions to the field of formation, software applications, etc. (schooling and development of products and services for local economy).

Moreover we have to consider further financial resources in order to connect the Telematic "Piazze" among them in wide band and at speeds in GigaBit/sec.

PROMOTION OF THE PROJECTS OF TELEMATIC "PIAZZE" NEAR THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES (COMMUNES, PROVINCES, REGIONS)

Telematic "Piazze", through its own web site, means to continue to develop services of general information and services accessible by means of a password reserved to its own institutional, business and professionals members. The Association objective is to put at disposal of all the technological innovation promoters on the territory, that is to say of citizens, efficient and scale economy institutions, professionals, companies, associations of category, associations not profit, interactive services at low cost. Such services will also be the engine through which collecting information, needs, requirements of citizens, institutions, professionals, managers, companies. The objective is that of facilitating just these, agents of new models of development, in the drawing up, in this starting phase of the initiative Telematic "Piazze", of prefeasibility studies, of projects, etc. in order to achieve a kind of telematic co-ordination. This way the single local Telematic "Piazze", can be considered, once connected telematically among them, as an infrastructure of public utility and of System Country and can answer to the guidelines traced by the European Commission for the structural funds 2000-2006 (Initiative Urban-Territorial Pacts for occupation-Pilot Projects EARTH-Pilot Projects RECITE - Innovative Actions) and therefore can attract public financings to be assigned to the social and economic local development.

The network of Telematic "Piazze" will be able to become true only if they will be planned, realised and managed with the involvement and the participation of all the local actors.

In other words the Association objective is to continue to transfer in the shortest possible time the experiences acquired by the entities already involved in projects of Telematic "Piazze" (over 150 local Authorities among Communes, Provinces and Regions), towards all the 21 Regions, the 103 Provinces and the 8,000 Communes and towards all the subjects and/or local actors interested to this initiative.

CONCLUSION

Resuming the words of this workshop introduction we too share completely that the topics connected to security cannot be "identified only in the repressive and sanctioning system, of single competence of the Police Forces in their different organisms: the city security is a collective good, strong expression of quality of life inside the local community and, in this sense, it considers the increase of the involvement of local Governments. The participation space defined is essentially preventive, linked to numerous competences that concur to guarantee a greater city security (from the town-planning scheme, to the relief policies, to the transports,)".

We wish that the instrument Telematic "Piazze" could be useful to delineate those new models of intervention based on regional policies of security founded on the integration of more sector policies, as foretold in the presentation of this workshop.

PIAZZE TELEMATICHE® - Technical-scientific and cultural association

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