



Hans Akkermans

The Network Institute @ VU University Amsterdam

Hans Akkermans

Copenhagen 15Sep2011

1

voices

VOICES: EU-FP7 project



- **VOIce-based Community-cEntric mobile Services for social development**
- Total costs VOICES project: 2,9 M EUR
- Contribution from EC : 2.0 M EUR
- Co-funded by the European Commission, 7th Framework Programme, Project No 269954
- I: www.mvoices.eu



Hans Akkermans Copenhagen 15Sep2011

2

voices

Project Partners

- World Wide Web Foundation
- France Telecom
- TNO (NL)
- VU University Amsterdam
- CRS4 (Italy)
- CSIR (South Africa)
- North West University (RSA)
- ESMT (Senegal)
- Sahel Eco (Mali)
- W3C (US/F)
- Fondation Mérieux (Senegal)
- Portugal Telecom Inovação



Hans Akkermans

Copenhagen 15Sep2011

3

voices

Project aim: integrate Web with mobile access & voice services

- service development toolbox, field deployment in Africa & make a sustainable business out of it

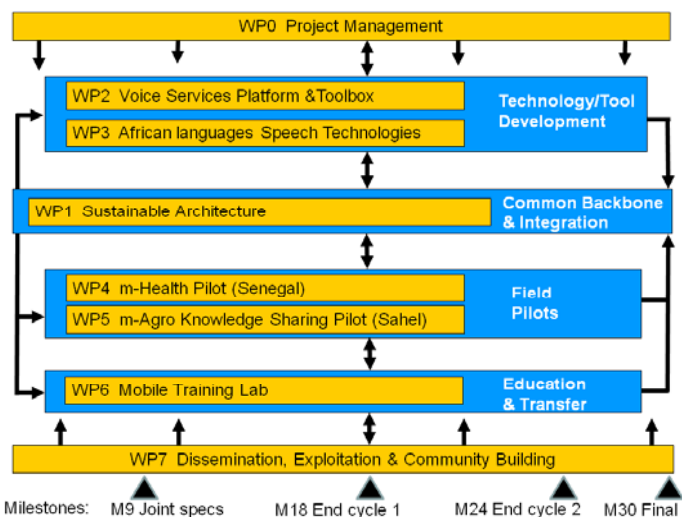


Hans Akkermans

Copenhagen 15Sep2011

4

Project structure overview



Web in Society: the big picture R&D questions



- **Q1** [immediate]: Can the Web (be made to) mean something for **knowledge sharing** even **under very constraining** conditions?
 - No internet, no computer, no electricity
 - Multitude of languages, levels of literacy
- **Q2** [Web future]: Can we have a **Web of Speech?**
 - After all, human communication: talking >> writing

EU/FP/international considerations

- Support of “triple helix” collaborations: university – industry – public/gov institutions
- Innovation [EU Work Programme]: research & technology development, incl. experiments, demos and field pilots
- Mechanism for dissemination & uptake of results
- Built-in international – even global – outlook
- I: www.webfoundation.org, www.w4ra.org, www.mvoices.eu