Voice-based mobile services to support local African community building

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ICT/Computer Science,
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Percent of population living on less than $1.25 per day
“Five billion people are on the web on mobile devices, the dominant device will be the smartphone rather than the laptop.”
Mobile cellular penetration in the developing world has reached 70% at the end of 2010 – 6 years after reaching 70% in the developed world
“The foremost World Wide Web challenge is to connect the 4.5 billion now internet-less people to the Web.”

*Tim Bernes-Lee (inventor of the web)*
Let’s have a look!
Can the Web (be made to) mean something for knowledge sharing even under very constraining conditions?

No internet, no computer, no electricity
Multitude of languages, levels of literacy
Regreening

• Knowledge sharing issues
  – Distances between rural communities in Sahel
  – Infrastructure and access
    • Commonly: no electricity, no computer, no internet
    • But: mobile and radio
  – Lack of relevant content
    • Literacy and education
  – Languages
VOIce-based Community-cEntric mobile Services for social development
service development toolbox, field deployment in Africa & make a sustainable business out of it
Q1: Can the Web (be made to) mean something for knowledge sharing even under very constraining conditions?

No internet, no computer, no electricity
Multitude of languages, levels of literacy
Capacity Development
Any Ideas
Current situation

Local community
Mobile telephones
Radio stations
Stimulate local markets
Eager to learn
Issues

No internet, no computer, no electricity

Multitude of languages, levels of literacy
Radio Market

- Gather market data from local markets
- Combine web and mobile to overcome distances
- Distribute market information in different languages via Radio
• NEW: STIMULATE LOCAL MARKETS, + 50%
• INNOVATIVE: COMBINE LOCAL KNOW-HOW AND NEW TECHNOLOGY, X 10!
• CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT: DEVELOP LOCAL MARKETING CHANNELS, !TOTAL GREEN!
1:00  Organize  3:00  Generate Idea  1:00  Elevator Pitch  1:00  Rank
Game on!
Fieldtrip: November to Mali
Ideas!

- G1: Inspirational meeting
- G2: Be up to date with the sun
- G3: Radio Bay
- G4: Knowledge SUV
Credits

Hans Akkermans, Nana Baah Gyan, Anna Bon, Wendelien Tuyp, Aman Grewal, Stéphane Boyera, Mary Allen, Victor de Boer, Chris van Aart, Christophe Guéret, Francis Dittoh

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