

MOBILE ECOSYSTEM CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur
Commonwealth of Learning Vancouver



MOOC4D

massive open online courses
for development

MOOC on M4D 2013

T.V.Prabhakar

IIT Kanpur

- Challenges

- Connectivity
- Power
- Cost
- Device Capability
- Commodity Hardware

- Opportunities

- Necessity for some sectors
- Reachability
- Usability
- Cost
- Ubiquitous
- Multipurpose device

Challenges

1

- Connectivity
 - Weak signals
 - Intermittent
 - Poor data connectivity
 - Content Caching is imperative

Challenges

2

- Power
 - Requirements are not very high for the consumer
 - Solar, hand cranked

Challenges

3

- Cost
 - Very dominant factor
 - Smart phones are difficult to afford
 - But prices coming down rapidly
 - We have to design solutions with a range of phones in mind

Challenges

4

- Device Capability
 - Dictated by the Cost
 - Might lead to inadvertent 'social engineering'
 - For example: Indian language display in SMS

Challenges

5

- Serviceability
 - Can the phone be repaired locally
 - Battery replaced?
 - Cost of spare parts

Challenges

7

- Recycle !
 - Electronic Waste is a major problem
 - Have to pay attention immediately
 - Contamination of aquifers

Opportunities

Corporates are on the Internet,
People on the Mobile-Net

- Affordability
- Reachability
- Ubiquity
- Usability/Accessibility
- Multipurpose device
- Necessity for some sectors

Homework

Discuss and expand this list.

THANK YOU



MOOC4D
massive open online courses
for development

MOOC on M4D 2013