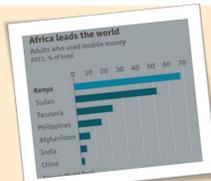


Brokering knowledge for improving food production: Supporting farmers in Sub-Sahara Africa with an eknowledge-broker

Why?

1. Because transmitting knowledge and information to farmers in Sub-Saharan Africa is still a tremendous challenge.
2. Because rural communities increasingly have access to mobile technologies but language and lack of essential skills is still a barrier to accessing information and knowledge.
3. Because agricultural extension systems and NGO's could serve as knowledge intermediaries but lack an enabling system for utilizing advances in information and communication technology.



Africa is already world leader in using mobile money. Mobile phones and increasingly smart phones are becoming available and affordable to African farmers.

How?

1. By providing a web-based information system called eKnowledge broker that enables problem owners (knowledge intermediaries on behalf of farmers) and knowledgeable experts to find each other.
2. By involving extension workers, NGO workers, educated members of the rural community, etc. as knowledge intermediaries between farmers and eKnowledge broker.
3. By using both the rich experience in developing multimedia eLearning material and the vast knowledge in agri-food production available at Wageningen and other Dutch universities and research centres.

Who?

1. **Farmers** are problem owners who capture the problematic situation using mobile phones and digital cameras.
2. **Knowledge intermediaries** who are close to farmers and have both the required skills to use the eKnowledge broker and have access to a computer and internet.
3. **Domain experts** are responsible persons in agricultural ministries, research centres (both African and foreign), volunteer experts who are willing (or are tasked) to provide solutions.
4. **eLearning experts** who build and maintain the eKnowledge broker. They use their long experience in developing multimedia eLearning materials to create easy to use and easy to understand content in collaboration with domain experts.

eKnowledge broker

