

ENGLISH/ SWAHILI ICT GLOSSARY WIKI PLATFORM

WIKI-2 REPORT

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1. Introduction

The 1st Phase of the English/ Swahili ICT glossary wiki platform http://www.isoc-ke.org/wiki/Main_Page

drew plenty of interests locally and international. The original wiki only contained ICT Competency Framework for Teachers (pages 90-92) <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0021/002134/213475e.pdf> and Media and

Information Literacy Curriculum for Teachers (pages 181-192).
<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0019/001929/192971e.pdf>.

There were plenty of interest and suggestions from stakeholders and review experts that additional ICT terminologies be added to provide a comprehensive reference platform for Swahili terms. This led us to request for further support from UNESCO, to enable the Internet Society Kenya Chapter Working Group-WG to undertake this activity, Wiki2. In this second phase, UNESCO provided 5300 USD support to the society for the second phase, wiki2.

The Working Group (WG) documentation 25 pages of additional glossaries extracted from University Of Cape Town Information And Communication Technology Services website, <http://www.icts.uct.ac.za/modules.php?name=News&file=article&sid=924> that was awarded to Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University for translation (3000 USD), and editing undertaken by Kabarak University at a cost of 300 USD as per contracted by the WG respectively. Peer review of the translation was by University of Dar es Salaam.

2. Wiki Working Group - WG

Realization of a project of this magnitude always encounters challenges. The main major challenge was the working group (WG). Internet Society Kenya Chapter is a non-profit making organization composed of volunteers. Majority of these volunteers have other full time employment or are engaged in other business activities. For this reason, some WG members could not get time to actively participate in this activity to the end. To improve delivery the WG was reconstituted afresh by placing a call for interest in the Society's mailing list, and a new group was reconstituted with those who expressed interest. Team work and commitment was identified as a key factor in achievement in the set targets, especially in a groupings composed of membership of different backgrounds. Towards the end of this project, The WG had to reconstitute itself in order to be more effective so as to deliver on objectives. The WG membership with responsibilities is as follows:

3. WG Members

	Name	Roles	Responsibilities
1	Prof. Kefa Rabah	Project Coordinator	Overall co-ordination of the project
2	Charles Oloo	Team Leader	Manage implementation activities / Liaison / Reporting
3	Daniel Omondi	Member - Secretary	Document project activities and outputs
7	Jacklyne Okinyi	Administrative	Schedule and arrange for meetings
4	Sherine Bwire	Member - Treasurer	Ensure timely disbursements of funds
5	Njoroge / Shem	Certified Accountants	Finances Management and Reporting
6	Kasuni / Rosemary	Book Keepers	Maintaining accounts and expenses records
8	Martin Wasike	Member / Technical	Populating Wiki

As opposed to the previous initiative WIKI-1, the current WG has been very active and this is proven by the high number that attended WG meetings whenever they were called, even on short notice. We hope that this spirit of commitment continues as we focus on future activities.

4. Methodology

As per the terms of reference (ToR) and work-plan, the documentation of the ICT glossaries was compiled by the WG was awarded to Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University for translation at a cost of 3000 USD. Editing the translation draft was undertaken by Kabarak University and reviewed by language experts and University of Dar es Salaam. All these activities were undertaken under the coordination guidance of the WG team.

Outreach and popularization was undertaken using various methods, mailing lists, stakeholders meetings and conferences, among others. The outreach missions have had tremendous impacts. For instance, when an UNDP International Network of Social Innovators for Human Development (INSIHD) had about it, we were requested to enter the platform to vie for the Innovation Prize for Africa top prize, IPA 2014, <http://innovationprizeforafrica.org/>. We highly hope that this initiative will receive the award, the top prize for innovation. As at November 18 2013 the wiki platform had recorded 2,489 visitors online.

During the African Internet Governance Forum (AfIGF 2013) held at the Multimedia University in Nairobi, on the 22-26 September 2013, the Delegates were enthusiastic about the project and showed keen interest. When the idea and suggestion to translate the Glossary into other local African languages was mooted, every country was interested. This are some of the reasons that that let the WG develop

WIKI 3 concept, “*Preservation of local languages by promoting their use in ICT by developing a multi-lingual ICT glossary wiki platform*”. This proposal is under development for discussion and consideration. Experts state that a language may be endangered because there are fewer and fewer people who claim that language as their own and therefore neither use it nor pass it on to their children. It could also be endangered because it is being used for fewer and fewer daily activities. The proposal to escalate the platform to other local languages in Africa will definitely reverse the trend of diminishing local language usage and therefore also enhance and promote the development of local content for scientific platforms.

TRANSLATION OF ENGLISH ICT TERMS TO SWAHILI - 20 PAGES JUNE -DECEMBER 2013									
Work-plan and Budget									
		COST	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1.1	Documentation and literature review of additional ICT terminologies	200							
1.2	Translation of terminologies (25 pages)	3,000							
1.3	Editing	300							
1.4	Peer Review	300							
1.5	Outreach & Popularization stakeholders meeting	700							
1.6	Review meeting	150							
1.7	Report writing	150							
1.8	Wiki platform maintenance: June - December 2013	300							
1.9	Administrative costs	200							
	Total	5,300							

5. Challenges

Major challenges encountered were in outreach missions. We received several invitations to popularize the platform to reach a wider stakeholder base, but we were unable due to budget constraints. Although the platform is becoming popular, it is yet to reach the majority of the all the targeted groups. For instance, after the African Internet Governance Forum (AfIGF 2013) it was suggested that a presentation be done at the Global Internet Governance Forum that was held in Bali Indonesia - October 22-25, 2013, but due to financial constraints, it was not possible. The other challenge was in disbursement of activity fund. The society being a chapter among global players, its Officers are always attending meetings and other functions worldwide. For instance when the funds for WIKI 2 were released, two officials had travelled out of the country. As signatories to the account, financial transactions could not be made until after their return two weeks later. This delayed the translation process and other activities as well. However due to unforeseen circumstances, some activities are still uncompleted and the WG intends to complete the remaining tasks soon.

6. Participating Institutions

- Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University
- University of Dar es Salaam.
- Kabarak University
- Adomart Agencies – Professional Translator
- Internet Society Kenya Chapter

7. Acknowledgement

We wish to sincerely thank UNESCO through its Adviser for Communication & Information UNESCO Regional Office for Eastern Africa, Jacob DU TOIT for the support to undertake this work. His cooperation, advice and timely counsel has provided the WG the drive to accomplish WIKI-2 the set objectives. Our gratitude also goes to the Internet Society (Global) for providing us the mandate through our local Chapter to use its umbrella to undertake this initiative. Along the line, the ISOC Global Office and African Bureau Staff had to provide guidance and intervention regarding some administrative issues. All the listed institutions that contributed to the success of this initiative, including Dr. Anikila Muze of the University of Dar es Salaam **Computing Center (UCC)** are appreciated.

8. Conclusion

We feel humbled by the being trusted with such a momentous task. When the fruits, contents of this wiki platform start to add value and contribution in the use and development of Swahili language in ICT will begin to be felt, that will be our joy. Technology is not static. New technologies and terminologies will continue to evolve, due to accelerated research in technological advancement especially in ICT. In this regard, we also do hope that this platform continues to improve in content in order to keep abreast with the changes. This will assure its relevance as a source of support and reference for stakeholders and users.

In all, challenges are what make life interesting; overcoming them is what makes life meaningful,
“Joshua J. Marine”.