

ODR (Online Dispute Resolution) in Developing Countries

- In its broader application has tremendous transformative potential in today's world.
- Let's reframe ODR as:
 - People-driven;
 - Technology-fueled;
 - Peace & Social Justice
- Tool in alleviating poverty.
- Applying UN Resolution 1325 to ODR systems/efforts.
- Collectivist v Individualist Cultures [Concept of Ubuntu]

Conflict Prevention

- ODR as an instrument for Social Progress
- Potential to contribute to poverty reduction.
- Support early warning systems preventing conflicts.
- Support humanitarian ventures by assisting peacemaking ventures.

ODR Transformative Cycle

 Online Interventions either Economic or Social

Justice  Transparency/Information  Eradicating

Poverty  Conflict Prevention  Conflict

Reduction 

Decentralization of Power

Both Ambassador Prudence
Bushnell & Iqbal Quadir
(GrameenPhone shareholder)
believe that the key to eradicating
poverty is the decentralization of
power. It is at the grassroots level
that progress is made.

Potential Impact of Cellphones

- At least 3 billion people who don't own cellphones, bulk of them in Africa and Asia.
- Smallest improvements in efficiency could reshape global economy.
- 80% of world's population now lives within range of a cellular network.
- Figures from International Telecommunications Union show that by end of 2006, 68% of mobile subscriptions were in developing countries.

Uses of Cellphones in combatting poverty

- Voice & Text messaging
- Photo & Video
- Data collection or transfer
- Electronic Funds Transfer
- Multi-media messaging
- Data analysis
- Inventory Management
- Mapping

Information Access

- Farm cooperatives in Nepal - local person with a mobile phone then acts as commissioned sales agent
- Mother in Uganda - Checking if Dr is in town before setting out on journey with sick child.
- Rural doctors in emergencies can request information from Kampala.
- Live in housekeepers in China - Access to other customers.

Mobile-enabled Social Change

- Kiwanja.net provides free text-messaging software and information technology support to grassroots enterprises.
- Social Mobile Group on Facebook
- <https://www.chacha.com/> - Text a question and within minutes receive answer. ChaCha, the human powered search engine. Uses in Conflict zones? Could ODR professionals/Conflict Resolution experts/Peacemakers leverage this technology? Speedy resolution of information-based conflicts.

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Double-edged sword of Transparency - Kenya

- Cellphone can serve as valuable connection to relief efforts and information.

But

- Capacity for cellphone to serve as deadly tool inciting violence.

Relief Efforts for Iraqi Refugees

- 1.4 million Iraqi refugees in Syria
- World Food Program needs to alert 50,000 to food shipments
- Text messaging Constraints

UN Resolution 1325:

"5. *Expresses* its willingness to incorporate a gender perspective into peacekeeping operations and urges the Secretary-General to ensure that, where appropriate, field operations include a gender component "

Ubuntu

Identity: Collective & Individual

"I am because we are"

"I am what I am because of what we all are"

"A person 'becomes human' through other persons"

"A person is a person because of other persons"

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