**Presentation and Summary of 2018 activities**

**Presentation**

pibinko.org operates as a network of professionals, associations, and citizens collaborating on initiatives for protection and promotion of culture, environment, and open innovation. It works mostly on lesser known assets and has various international relations.

The development of the network started in 2006 and continued in different phases. Born from the collaboration of activists in Milano and Tuscany, between 2007 and 2010 it operated mainly as an informal team, in association with various non-governmental organisations (on sports, free/open-source software, cultural mediation, etc.).

Between 2011 and 2017 the network operated through an “association for social promotion” (as defined by Italian law) founded by the key team members at that time, and called Attivarti.org. In parallel, pibinko and a few of the network participants started to actually work on some of the activities which were initially started as creative ventures, systematically highlighting the relationship between social promotion associations and professional activities as a business model. 2018 was yet another year of transition, since most of the activities which through 2017 were proposed as volunteered social promotion have been translated to professional services.

The network has its hub in the heart of the Tuscan Metalliferous Hills, in the Southern part of the region. This is some 100 km South of Florence, with two main locations in hamlets 400 m above sea level: Torniella -from where you can see the sun rise on Mount Amiata- and Tatti, from where you can see the sun set behind the Elba island.

Then, between dawns and dusks, we are strongly committed to projects on rural development, sustainability, digital social innovation, and collaborations with other regions and nations. The main news from the past few months was the launch of the **Metalliferous Hills Jug Band**: an international “geomusical” collective where three generations of experts in music and other subjects collaborate to produce live music and cultural and scientific outreach in the same performance.

The network and the activities of its main members are presented through the pibinko.org website, which is maintained in English, Italian, with occasional content in other languages.

All services proposed by pibinko.org are presented from the [http://www.pibinko.org/services](http://www.pibinko.org/services) page. The other sections of the web site present different aspects of the network: its main animators in different periods, places where it operated to date, some thematic insights, a “news” section, and a calendar concerning events by pibinko.org and affine organisations.

During the 2018-2019 Winter we are dedicating time to share online video and photo coverage which we started to collect in 2006. This operation, which was launched with the publication of the full documentary on the 2007 mission of palla 21 players from Tuscany to Chicago, USA, will continue during 2019 and will provide a lot of previously unknown episodes and anecdotes related to past pibinko.org projects. These files will add several hundreds of items to the over 1300 articles currently...
present on the pibinko.org web site, helping to learn more about stories which many followers consider interesting. If you don’t know where to start from, the pibinko.org home page provides a random selection of ten blog posts, providing hints to different points of access about activities related to culture, environment, open innovation, music, and so forth.

Finally, during the Autumn we started to plan our 2019 activities, which we will be gradually announcing via our web site. Should you be interested in being directly updated, please write to info@pibinko.org to be added to our periodic newsletters.

For a summary of our activities: in general we continued with our parallel threads on BuioMetria Partecipativa, progressively tuned to services on light and darkness, geographic information systems consulting (with a strong focus on trail design for various Tuscan administrations, covering about 20% of the region), and with a general activity of observatory on lesser known things happening. Starting from October, the focus went to the Third Farma Valley Winter Fest (Dec. 14-16), and the parallel steps of the Metalliferous Hills Jug Band as an innovative inter-generational scientific outreach project and the launch of “geomusic” as a way to summarize its performances.

We encourage you to browse the “News” section of the pibinko.org site for details, noting that during the month of December we had to slow down the pace of our English translations of content on the site, due to the surget of activities on the field...so: to get an idea of what happened in December, you may switch to the Italian version of the site, and appreciate the visuals, as a minimum, while we catch up with the translations.

Also the “In the media” section provides a summary of initiatives which made local, national o international news during the year. Be aware that videos from RAI (the national broadcasting company), which aired stories about the Farma Valley and about the BuioMetria Partecipativa project, may not be accessible outside of Italy.

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