

Thematic Workshop African and Middle-Eastern Area
“Sustainable development of learning systems in Africa and Middle-East through
Microcredit”

The Thematic Workshop African and Middle-Eastern Area is the second of a series of thematic meetings organized by GUIDE Association – Global Universities in Distance Education - in order to improve cooperation and intercultural research among worldwide universities and institutions involved in the field of e-learning and digital culture.

The Workshop will give a practical help to analyse the difficulties met by every African and Middle-Eastern institution belonging to a specific geographic area, encouraging and supporting cooperation projects and consolidating partnerships exploiting innovative models of knowledge transfer.

The event will be held in November 2007 in Dubai in collaboration with the Italian Comitato Nazionale Permanente per il Microcredito, with the aim of enhancing a cooperative and multicultural approach to higher education and e-learning with particular reference to the adoption of microcredit and microfinance interventions and the introduction of Information and Communication Technologies for e-inclusion and accessibility.

The Workshop will include the participation of African and Middle-Eastern universities, institutions, associations and public and private bodies operating in the field of sustainable development, providing a greater understanding of the role played by microfinance and microcredit in contributing to the diffusion of a fair culture and knowledge system.

According to the aims of the Millennium Development Goal and the International Year of Microcredit, the Workshop will promote the sharing of information about the current evolution process in Open Distance Learning (ODL) and e-learning systems, increasing awareness about the importance of microcredit in supporting digital culture and international research networking and partnerships.