Empowering displaced people and migrants through online services

Dr. Mikhail Komarov

Department of Innovations and Business in IT
Faculty of Business Informatics
National research university Higher School of Economics
Introduction

Economical development – technical progress.

What history tells us:
• GSM and mobile networks – 1946
• Internet – (idea by DARPA – 1957) – 1969
• Social Networks – let’s say the Facebook – 2004
• Mobile applications networks etc. – 2010

M. Zuckerberg: “We’re going to execute this mission to make the world connected and build value over the long-term. The bigger question that will define how we’ve done is how we do with mobile”
Refugees in Uganda are using SMS and cellphones to reconnect with family members and close friends. Photo via MobileActive - Fukushima (AFP photo) - Syrian refugee camp on the Turkish border for displaced people of the Syrian civil war. (Henry Ridgwell of Voice of America)

Deputy UN High Commissioner for Refugees Alexander Aleinikoff provides an introduction to the special issue: “Superficially at least, today’s refugee camps do not appear significantly different from those that existed 30 or 40 years ago. Modernisation seems to have passed them by. But upon a closer look, it becomes apparent that things are changing. Today, refugees and IDPs in the poorest of countries often have access to a mobile phone and are able to watch satellite TV. Internet cafés have sprung up in some settlements, the hardware purchased by refugee entrepreneurs or donated by humanitarian organisations such as UNHCR. And aid agencies themselves are increasingly making use of advanced technology: geographic information systems, Skype, biometric databases and Google Earth, to give just a few examples.”
Web 3.0 - ?

- Web 1.0, or the information web, was straightforward enough. This version of the web was able to provide information to users in a broadcast model of information distribution.
- The next evolution of the web brought about Web 2.0 or the social web which is characterized by users communications, contributing and collaborating.
- Web 3.0 means that our things, our belongings will have the power to learn, intuit and decide.
Internet of Services

• To be able to provide services through the Internet
• To be able to integrate services through the Internet
• To be able to utilize services through the Internet

• Service oriented architecture
• Event-driven architecture

• All together – data-driven architecture
Internet of Services – user-oriented level
• Policy-making applications and services (crowd-based platform etc.).
• Educational services (signing for the education, education for far-located villages and towns etc.).
• Culture and traditions – oriented applications and services (local rules and policies, local culture etc.).
• Medical applications and services (far-located villages and refugee camps etc.).
• Banking applications and services (remote banking, e-payments etc.).
• Information-support applications and service (connection with relatives, news-terminals etc.).
Internet of Services

• Data-driven.
• Personalized.
• Web-oriented.
• Future business models for the Internet of Services will focus on partnership, providing services through business networks (value added by the 3rd party).
Challenges

- Which services should be provided for free?
- Who should develop services and who should support development: government, business, intergovernmental organizations?
- Which services should be country-independent, which should be focused on a local communities?
- Facilities – who will guarantee services and who will provide them?
- Basic requirements for the implementation?
Thank you for your attention!

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate contacting me:

Dr. Mikhail Komarov
mkomarov@hse.ru