SPIDER

Planning and Preparations 2015 and beyond

OVERVIEW

INTRODUCTION

In July 2015 it was confirmed that Sida will continue their support of the Swedish Program for ICT in Developing Regions (SPIDER) from July 1st 2015 until December 31st 2019. Finalizing the agreement took until the end of the year which allowed Spider to dedicate the first six months of the 2015-2019 programme to planning and preparing for the coming work.

PROJECTS

Implementation of ICT4D projects is the foundation for learning and knowledge generation about how ICT can be a tool in development.

REVISION OF PROCESS FOR ICT4D PROJECTS

Spider continued the revision of the project management process initiated in 2014 to simplify the project planning, management and follow up. The aim was to simplify and standardise project planning, align it to established project management approaches while separating the follow up of project results, and ensure that Spider has sufficient data and information on short and medium term outcomes. Spider also reviewed and updated the agreement templates; this was done in collaboration with the department's legal advisor. Spider also established an approach for low-, medium- and high-risk projects. The aim is to make project follow up easier to do often to capture deviations and enable timely action while making result follow up more targeted and deep so that the right information is extracted and documented.

PREPARING THE FIRST PROJECTS (2015-2019)

Spider carefully selected five ICT4D projects from more than forty proposals submitted by partners during the writing of the application to Sida. The criteria for the projects were that the proposed project results align with the Spider short and medium term outcomes that the projects are to be carried out by organizations with a solid record of accomplishment in terms of administration, reporting and results. Due to the late disbursement of funds, no projects were started in 2015.

NETWORKS

One of Spider's main strategic goals is establishing and facilitating networks that support ICT4D implementation and further disseminate results and experiences

IPID

Spider has supported the International Network for Postgraduate Students in the area of ICT4D (IPID) since its establishment in 2006. The network is managed by the School of Business (Informatics) at Örebro University. Among IPID's activities

are fortnightly newsletters have been sent out with news within the ICT4D research community, such as calls for papers, newly released reports and upcoming events. Each year IPID has also arranged workshops on various topics, for instance research writing and publishing. They have also organised postgraduate strands at ICT4D conferences.

Spider met with the main contact persons for IPID and Örebro University to discuss future collaboration and continued support and a proposal for the period 2016-2017 was received in December 2015.

ICT 4 SOCIAL INNOVATION NETWORK

In an endeavour to attract new potential partners, stimulate social innovation and the use of ICT as a tool for development, and establish collaborations across the continent of Africa Spider funded a Conference on ICT4Social Innovation (ICT4SI). A two-day conference was organized at Lemigo Hotel (18-19 November 2015) in Kigali, Rwanda to enable solutions to be developed and concepts to be visualised with feedback sessions for improvements. For this event, Spider partner iHub Research Kenya collaborated with AIESEC Rwanda, kLab (Rwanda), and Reach for Change Africa.

The conference gathered a total of 63 (30 women and 33 men) from technical experts from the African 'techie community', researchers in ICT4D, public institutions, private sector organizations/social entrepreneurs, and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) to make headway in how social innovation and ICT can improve health and/or education in their countries or regions.

Participants expressed appreciation for the way that the conference was planned to result in highly diverse and interactive environment and lively discussions throughout the event. On the final day of the Conference, the organising partners of the event

launched the ICT4Social Innovation Network, a network for African Innovators.
Spider and iHUB Research Kenya were overwhelmed by the positive feedback from participants and the expressions of commitment to ongoing activities within the partners in the newly launched network.

Spider and partners were also able to highlight ICT4D and the ICT4Social Innovation concept in the local and regional media in a successful way, including Rwandan National TV covering the Conference. The Network website, www.ict4si.org has attracted interest from other organisations who have joined the network in anticipation for more opportunities to meet and collaborate at similar occasions. A number of the prototypes materialising from the event have gone on to become project plans.

A film will be produced about the Conference that will be available alongside the two brief intro films on the network website. The ICT4Social Innovation Network will furthermore acts as a channel for diversifying network funding, as well as enable sustainability of some of the ideas stemming from our conference activities.

SPIDER WAS ALSO PRESENT

AT RIGHT LIVELIHOOD AWARD - THE ALTERNATIVE
NOBEL PRIZE 2015

NOBEL TALK WITH ANGUS DEATON

CHILD 10 AWARDS 2015

AND THE SWEDISH POLITICAL WEEK IN ALMEDALEN ,TRANSFORM AFRICA... ETC.

CONFERENCES

STOCKHOLM INTERNET FORUM (SIF)

In 2015 the focus of Stockholm Internet Forum conference theme was access seen from a multidimensional approach with a special emphasis on gender equality. Ashnah Kalemera from Spider's partner organisation CIPESA gave the opening speech at the conference banquet. CIPESA and WOUGNET who are members of the ICT4Democracy Network in East Africa were active panellists throughout the Forum.
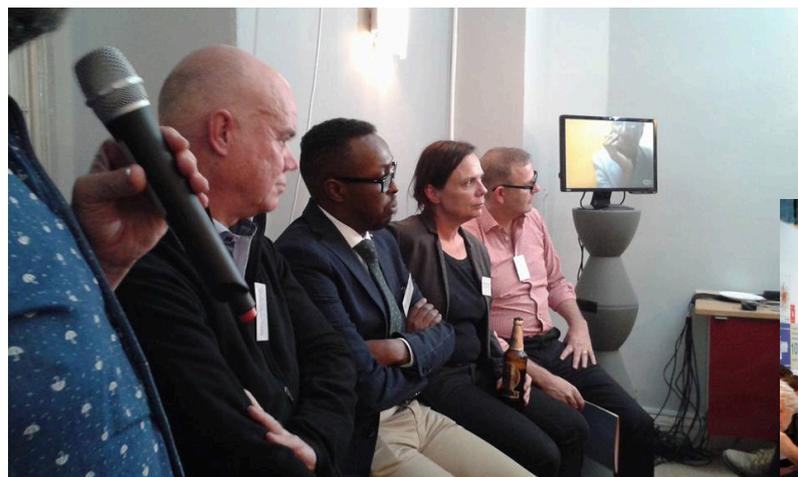
WORLD DEVELOPMENT REPORT
 CONSULTATION

GLOBAL BAR PANEL

COMMUNICATIONS

MEDIA & WEBSITE

Spider was featured in a number of media outlets which included print media, radio, podcasts, live video streaming and authored articles for inclusion in popular media.

www.spidercenter.org

2858 Sessions
2075 Users
7126 Page views

Top five countries to visit the site:

Sweden
United States
Kenya
United Kingdom
China
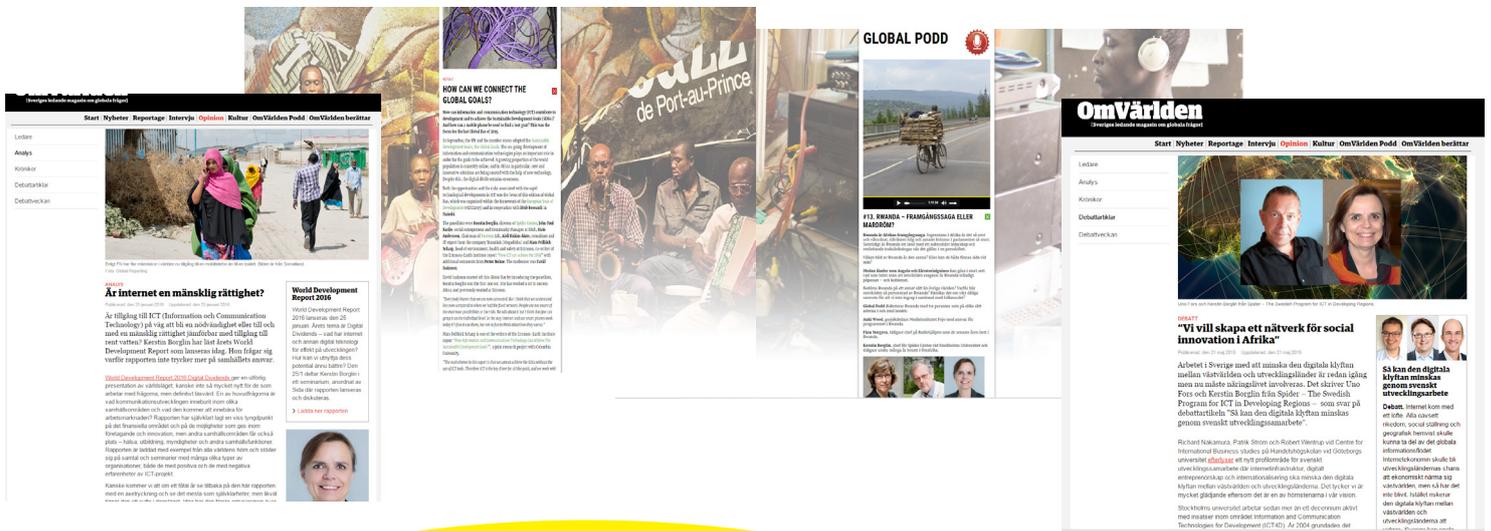
ICT 4 SOCIAL INNOVATION WEBSITE

The Conference website was turned into the ICT4SI Network's website. Upkeep and service is securely managed by Spider/DSV and content contributions stem from network facilitators and member organisations

Unique visitors: 232

Avergage time on website:
3 minutes

Visitor countries

- Rwanda — 35%
- Sweden — 21%
- Nigeria — 12%
- Kenya — 19%
- USA — 4%
- Tanzania — 9%
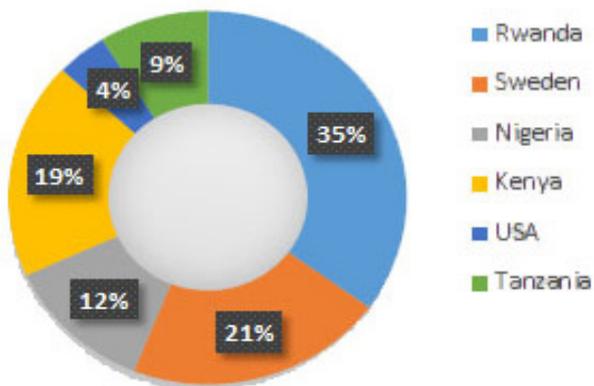
SOCIAL MEDIA

Page Likes: 817

Updates:

www.facebook.com/spidercenter

Followers: 1441

Updates:

www.twitter.com/spidercenter

Subscribers: 27

Views: 675

FACEBOOK FOLLOWERS

Women

■ **35%**
Your Fans

Men

■ **63%**
Your Fans

	13-17	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+
Women	0.215%	3%	14%	11%	3%	2%	2%
Men	0.107%	6%	29%	15%	6%	3%	3%
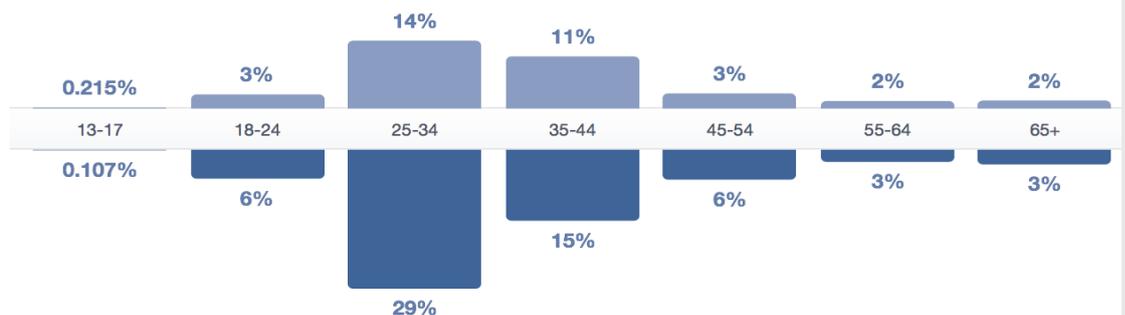
RESEARCH

Connecting research to the implementation and follow up of ICT4D projects approach allows a deeper analysis of processes and results

Based on the lessons learned from previous research projects, and in conjunction to the separation of project follow up and the follow up of outcomes and outputs. Based on the lessons learned from the previous period Spider revised the approach to "research related to projects" aligning the research goals to Spider goals. The empirical part of the programme will be a development and fortification of result follow up and the theorisation will be carried out on thematic or programme level.

This approach will support the project with data input or verification, for example with baseline studies where these are needed. It will also provide evidence based results follow-up, which will further strengthen the development field.

CAPACITY BUILDING

Continuous strengthening capacity of implementing and supporting partners is key achieving better results in development and ICT4D

INTERNAL CAPACITY BUILDING

PRINCE2
In August 2015 the Spider team completed a course in PRINCE2 project management methodology to improve project management and documentation at Spider. The course ended with Foundation and Practitioner certification exams.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT
Spider developed a revised project management process and introduced it internally and to partners. It includes requirements on a coherent view on time planning, activities and budget.

SIDA PARTNERSHIP FORUM: OUTCOME MAPPING
Outcome mapping is a methodology to plan, monitor and evaluate interventions that focuses on behavioural change among beneficiaries and stakeholders.

INTERNAL BROWNBAG SEMINAR
These seminars provided an informal capacity building of the Spider team with invited guests from various organisations.

ICT4DEMOCRACY EAST AFRICA NETWORK
Spider established the East African ICT4Democracy Network in 2011. The Network was made up of Spider project partners and in 2014/2015 network members received direct funding from Sida.

Due to fluctuations in exchange rates, the Network had to cancel planned capacity building activities within the direct Sida funding. Spider decided to support by funding training on Human Rights Based Approach (HRBA) and Result Based Management (RBM).

As a result of the training, the network and its individual institutional members have a better understanding of Human Rights Based Approach and results frameworks. The network has since developed a theory of change and results matrix with a strong link to Human Rights for its proposed 2016-2019 intervention, which was submitted to Sida in January 2016 for funding consideration.

LECTURES

ITP
Spider contributed to the ITP program "ICT and Pedagogical Development" in September with four lectures: Monitoring and evaluation, indicator development (2 lectures); Gender issues; and Spider introduction and lessons learned from Education projects. The 29 participants in this batch of the programme came from nine countries representing government authorities, NGOs and Universities.

UNIVERSITY OUTREACH
A guest lecture on ICT4D has become a regular occurrence for students at Uppsala University, Chalmers University of Technology Foundation and Karolinska Institutet. The course in sustainability at KTH received a lecture in ICT4D but it remains to be seen if this collaboration will continue.

ADDITIONAL PROJECTS

PILOT PROGRAMME CAPACITY BUILDING OF ICT REGULATORS

Sida approached Spider to coordinate a pilot for a capacity training programme for ICT regulatory work. This program has been in the pipeline for several years, but Sida had not been able to identify a suitable implementing organisation. The Swedish Post and Telecom Authority (PTS) contribute with programme planning and expert resources. Spider carried out an onsite needs assessment in each country and invited the local authorities appoint participants. All selected countries found he program timely and welcomed the program that combines capacity building with change initiatives that are to be implemented during the program.

The pilot project launched in August 2015 and will run to December 2016 and target middle level managers of regulatory authorities and ministries of ICT in four East African countries.

Lessons learned from the different phases will be taken into consideration during the application for a permanent programme. One lesson learned is to allow for more time for participants to be appointed and for defining the change initiatives that are well aligned with the countries' regulatory strategies

PREPARATION
8/15-3/16
Meetings with policy makers and key stakeholders in their countries, as well as participating organisations and staff

Programme planning

TRAINING
4-15 Apr 2016
Training in Sweden – two weeks

IN-COUNTRY
4/16-8/16
Participants work with their change initiatives in home countries with coach support

REGIONAL
Sep 2016
Regional phase with meetings in Kenya – one week; and if appropriate visits to all participating countries

IMPLEMENTATION
9/16-12/16
Change initiative implementations

Progress follow-up & coaching from programme team

EVALUATION
Jan 2017
Pilot project evaluation

COOPERATION IN BOLIVIA:

UMSA

Bilateral agreement with Sida and UMSA
Budget: 3 860 000 SEK
Duration: April 2013 - December 2017

This project is divided into two parts: Formulation of an ICT Policy and Master Plan and StrengtheningResearch Management at UMSA.

FORMULATION OF AN ICT POLICY AND MASTER PLAN

UMSA's ICT Policy and Master Plan was conceived to define the strategies, policies, guidelines, objectives and actions to be carried out for a proper development of ICT at the university. It is expected to become a major cross-cutting factor for improving efficiency in all activities. To ensure empowerment of the ICT users, relevance and legitimacy, the Master Plan has been prepared through a participatory process involving the various stakeholders at UMSA.

ACHIEVED RESULTS

A complete draft was ready in November 2015 for comments from university authorities. It is composed of two main sections: (1) "ICT Policy for UMSA" and (2) "ICT Master Plan for UMSA" and will be submitted for approval to the university council.

STRENGTHENING RESEARCH MANAGEMENT

 The general objective is to strengthen DIPGIS, UMSA's department in charge of research management, post-graduate activities and the researchers' interaction with society. This is done through different approaches, such as the definition of management policies, strategic planning, reducing bureaucratic procedures, optimizing organizational structures, control and monitoring of timely reports and statements of accounts, and the development of management ICT tools. The reform process is carried out in a participatory way, involving a various types of stakeholders.

ACHIEVED RESULTS

The second phase of the Reform Process started. Information on research and results has been more effectively disseminated both within and outside UMSA as a result of the continuous development and implementation of the DIPGIS Communication procedures.

UMSS

Bilateral agreement with Sida and UMSS
Budget: 700 000 SEK
Duration: April 2013 - December 2017

UMSS' ICT Policy and Master plan was conceived to define the strategies, policies, guidelines, objectives and actions to be carried out for a proper development of ICT at the university. It is expected to become a major cross-cutting factor for improving efficiency in all activities. In order to ensure empowerment of the ICT users, relevance and legitimacy, the Master Plan has been prepared through a participatory process involving the various stakeholders at UMSS.

ACHIEVED RESULTS

Good progress was achieved despite of this being a period of student unrest with the university occupied during July and August. Towards the end of 2015 the draft of the policy document was nearly complete. Workshops were successfully conducted with the different groups of ICT users at UMSS: researchers, students, teachers and management and administrative personnel. Very good information about needs and valuable ideas and proposals were gathered, which eventually resulted in the formulation of policies and projects.

SPIDER

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This report has been prepared for Sida and covers the period of 1 July - 31 December 2015.