Report: Handbook for ICT projects for Rural Areas

ASTAP-28 EG BSG Meeting

March 8th, 2017

Bangkok, Thailand

UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA SARAWAK

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Intended Goals

Handbook for ICT PROJECTS for RURAL AREAS

- To guide future initiatives to introduce ICT projects for rural communities
- To provide insights into the development and implementation of ICT projects for rural communities
- To disseminate research findings and experiences collected through previous projects, to widen ways of thinking about ICT projects for rural communities

Case Study Sites – APT J2 & J3

e-Aquaculture
The Philippines

CyberBrain, Pattaya Protocol
Thailand

e-Aquaculture
Vietnam

e-Education & e-Health
Malaysia

e-Health & e-Local Community
Indonesia

e-Environment
Indonesia

Table of Contents

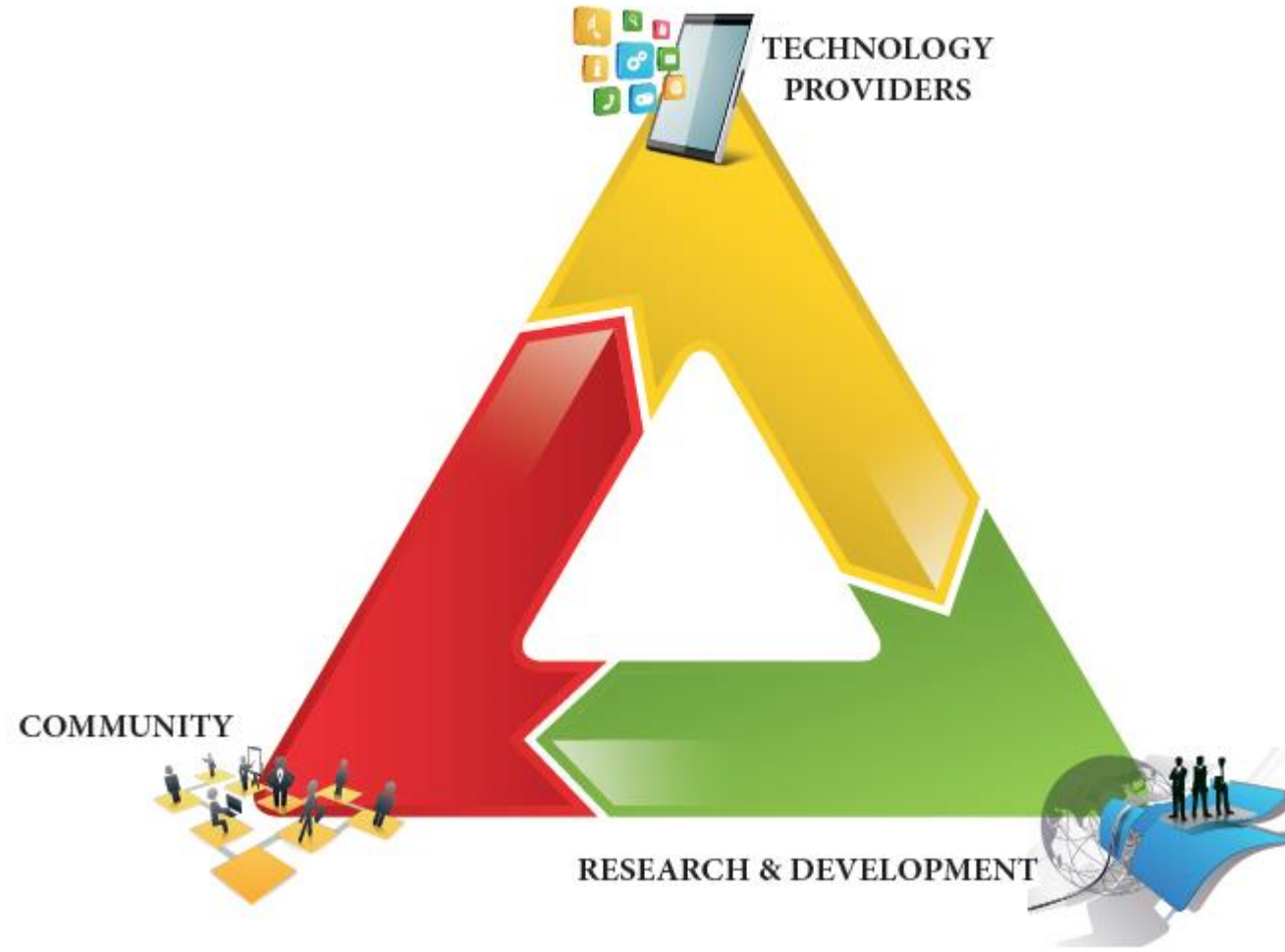Chapter 1 – Project Initiation

Chapter 2 – Project Planning

Chapter 3 – Systems Design

Chapter 4 – Project Implementation

Chapter 5 – Steps Forward

145 pages, including appendices

Three main players for Technology Innovation to work in Rural Communities

Handbook content

- Written in a project management approach – **to assist novice and experienced managers to visualize every step in planning, implementing and assessing** a project that capitalizes on ICT for rural communities

- Introduces the "**Participatory Action Research**" approach – to enable mutual relationships between project stakeholders; to help **develop a close working relationship**, which would then lead toward a **long-term commitment of trust and confidence**

Key Issues

Although ICT is imperative towards driving the technology initiative forward, a crucial factor in ensuring that these changes continue to develop is the **commitment of the communities** themselves.

Every community is **unique**, and **one implementation model does not fit all** projects.

Project initiators have had to **design, adapt and operate** technologies and systems that can best fit each person and society in a **straightforward and sustainable way**.

Justifying selection of community to work with

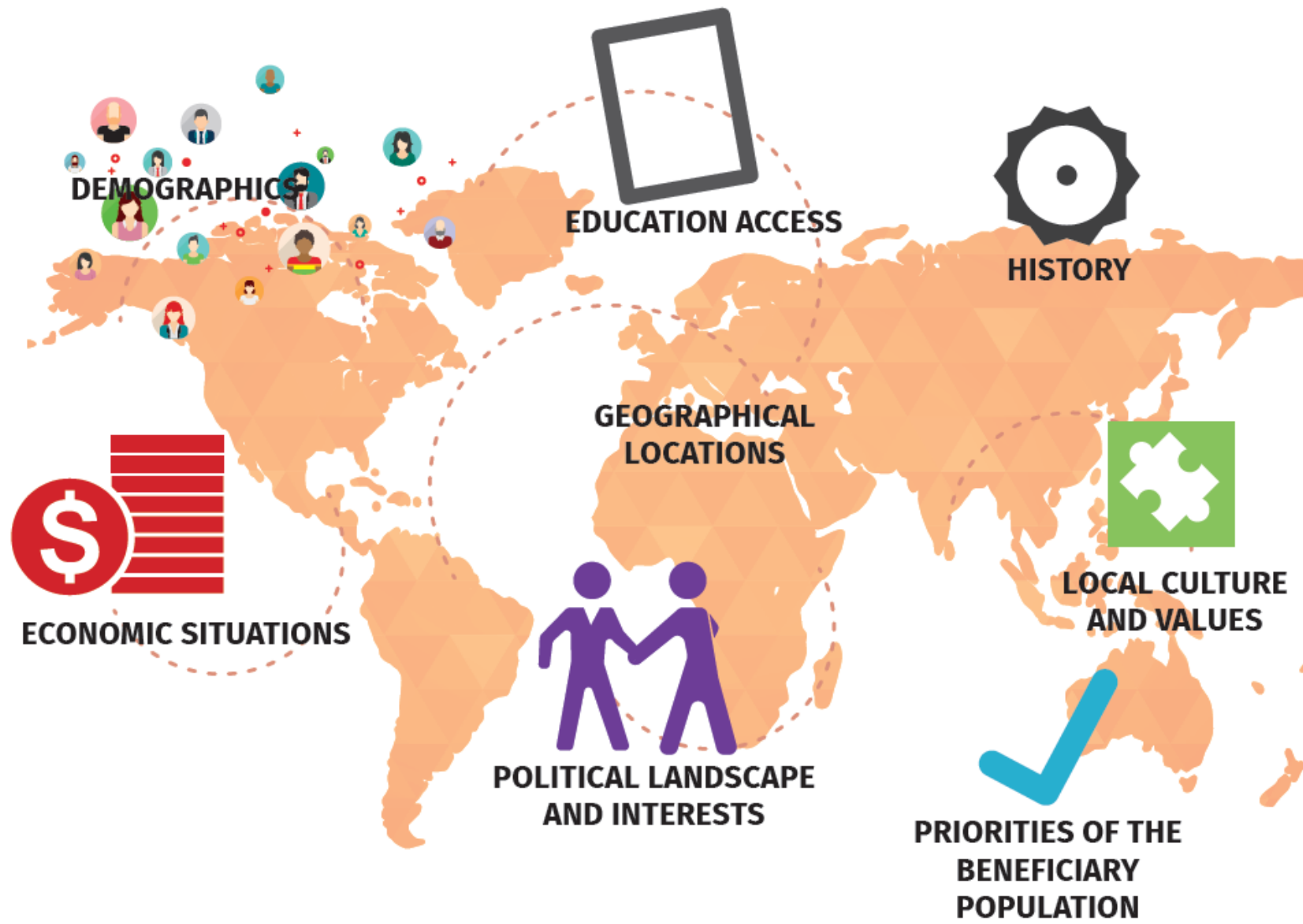How do you justify having chosen Community A rather than Community B?

Is ICT access and literacy an important criterion for selecting the community?

Is ICT service or product an important must-have in the project, to elevate the current problem, demand or context of living in the selected community?

Are there any previous record or experience within the community where ICT has been used community-wide to solve a problem they face? What was the rate of success, or failure, of the previous project(s)?

What are the significant impacts notably observed through previous ICT projects?

DEMOGRAPHICS

EDUCATION ACCESS

HISTORY

GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATIONS

ECONOMIC SITUATIONS

LOCAL CULTURE AND VALUES

POLITICAL LANDSCAPE AND INTERESTS

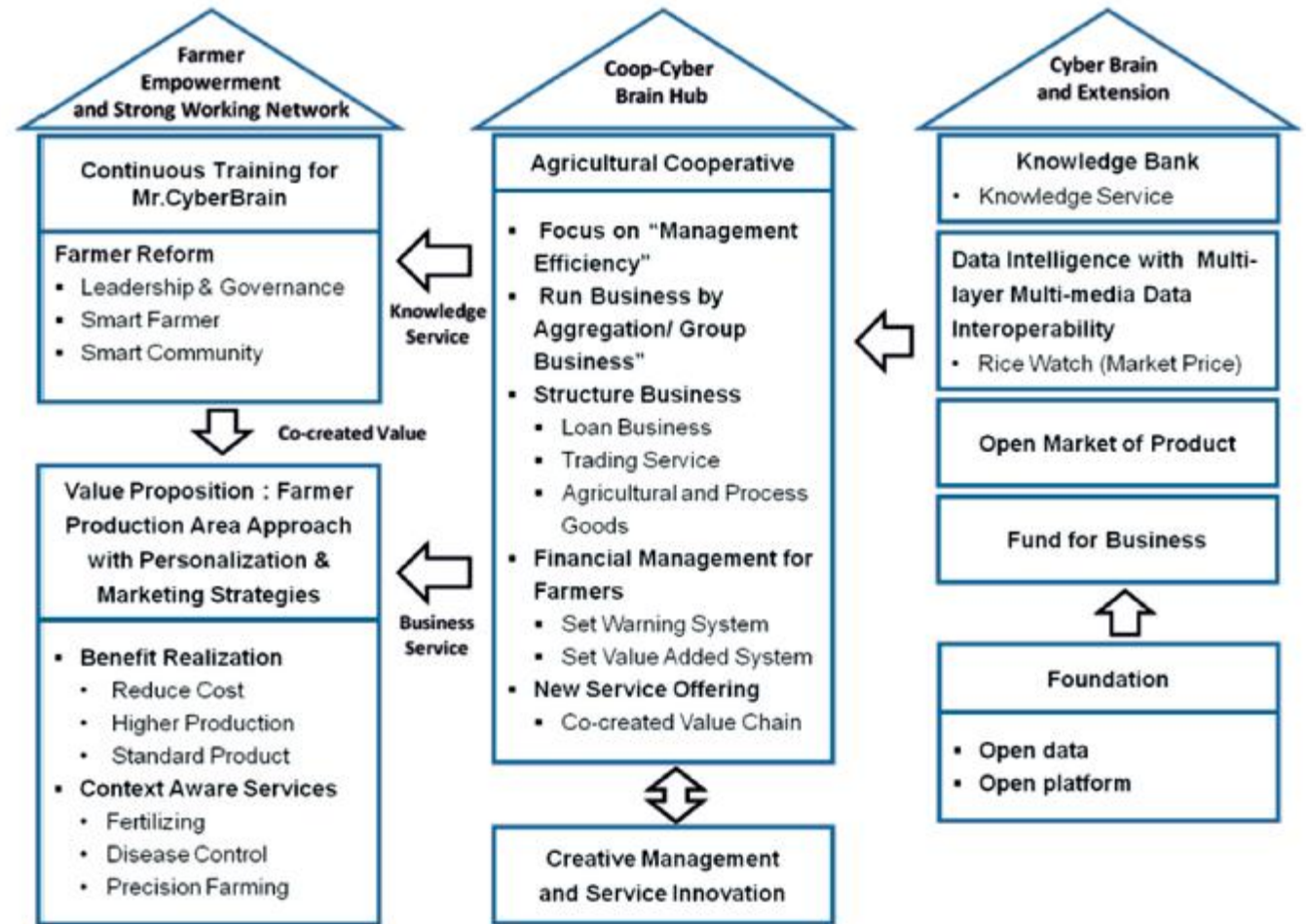PRIORITIES OF THE BENEFICIARY POPULATION

Content organisation

Each chapter has

1. **Descriptions of key ideas/concepts** about the stages in Project Management

2. **Examples** extracted from case studies

3. **Infographics** (to visualise important information and steps)

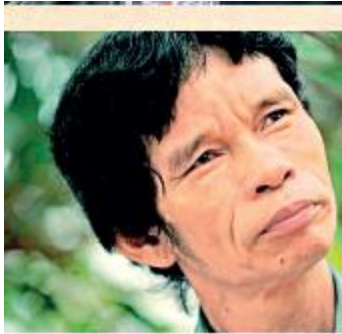4. **Checklists** (to assist in decision making and problem solving)

Values of the Handbook

- **Collaborative ideas, expertise and experiences** documented and written in one book

- Steps forward – includes ideas to expand the collaboration forward; for instance CyberBrain and Pattaya Protocol, which capitalizes on **Collective Intelligence and Transfer Model**

Special dedication to a long-standing Case Study Team partner

Prof Dr Ir Suwido Limin

Professor Dr. Ir. Suwido Limin was longtime University of Palangkaraya professor who founded a firefighting brigade to fight in the field during the haze crisis in Central Kalimantan. In his life, Suwido was known to be very dedicated to peatland conservation. The Director of the Center for International Cooperation in Sustainable Management of Tropical Peatland (CIMTROP), he was also most vocal about the threat of forest fires and peatland issues in Central Kalimantan. Dr. Limin, an ethnic Dayak, also helped draft a regulation on indigenous rights in Central Kalimantan that has been submitted to the provincial government for approval.

24 May 1955 – 6 June 2016 (61 years old)

Thank You

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