COSTA RICA AND THE “CHILD ONLINE PROTECTION INITIATIVE”
A decade ago 182 million people had access to internet.

In 2009, there were 1,5 billion of users, 130 millions in Latin America.

Internet and IT technologies are amazing resources with enormous capacities to help mankind.
Costa Rica has not fallen behind in the digital revolution.

By 2007, Costa Rica had greater access to IT technologies.

Costa Rica keeps on working to achieve better competitive and innovation levels, according to the National Development Plan 2011-2014.
Examples of the strategic objectives of the NDP are:

- Openness process and resources availability through broad band access
- Coverage of mobile services
- Improvement of connectivity in the education system.
Costa Rican homes incorporate IT technology to:

- Support communication activities
- Work
- Study
- Entertainment
Technology gives opportunities to children to:

- Explore new frontiers
- Meet people worldwide

In most cases, experience is positive, but

Negative aspects and activities have been detected due to the abuse.
Costa Rican youth use internet to:

- Social activities,
- Chats, mail, networks, text messages,
- Less as support to school duties,
- There is a trend to excessive use, to the detriment of sleeping, fooding, social relations, study and physical activity.
Youth consider to have information regarding adequate use of internet and IT technologies.

They show predisposition to risk.

They are exposed to another levels of victimization: information management, pornography, etc, most of the time at a unintentional basis.
“Child Online Global Protection Initiative” (COP)

International Telecommunications Union

Development of codes of conducts and establishment of Hot Lines.
- COP launch on November 17, 2010 in San José, Costa Rica.

- President Laura Chinchilla was appointed as the official patron, Mr. Hamadoun Touré.
National Online Security Commission:

- Ministry of Science and Technology
- Ministry of Public Education
- Ministry of Culture and Youth
- Bureau of Telecommunications
- Ministry of Justice
- Costa Rican Child Office
- Paniamor Foundation
- Omar Dengo Foundation
- Chamber of IT Technology
Mandate: to develop public policies to the correct use of internet and digital technologies, contributing to create a culture of understanding, proactivity, analysis and personal responsibility.

National Online Security Plan
- Omar Dengo Foundation
- National Online Education Plan
- Since 2010 it has trained 200 tutors
Danger of misuse of technology and its impact in children health

Health risks.
Promotion of a healthy and balanced life among Costa Ricans

Sports educate in human values such as self-respect, respect to the rival, rules and norms, team work, fairness, discipline, effort to reach a goal, motivation, leadership and passion.
Sports as a powerful tool to:

- Educate children and youngers
- Helping close social gaps
- Avoid conflicts, criminality
- Help on social cohesion
Costa Rican approach:

- Education policies for children and youngers
- Avoid misuse of technology
- Impact on physical and mental health
- Promote the practice of sports and other physical activities.
Sports role models

Possible partnerships:

- International Olympic Committee
- UNODDP
- Peace and Sports.