Refugee-driven Data Management System

Dr. Carleen Maitland
Institute for Information Policy
Penn State University

Data accessibility & usability

Maintaining adherence to humanitarian principles (Cardia et al. 2017)

Humanity, neutrality, impartiality, independence

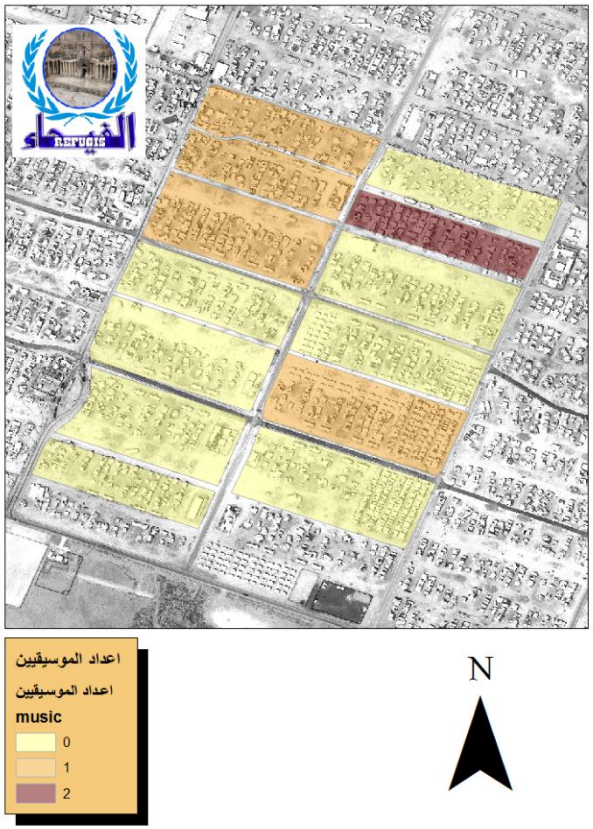
Goal 1: Refugee access to their own data

Goal 2: Data be useful to refugees

Solution: involve them in data collection and management

Refugee Asset Data

- Understand assets (skills, institutions, etc.) available within their new community
- Supports self-reliance
- Can be used in data-based decision making



Data collection system

- Accessible
  - No PII
  - Public, easy-to-use server
- Useable
  - Categories of assets defined by refugees

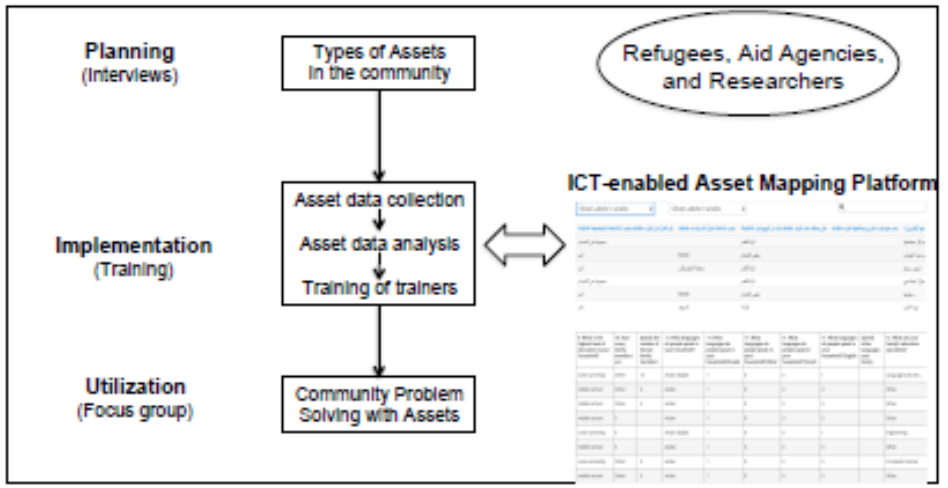


Figure 1: Flow of Asset Mapping

Trial Outcomes

- Developed and tested
  - Za'atari Camp, Jordan
  - urban refugees in Rwanda
- Even if data are not usable today, refugee involvement in data collection
  - Enhances sense-of-community, community engagement
  - Enhances computer self-efficacy

Questions?

- Contact
  - Carleen Maitland cmaitland@ist.psu.edu
  - http://cmaitland.ist.psu.edu/

- Further reading on our work – Rwanda results in preparation

- Xu, Y. and Maitland, C. (2017) "Mobilizing Assets: Data-driven Community Development with Refugees," Proceedings of the 9th ACM Conference on Information and Communication Technologies for Development (ICTD), Lahore, Pakistan, Nov. 2017.
- Xu, Y., Holzer, A., Maitland, C. and Gillet, D. (2017) "Community Building with Co-Located Social Media: A Field Experiment with Syrian Refugees," Proceedings of the 9th ACM Conference on Information and Communication Technologies for Development (ICTD), Lahore, Pakistan, Nov. 2017.
- Cardia, I., Holzer, A., Xu, Y., Maitland, C., Gillet, D. (2017) "Towards a Principled Approach to Humanitarian Information and Communication Technology," Short Paper, Proceedings of the 9th ACM Conference on Information and Communication Technologies for Development (ICTD), Lahore, Pakistan, Nov. 2017.