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World Bank-EPLO Conference on the Human-Centered Business Model project in Rome

On February 17, 2017, the World Bank and the EPLO, in collaboration with several partners, organized a Conference to present and discuss the “Human-Centered Business Model” project at UNIDROIT in Rome, under the patronage of the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation. The EPLO was represented by Prof. Spyridon Flogaitis, Director, and Andrea De Maio, Assistant Director for Technical Cooperation.

The Conference, which convened over 80 participants, stakeholders, and members of the international legal community, was opened with remarks by Prof. José Angelo Estrella Faria, Secretary General of UNIDROIT, H.E. Ambassador Pietro Sebastiani, Director-General for Development Cooperation, Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Laura Frigenti, Director of the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation, Nicola Bonucci, Director and Accession Coordinator, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), Carlo Maria Medaglia, Italian Ministry of Environment, as well as His Eminence Mons. Augusto Paolo Lojudice, Auxiliary Bishop of the Vicariate of Rome.

The proposal for the Human-Centered Business Model project was presented by representatives of partner organizations: Prof. Spyridon Flogaitis and Andrea De Maio, EPLO, Marco Nicoli, World Bank, Andrea Zorzi, University of Florence, Cesare Licini and Giovanni Liotta, International Union of Notaries, Dr. Zachee Pougă, Michigan University, Pierluigi Sassi, Earth Day Italia, Thomas McInerney, Loyola University. The afternoon session featured a Workshop with partners and experts to discuss the strengths and challenges of the Model.

The Human-Centered Business Model project is co-led by the World Bank, EPLO and Ca' Foscari University, within the Global Forum on Law, Justice and Development (GFLJD). The project aims at developing and piloting an innovative, human-centered, model of doing business that considers – on an equal level of importance – the economic goal of for-profit entities with the wider integrity dimensions of social and environmental sustainability. The overall objective of the project is a more sustainable and equitable model of doing business that will advance inter-generational equity as well as shared prosperity and inclusive economic growth. The model will be developed around six main "pillars": i) Guiding Principles; ii) Legal Framework and Governance; iii) Financial; iv) Fiscal; v) Procurement; vi) Capacity Building and Mentoring Support.

The project brings together over 40 international partners, including major international and development organizations, such as the World Bank, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), International Financial Corporation (IFC), UNIDROIT, as well as prominent universities and research centers worldwide.

For more information on the project see the GFLJF website: www.globalforumljd.org/cops/human-centered-business-model.



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