



## AAATE 2019 pre-conference programme

# Unlocking human potential

Increasing our efforts to boost assistive technology-enabled inclusive and sustainable development at global and local level

The role of international organisations, national, regional and local authorities, civil society, academia and industry.

Bologna, 27<sup>th</sup> of August 2019

15.00-18.30

Archiginnasio – Stabat Mater Room

Piazza Galvani 1, Bologna, Italy

This high-level meeting will bring together representatives of international organisations, among which the World Health Organisation, the European Commission, the European Disability Forum, and of national and regional authorities and civil society organisations. The meeting is organised by AAATE and AIAS Bologna onlus, in collaboration with the City of Bologna and the Alma Mater Studiorum University of Bologna.

Following introductory speeches of Wei Zhang (WHO), Inmaculada Placencia-Porrero (The European Commission), Vincenzo Zoccano (the Italian Government) and Luc de Witte (AAATE) a distinguished panel of experts and representatives of stakeholding organisations will discuss in 2 sessions strategies to increase outcomes in the take up of Assistive Technology. At the end of the afternoon a declaration will be released by AAATE which will remain on the AAATE website for endorsement.

The event will precede the 2019 AAATE conference which will be held in Bologna from the 28<sup>th</sup> to the 30<sup>th</sup> of August. [www.aaate2019.eu](http://www.aaate2019.eu) for more information.



Comune di Bologna

The meeting is patronised by the Municipality of Bologna  
and the Regional Government of Emilia-Romagna



## Programme

14.30 Registration

*Host of the day: Evert-Jan Hoogerwerf (AIAS Bologna onlus & Secretary General AAATE)*

15.00 **Official greetings**

-Matteo Lepore (*City of Bologna councillor*)

-Mirko Degli Esposti (*Deputy Rector Alma Mater Studiorum, University of Bologna*)

15.15 **Introductory speeches**

-Wei Zhang (*GATE programme, WHO*)

-Inmaculada Placencia-Porrero (*The European Commission*)

-Vincenzo Zoccano (*Undersecretary of State at the Presidency of the Council of Ministers with mandate to Disability and Family – Italy*)

-Luc de Witte (*AAATE*)

16.00 **Session 1: Implementing a rights-based approach in Assistive Technology**

*Chair: Katerina Mavrou (European University of Cyprus)*

*Keynote by Giampiero Griffo (The Italian National observatory on the conditions of persons with disabilities)*

Panel session with:

-Alejandro Moledo (*European Disability Forum*)

-Luk Zelderloo (*European Association of Service Providers to Persons with Disabilities*)

-Malcolm MacLachlan (*Assisted Living and Learning Institute, Maynooth University*)

-Egidio Sosio (*Disability manager of the City of Bologna*)

-Tara Rudnicki (*Assistive Technology Industry Association, USA*)

-Rabih Chattat (*Alma Mater Studiorum, University of Bologna*)

17.00 Comfort break



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## 17.20 Session 2: Creating conditions for AT to work

*Chair: Serenella Besio (University of Bergamo, Italy)*

Keynote by Massimo Guerreschi (*Italian network of AT centres*)

Panel session with:

- Cathy Holloway (*Global Disability Innovation Hub*)
- Renzo Andrich (*the EASTIN network*)
- Silvana Contepomi (*Argentinian Assistive Technology Association*)
- Roger Smith (*Rehabilitation Engineering Society of North America*)
- Filippo Borghi (*AssoAusili*)
- Maria Caterina Manca (*Commission for Health and Welfare, City of Bologna*)
- Massimiliano Malavasi (*The Regional Centre for Assistive Technology of Emilia-Romagna*)

## 18.20 Presentation of the International Alliance of Assistive Technology Organisations

Presentation of the Bologna Declaration

## 18.30 Closure

The working language of the meeting is English. Audio transcription in English and Italian is provided, as well as videocaptioning.

The meeting, patronised by the Municipality of Bologna and the Region Emilia-Romagna, will be hosted in the City Library in one of the most significant rooms for the history of the Alma Mater Studiorum University of Bologna.

Participants with motor restrictions can best access the building through the ancient reading rooms entrance in Via de' Foscherari 2. Apologies for that.

The maximum room capacity is 120 persons. Access will be upon registration. Being a public event with possible media coverage, participants expose themselves to photography and video shooting.



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