International Book Fair of Turin – Salone Off Science for Love. Reality doesn't need to be defended: it just needs to be told

The conference on *HYST technology: from waste to food and energy for all* was held at the Villa Amoretti City Library as part of the International Book Fair of Turin on 12 May 2012.

On this occasion, *Science for Love. Reality doesn't need to be defended: it just needs to be told* was presented. A book that looks at the vicissitudes of the association that funded the development of HYST: a technology potentially able to resolve food and energy related problems starting from materials considered "waste".

The conference was opened by Dr. Francesca Luciani of the National Health Institute (Istituto Superiore di Sanità) who illustrated the possible applications of HYST technology in human nutrition and animal feed sectors. In particular, with regard to human nutrition Dr. Luciani explained how – from bran and the by products of milling industries – HYST processing can produce flour with extremely high contents of proteins, vitamins and micronutrients. "Using the bran produced annually worldwide alone we could be giving well over 2 tons of flour to 6,500,000 children under the age of five dying of hunger every year", concluded Dr. Luciani.

Next came Engineer Pierpaolo Dell'Omo (Department of Astronautical, Electrical and Energy Engineering at the University of Rome). Eng. Dell'Omo outlined the principles underlying the functioning of this technology, highlighting HYST's potentials in the energy sector. In fact, with HYST pretreatment of waste materials such as cereal straw it is possible to produce biomethane at very low costs (about $0,53 \in$ per litre of gasoline equivalent). The quantities produced are sufficient to meet the European requirements of substituting 10% of transport fuels with biofuels by 2020. Dell'Omo also presented a concrete example, in the form of a pilot project, of HYST applications in developing countries. This pilot project is part of *Bits of Future: Food for All*, whose goal is to optimize the use of resources in areas with problems related to food shortage. Through synergistic integration between agricultural, industrial and farming activities we create a "closed cycle where virtually everything is used and there is no longer any form of waste".

To close the conference, Barbara Carrubba, the Head of External Relations of the Scienza per l'Amore Association, told the story of the humanitarian project *Bits of Future: Food for All* (intended for African countries), presenting the book *Science for Love. Reality doesn't need to be defended: it just needs to be told.* The book relates the history and vicissitudes of the Association which supported and funded the experiments conducted by Engineer Umberto Manola, inventor of HYST technology. Soon to be published is a second volume collecting the testimonies of associate members: "people who have dedicated their lives and resources to funding this technology" explained Barbara Carrubba. "Our goal is not to alter any balances – she continued – but to make HYST technology available to African countries [...] we want to provide a tool with which each country can make use of the resources they have."

Bits of Future: Food for All has been ready to kick off for some time. However, the arrival of HYST in Africa was slowed down by the media-judicial matter involving the creator of the humanitarian project – Danilo Speranza – and the associate members of Scienza per Amore. This led to the seizure of the HYST units, consequently blocking all activities related to them.

In fact, in March 2010 following the concurrence to the project by the first African country, Danilo Speranza was involved in a judicial inquiry which cost him two years in custody. The arrest followed complaints made the day before the signing of the contract which sanctioned the acquisition of HYST technology by the financial backers. Simultaneously with the allegations against Speranza, the Association was subjected to a smear campaign that severely damaged its image. Over the past two years associate members found themselves in a paradoxical situation: on one hand the enthusiasm of the media specialized in sectors related to economy, new technologies, food and energy, as well as expert professionals and representatives of African countries; on the other, the experience of being pilloried by the press from the moment of Danilo Speranza's arrest .

Recently, however, the informed press has become aware of the undeniable scientific evidence and has stopped taking mere words for reality. Somebody has begun to notice "strange coincidences". In his article *Fame programmata* ("La voce delle voci", maggio 2012) Andrea Cinquegrani writes: "*Are you able to make a contribution toward stemming colossal problems, like hunger in developing countries? Produce clean energy at low costs that might even reduce the cost of petrol, now totally out of control? [...] Your idea, your project, at best will never be taken into consideration [...]. At worst you will be banned, discredited, delegitimized: and if that wasn't enough – phase two – you'll be made to look like a madman or a criminal." (Read the complete article: http://www.scienzaperlamore.it/allegati/maggio2012_lavoce_delle_voci.pdf)*

On 24 May HYST technology will be the object of a conference organised by the Tuscia University of Viterbo in collaboration with Scienza per Amore and BioHyst.

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