

# EVOLUTION OF THE GLOBAL DIGITAL SOLIDARITY FUND (DSF)

Presented by: David Kapya & Lameck Jaston

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# The Year 1996

The idea of “Digital Solidarity” is first discussed:

- ❖ **Place:** Geneva
- ❖ **Event:** Conference on New technologies for Development in Africa
- ❖ **Main Contributors:** President of Mali: Mr. Alpha O. Konaré & president of the City of Geneva



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# The Year 2000

The “Digital Solidarity” concept garners support:

- ❖ **Place:** Bamako
- ❖ **Event:** “Bamako 2000”, The Internet and Its implication for development
- ❖ **Main contributors:** The CSOs



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# The Year 2002

The “Digital Solidarity” concept is made official:

- ❖ **Place:** Bamako
- ❖ **Event:** African Regional Preparatory Conference for the first phase of the WSIS
- ◆ *President Abdoulaye Wade becomes spokesperson for the creation of the DSF*



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# The Year 2003

**The Global Digital Solidarity Fund (DSF) is first proposed by President Abdoulaye Wade**

- ❖ **Event:** 1<sup>st</sup> Summit of cities & Local Authorities on information society
- ❖ **Date:** 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> December, 2003
- ❖ **Venue:** Lyon
- ❖ The initiative to create the DSF is welcomed and adopted on the spot

# The Year 2003

## The WSIS is held in Geneva

- ❖ DSF is rejected by WSIS process in Geneva
- ❖ The principle of “Digital Solidarity” is retained but without financial commitments
- ❖ The Spokespersons of the Lyon summit (Mr. Gerald Collomb - senator of Lyon & Mr. Christian Ferrazino - Mayor of Geneva) announces the creation of the DSF during the Plenary session

# The Year 2005

- ❖ **In March 2005, official launch of the DSF**
  - ✧ 21 funding members, 10 States & 10 Local Authorities
  - ✧ Proposes a 1% financing mechanism

## Tunis Agenda

- ❖ The DSF is endorsed & welcomed as an Innovative financing mechanism as highlighted in para.28:

*We welcome the Digital Solidarity Fund (DSF) established in Geneva as an innovative financial mechanism of a voluntary nature open to interested stakeholders with the objective of transforming the digital divide into digital opportunities for the developing world by focusing mainly on specific and urgent needs at the local level and seeking new voluntary sources of "solidarity" finance. The DSF will complement existing mechanisms for funding the Information Society, which should continue to be fully utilized to fund the growth of new ICT infrastructure and services.*



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# 2005-2009 (Political Support)

- ❖ Adopted by Resolution by the UN General Assembly in Para.60.g.:  
*"..... we welcome the establishment of the Digital Solidarity Fund and encourage voluntary contributions to its financing."* (A/RES/60/1)
- ❖ The African Union
- ❖ World Summit of Cities & Local Authorities in the Information Society
- ❖ Founding Congress of United Cities & Local Governments
- ❖ International Association of the Francophone Mayors (AIMF)
- ❖ G77 + China
- ❖ 150 States more in Support
- ❖ European Union
- ❖ Heads of State @ the MDG5 & 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the UN in 2005





THANK YOU!



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