***DEBT OF AFRICAN COUNTRIES.***
***RELEASE, A WINNING PROPOSAL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT***
**CODEWAY EXPO 2025, Fiera Roma**
15 May 10:00 am. - 11:30 am. | Cooperation Room - 1st Floor (Hall 2)

The workshops will be held in English. Translation service is not provided.

The external debt of African countries is one of the main challenges hindering development, aggravating the continent's economic and social fragilities. The 2025 Jubilee represents a unique opportunity to address this issue and to promote the Sustainable Development Goals in the most vulnerable countries. The seminar will explore solutions to reduce and reshape debt, fostering long-term sustainable investments and creating opportunities for growth, jobs and infrastructure development.
The Mattei Plan for Africa represents an important opportunity to strengthen economic relations between Italy and Africa, stimulating private investments and development projects, but only if countries are not suffocated by the burden of public debt. Reducing debt will free up resources for these investments, thus contributing to economic growth and improved living conditions.
*RELEASE* is an initiative with a strong impact both at the international political level, as a key step in the implementation of the "Financing for Development" commitments, and in the programming and operationalisation of international cooperation, for a debt restructuring that is fair, regular, timely and efficient and enables countries to invest in the OSS.

**Agenda:**

*Moderator:* ***Roberto Ridolfi****, LINK 2007*

*RELEASE ZAMBIA: the case of Zambia will be presented by* ***Roberto Ridolfi****, LINK 2007*

**Speakers:**

**Leonardo Becchetti,** Professor of Political Economy at the University of Rome Tor Vergata (online)

**Father Giulio Albanese,** Director of the Office for Social Communications and the Missionary Office of the Vicariate of Rome*

**Patricia Chisanga Kondolo,** Ambassador of the Republic of Zambia

**Ugo Melchionda,** International Consultant on Migration & Cooperation and Italian Correspondent for the OECD International Migration Outlook

***Diplomatic Representations of African countries have been invited to attend the event.***

Planned interventions: **Sherif Dawoud**, First Secretary of the Embassy of the Arab Republic of Egypt

**tbc*