

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.



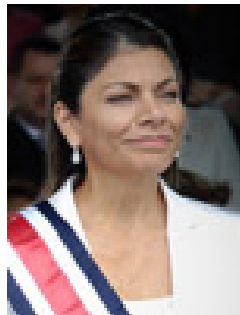
- Youth consider to have information regarding adequate use of internet and IT technologies.
- They show predisposition to risk.
- They are exposed to another levels of victimization: information management, pornography, etc, most of the time at a unintentional basis.



- “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. Hamadou 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 Techonology



- 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 youngsters
- 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.

