

VOICES Project -The m-Health pilot in Senegal



Ralph Ankri & Moustafa Zouinar France Telecom-Orange France







voices

- VOIce-based Community-cEntric mobile Services for social development
 - EU funded project (2011-2013) involving 12 partners
 - improve access to content and mobile ICT services by building a toolbox for the development of voice services that will be made available to African local communities and entrepreneurs as Open Source.
 - deliver tool support and methodology that facilitates the local creation of content in **African languages**.
 - provide a sustainable architecture and business model codeveloped with local partners.
 - enhance uptake through community-building (mobile ICT training lab) that offers education for local partners and entrepreneurs.
- Two pilots : Agriculture and Health





The m-Health pilot

- Explore how disease surveillance and medical laboratory technicians training in Senegal could benefit from mobile and speech technologies
- Deploy and test mobile and speech based m-health services in Senegal to demonstrate that it is possible:
 - to strengthen the transmission of epidemiologic data from peripheral laboratories to the national health authorities
 - to enhance medical laboratory technicians skills
- Partners involved: Orange, ESMT, the Senegalese National Network of Laboratories (RNL) and Fondation Mérieux.





The m-Health pilot

- Orange
 - coordinate the pilot and provides the technical platform (Emerginov)
- ESMT: Multinational High School of Telecommunications
 - role in the project: develop the applications
- Fondation Mérieux
 - NGO whose mission is to enhance local medical capacities in developing countries to reduce the impact of infectious diseases
 - role in the project: support the RNL
- The National Network of Laboratories (RNL)
 - created by the ministry of health in partnership with Fondation
 Mérieux
 - collects epidemiological data from peripheral laboratories and delivers training to laboratory technicians
 - role in the project: end-user (+ laboratory technicians)





Methodology

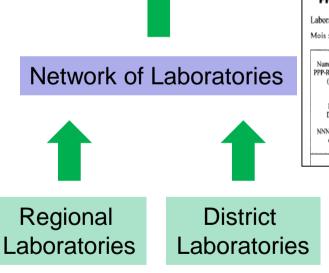
- Field work in Senegal
 - determine end-users' needs
 - meetings and workshops with stakeholders and end-users
 (laboratory technicians, RNL staff, medical doctors in health centers, the head of the disease surveillance department)
 - visits to three laboratories (two district laboratories and one regional laboratory)
 - interviews with laboratory technicians and head doctors of health centers
- Co-elaboration (with RNL and Fondation Mérieux) of four use cases





Use case # 1: Disease surveillance (current situation)

Department of epidemiological surveillance



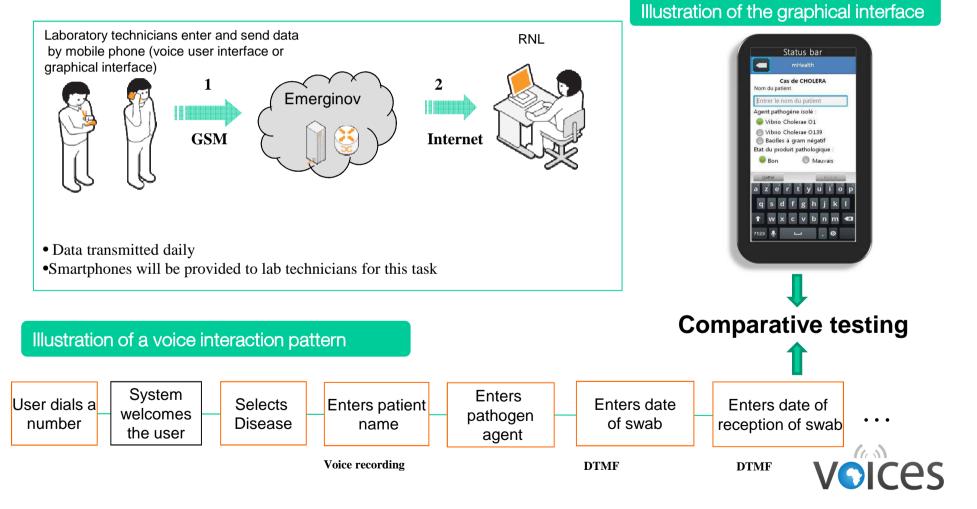
Laboratoire:				District :			Région :			
Mois:				Année :			Date d'envoi :			
PPP-RRR-DDD-YY-NNN (same format as AFPstools) PPP = Pays RRR= Region, DDD = District,	Maladie : - Choléra - Diarrhée Sanguino- lente (Shigellose) - Méningite - Autres	Numéro d'identifica tion du labo	Nom du Patient	Date du prélève- ment	Date de réception au labo	Etat du produit pathologique 1 = Bon 2 = Mauvais	Agents pathogènes isolés - Vibrio cholerae 01 - Shigella dysenteriae Type 1 - Autres Shigelles - Méningocoque - Autres pathogènes - Pas d'isolement de pathogène	Autres résultats	Date d'envoi des Résultats au District/ ou niveau National	Date d'envo au Réseau National de Laboratoires

Nine watched diseases: Cholera, Shigelloses, Meningitis, Tuberculosis, Malaria, Syphilis, HIV, Measles, Poliomyelitis.



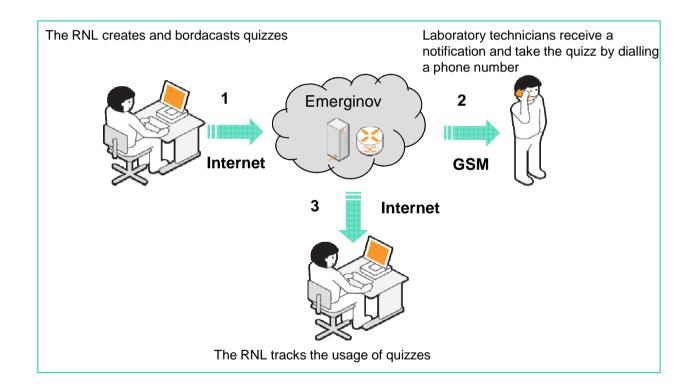


• Use case # 1: Disease surveillance (m-Health scenario)





Use case # 2: To enhance technicians' skills through
 Quizzes







 Use case # 3: Information of the Month. To enhance technicians' skills through the delivery of educational content.

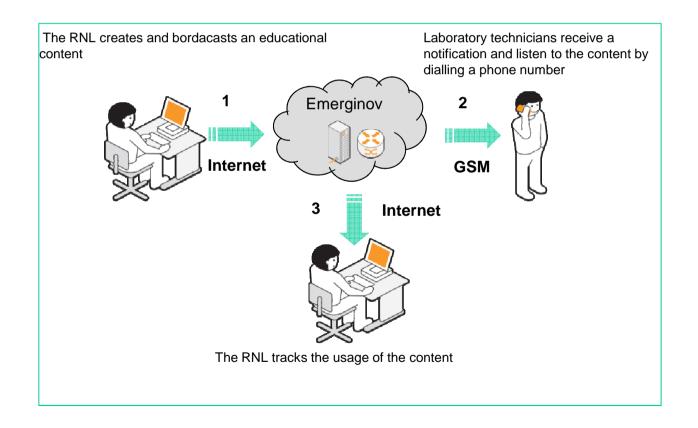


Quaterly bulletin sent by the RNL to laboratories





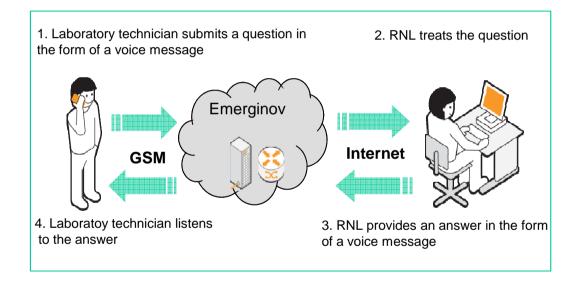
 Use case # 3: Information of the Month. To enhance technicians' medical knowledge through the delivery of educational content.







 Use case # 4: Expert support. To enable technicians to post questions to the RNL via a voice service. Could contribute to the development of lab technicians' skills.







Web interface for the RNL







Conclusion and perspectives

- Usability tests of the applications (except expert assistance) conducted recently in Dakar
 - the RNL and 6 technicians found the applications useful for their activities
 - for scenarios 2 & 3: Human voice was preferred to speech synthesis
 - need to improve the usability of the applications

Next steps

- fine tune the applications
- deploy and test the services with six laboratories by the end of May
- launch the second phase of in-situ testing by July with 14 labs
- define a "business" model that ensures long-term sustainability of the services.
- other issues: network coverage, integration to the health systems,
 maintenance and upgrading of the applications, etc.



Thank you for your attention!



