

## **CATERINA OCCHIO**

Is a former development aid manager with over 15 years experience in supporting employment and institutional reform.

She worked extensively for the European Commission, different UN agencies and from 2002, she specialized in the socio- economic integration of women. In 2007, she became the secretary-general of the SEED Foundation and led two projects for socio-economic insertion of battered women in Turkey. Both were elected as best practise for sustainable development by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In 2008, she led the team charged with improving the effectiveness of the European Commission's external aid programmes, and in 2010 she became EU policy adviser for the new employment strategy in Tunisia.

In her quest to help and improve women's conditions in the MENA region, in 2013 Occhio took a leap of faith and launched SeeMe.

In 2015, Occhio has been guest speaker at Conde Nast International conference on Luxury by Suzy Menkes. The same year, she was selected among the most glamorous and committed women of the year by Glamour Italia and Lancia chose her new inspiring role model for its new Y10 launch.

In 2016 she spoke at the First Ladies Luncheon during the 71st session of the UN General Assembly in New York.

In 2017, Occhio will be guest speaker at the third Conde Nast International conference on Luxury in Oman.