K4D recognizes a renewed interest in academic institutions around the world in incorporating ICT in academic programs. Although there is an emphasis on the technology industry, differences in academic focus and professional goals for graduates pose a challenge. Studies show the promise of ICT as an instrument to accelerate the pace and widen the reach of international development efforts in all academic programs. Unfortunately, the number of institutions that have integrated ICT into their curricula is still limited, and, consequently, the number of graduating practitioners is low.

Academic education in this field requires supplementary training to complete a student’s education with practical, job-related capacity-building to improve their effectiveness in international development work. It seemed clear to me that formal academic education in this field would benefit from supplementary training aimed at rounding up a student’s education with practical, job-related, additional capacity-building, for the purpose of improving their effectiveness and leadership in a development context.

The proposed mini-track would give opportunity to present hands-on, practice-oriented, cross-cultural leadership programs, for students and practitioners who want to employ ICT to boost international development and willing to engage in an innovative process.

Suggested topics include but are not limited to:
- Knowledge Economy
- Knowledge Society
- ICT for Development
- Sustainable Development Goals
- Innovation for Development

Danilo Piaggesi is Global development manager in business, international development and non-for-profit sectors, economic growth. He has 35 years experience managing large development projects, impact investments, fundraising and technical cooperation funds, Innovation and Knowledge Economy for poverty reduction and social inclusion: (United Nations FAO, 1981-1991); (Telecom Italia/Telespazio, 1991-1998); (European Union, 1997-1998); (Inter-American Development Bank, 1998-2011); (Knowledge for Development, 2011 to present).

Submission details
In the first instance a 300 word abstract is required, to be received by 18 April 2021. Please read the guidelines here: [https://www.academic-conferences.org/conferences/submission-information/](https://www.academic-conferences.org/conferences/submission-information/)

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*If you have any questions about this track, please email the mini track chair: mgr@k4d.org*

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