

Evaluation of the Telematics Network Consortium La Silsa-La Moran

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Abstract

In the continuous and rapid growth that the technology has, people are all engaged, even without realizing it, the important thing is to exploit all the advantages that it gives to them. In these times much is what it has been said about the knowledge society and collaborative work, in this sense some project have been set up to benefit the most needy. In Venezuela such networks are coming with the aim of helping people in those communities to improve their quality of life. This research provides an assessment of the advantages that must be met in such networks, specifically in the community Consortium La Silsa-La Moran, where its inhabitants establish interaction with other communities, as well as with public and private entities. These two group have managed to increase their technical capabilities and used in prestigious companies

Palabras clave— Networks Telematics,, Consortium La Silsa-La Morán.

1. Introduction

Telematic networks have a remarkable metaphorical ability, a force based on its suggestive character in order to act as model forms and social behaviors. The Internet is a mosaic of opportunities and risks for civil ethics and human rights, and a proposal that calls for legal and political responses. On the other hand, it also establishes an expectation of quality of life and enjoyment of the existence not covered by previous generations

These expectations become part of our present, and this is true for a relatively small part of mankind that claim by its very essence an extension to those pockets of poverty that still do not enjoy these rights. The possibilities from this omnipresence of technology in social life are so many that a new ethic requires a more comprehensive and imaginative protection of the rights of individuals. Such rights are embodied in what could be considered a fourth generation of human rights, in which universal access to technology, freedom of expression on the Net and the free distribution of information play a key role.

In various parts of the world some projects with the intention of promoting the establishment of social computing have been implemented. In La India, for instance, The Gyandoot [1] project which is about the creation of social telematic networks is taking place now a day, and generally these telematic networks have been more successful than the models advocated by technological determinism. In Venezuela such projects are found such as The ASES Group of Venezuela; Complementary education programs; Casa de los Niños El Papagayo; Casa de los Niños Nayivis Rios; Fundación Centro El Portal who took us into this Telematics Network Project Consortium The Silsa-The Moran. The draft Community Telematics Networks in Venezuela started in July 2000 jointly by the Network of Community Centers of the Ateneo de Caracas and the civil association Colombbus [2] de France, taking vision as the creation and strengthening the socio-cultural community networks, building up the use of information technology and communication (specifically the resources offered by the network of networks or the Internet) for more low-income communities in Venezuela. All this in response to a series of diagnostic research developed since 1997 that heading pregnancy and support initiative for the exchange and coordination between groups and organizations socio-cultural cooperation with local roots and community, thus promote, strengthen and enhance Community Initiatives for the management and socio-cultural co-management of projects to boost civic participation and the development of local power through networks of social exchange.

The community began to organize in a civil association, which aims to design and implement a project that allows count on infrastructure services and communal equipment, as well as strengthen their capacities for participation and organization. The organized community has favored Partnerships with municipal, regional, national, Private, Public and International entities.

This research is mainly aimed at establishing social transformation of the Community Network Telematics The Silsa-The Moran in training courses in the area of Information Technology as an engine for strengthening the community organization, through various aspects, such as: recognition through the use of

such networks exchange information, knowledge and successful experiences in the community Silsa-Moran; assessment of improving the quality of life of the community Silsa-Moran for the use of telematic networks and determining the benefits of the use of such networks Silsa-The Moran.

This document is organized as follows: in paragraph two it is the mentioned the emergence of such networks in Venezuela, in the third one explaining the objectives and parameters of the investigation are explained, in the fourth the methodology developed, in the five the findings of the investigation and paragraph six the advances are presented.

2. Telematic Networks in Venezuela

According to [3] has been demonstrated experimentally that the Internet virtual communities generate social, interpersonal relationships and networks of human relationships. That is why, in 1998 the Ateneo de Caracas, a Venezuelan non-governmental cultural institution, began its draft Network Community Centers, with the project "Network of Community Centers (RCC). This project, as mentioned in [4] aims to integrate the populations of the districts, previously organized in communities (associations, groups of individuals, libraries, cooperatives...), by cultural or social projects in order to lessen the deficit Opening of these stocks and communication among themselves, caused in part by planning deficiencies, and lack of public infrastructure. The "Network of Community Centers" then begins to create this network of links between communities and weave them. However, the project promoters face a major obstacle: the difficult communication between these communities and therefore difficult to manage projects involving several of them.

3. Objective and Variables

One of the goals set forth before performing this study was to understand TICs in Latin America, from the perspective of "Social Computing", which is why we focus on conducting a study of such networks in Venezuela, specifically in The Consortium The Silsa-Moran, a community located west of Caracas, made up of people of low social class, interested in improving their quality of life through the use and application of TICs.

The objectives and the variables of the study are considered, taking the methodology aspects [5]:

A. Main Objective

To Establish social transformation of the Community Network Telematics La Silsa-La Moran in training courses in the area of computer science as an engine for strengthening the community organization.

B. Specific Objectives

- 1) To recognize through the use of such networks exchange information, knowledge and successful experiences in the community La Silsa-La Moran
- 2) To evaluate improving the quality of life of the community La Silsa-La Moran for the use of telematic networks
- 3) To determine advantages of the use of such networks La Silsa-La Moran

C. Variables

To research two variables are defined: assessing such networks, and The Consortium La Silsa – La Moran, which are defined in Table 1

Table 1. Variables Definition

Variables	Conceptual Definition	Operacional Definition
Evaluation of existing networks Telematics	To estimate the performance of a set of computers connected together, which aims to exchange information on any particular activity, applying to turn telecommunications technologies and computer, for long distance transmission of such information so computed.	To know the results of a project that was aimed at the interconnection of a set of computers, for exchanging information between communities, using telecommunications and information technology
Consortium La Silsa-La Moran	Civil associations nonprofit, which is in the community of La Silsa-La Moran to enable physically and socially in this community	Community chosen to conduct the assessment of the telematics network presented in it.

The first variable is set because it presents a number of characteristics, according to their usage that can be measured, for example: using the Internet, use email, informative billboards, electronic commerce, and

distance education, among others. And the second one establishes, with the aim of assessing, the impact that network brings to the community under study, among the qualities that can be measured: E-Mail, Hours of Internet access and training courses

1) Evaluation of such telematic networks

a) Concept Definition

To estimate the performance of a set of computers connected together, which aims to exchange information on any particular activity, applying to turn telecommunications technologies and computer, for long-distance transmission of such information so computed

b) Operational Definition

To Know the results of a project that was aimed at the interconnection of a set of computer equipment for the exchange of information between communities, using telecommunications and informatics

2) The Consortium La Silsa-La Moran

a) Concept Definition

Civil associations nonprofit, which is in the community of La Silsa-La Moran to enable physically and socially in this community

b) Operational Definition

Community chosen to conduct the assessment of the telematics network presented in it

4. Methodology applied

The method of management Telematic networks was used in Venezuela, proposed by [6], to take into account the factors involved in the possibility of promoting cooperation environments and / or compromise between those involved in the projects. The method is explained as follows:

A. To characterize the institution in which it is promoting the project to study telematic

La Silsa-La Moran is a community located west of Caracas made up of low social class, which emerged from the demise of many homes and residents due to landslides caused by Hurricane Brett in the 1,993. It has a population of approximately 20,000 people and is divided into four sectors are: La cañonera, La Acequia, Los Pinos and Los Malabares .

Then, in 2000 it was legally established the nonprofit Civilian Association Community La Silsa-La Moran, and with the objective of integrating the families

residing in the neighborhood interested in participating and actively organizing and solidarity for integral development, sustained and sustainable from its habitat, through specific projects and their association with the Consortium Social La Silsa-La Moran

On the same hand, the consortium La Silsa-La Moran is a nonprofit civil association that consists of four units and whose role focuses on the physical and social empowerment of the community. The units are: Unit for Social and Administrative Accompaniment which represents the People's Development Foundation (FUDEP), Unit Training Community, the civil association which represents the Mother Carmen Sallés, Unity Project and the execution of works which represents the construction and KUKENAM Unit Organization and the Community involvement which also represents the civic association Community La Silsa-La Moran

The primary objective of the consortium is "to develop programs that will lead to improve social conditions, education, health and general welfare of families, to try to form a community of solidarity and fraternal, which gradually uncover and live human and Christians values and seek and find solutions to their individual and collective problems ", the proposals are:

- 1) To propose training courses for computer and the Internet to the people of these communities from disadvantaged neighborhoods.
- 2) To create a network linking community centers with each other, in order to improve the exchange of information between these centers.
- 3) To support and introduce projects established by the communities.
- 4) To propose or pursue partnerships with companies or institutions wishing linked to this initiative.

To accomplish all their aims, they have the public and private companies, among its benefactors such as: Fine-tune systems, CANTV (National Telephone Company Limited Venezuelan), Embassy of France, Lucent Technologies, among others

B. Characterize the structure of the institution socio telematics

The draft telematics within the consortium, is located in the civic associations Community, which has a representative of the draft Networks Telematics, in which the primary objective of the use of information technology is the training of the inhabitants of the

community to contribute to the progressive improvement of the quality of life. On the technical side, has twelve Pentium III computers, which are not networked, hence, all applications must be set locally; preventive maintenance is performed by a technician from the community, which also is in charge of dictation of the courses.

Among the advantages it brings to the organization carry out the project telematic is:

- 1) The momentum of leadership training, community managers, youth and children belonging to popular urban and rural communities.
- 2) Emphasize the use of the Internet and the main office tools, for use of personal computers.
- 3) To encourage the deepening of knowledge in these areas, as defined in each community for the contents of their projects, which will be used in developing Web pages that allow, those involved in them, project work, programming and products of each local experience

C. Characterized the technical project of goods and services on Internet

In this aspect it is mentioned that actors responsible for the project, that is the coordinator of the network within the consortium and the general coordinator of Venezuelan centers should ensure compliance with the aim of the project, training of qualified personnel and the activation of computer centers.

In addition, the telematics network understanding needs to automate and streamline the processes and activities of community support wants to form a team developing creative expert and information systems, working in turn, with actors who understand their needs and strategies to meet development goals.

- 1) Develop draft development plan, organize content and information, help develop goals short and long term, handle reports and surveys to measure service utilization.
- 2) Training in handling and use of the Internet.
- 3) To communicate with other communities.
- 4) To provide support to the activities of community development through problem-solving technology (networks, hardware and software).
- 5) To develop programs that lead for improving social conditions, education, health and general welfare of families, to try to form a community of solidarity and fraternal which gradually uncover and live human Christians values and may seek a solution to individual and collective problems.

D. Characterized the technical project of goods and services on Internet

To see how they are carried out by the management and coordination of the project it is conducted an interview with the coordinator within the consortium, which is analyzed and summarized in the following paragraphs:

- 1) They have links with communities Coche, Petare, The Guarataro, part of the Pastora, Trujillo, Cojedes and Pedregal in Chacao.
- 2) We offer courses in office, handling Internet, repair microcomputers, with the cooperation of other communities.
- 3) They have the support of private companies Procter & Gamble and Coca-Cola, in which young people who are trained will make their internship there, and some have been working on.
- 4) We managed endowments across benefactors.
- 5) It encourages training to young people and single mothers.
- 6) Are established economic exchanges, cultural and technological achievements with other communities are established
- 7) The community is currently working with CANTV for the installation of Internet service in the community.
- 8) The greatest desire of management is that everyone in the community improves their quality of life and enables it to achieve better employment opportunities.

E. Characterization practices, motivations and expectations of the actors Interviewed regard to the impact of the project (Culture telematics)

1. Practice

a) To teach courses:

- They program hours duration of the course.
- They locate the physical structure to use, generally is in a room allocated to the community within the school.
- They Conduct an inventory of how many computers have for dictation of courses and how many participants.
- They schedules, as are only two instructors, usually conducted in the mornings and afternoons.
- If the course is not in the area, plan how many youths are in the ability (rather than the entire economic attend to other communities).
- Public through print ads courses in school and through links to other communities.

b) To manage the network, the coordinator within the Consortium:

- Responsible for the dissemination of everything that happens in the network.
- Send communications to public and private entities.
- Attend quarterly meetings that they are convened with the General Coordinator of the Network of telecenters Venezuela.

2. Motivations

- The coordinator of the network within the consortium, working to improve the quality of life of people in their community.
- Their work makes it ad honored.

3. Expectations

a) To improve the quality of life of their community.

5. Conclusions

- We observe that the main actors and beneficiaries are the same individuals who form a community.
- The technology used environments presents flexible, user-friendly and understanding.
- Generate the necessary incentives, so that through technology, exchanging information and experiences, resulting in learning process supportive and collaborative.
- It gives continuity to the actions implemented through the establishment of specialized centers of support, until it generates a plan for self-management.
- Appropriate instruments are used for monitoring, control and evaluation of results guarantors of the process implemented.
- It generates conditions conducive trigger processes of social progress and innovation precursor of better sanitary conditions for the welfare of the population.

Finally we can conclude "... enhance the capacity of self-organization, transforming a community inanimate, segmented by sectoral interests, perceptive little identity of its territorial and ultimately passive, in another organized, cohesive, well aware of the identity society - region, able to mobilize political projects after collective, that is capable of becoming a subject of their own development".[7]

Assuming the recommendations of an japanese sociologist who has studied the impact of technology information society, the ideal from a

perspective that will stimulate the potential of social transformation of telematics, which is in a society networks can coexist with different styles managerial, on interest, and end users; would therefore necessary to combine units commercial information with the government and Community, so that, with a focus socio were could guide the uses of technology towards social innovation [8].

6. Advances

- The Community currently has benefited more than 500 people in the use of computer
- Telematica network currently has 16 teams and a laboratory for additional pre-school children with 10 computers which allow children to initiate the ages of 3 to 6 years in the use of computers.
- Alike are being developed action plans to enable the community work of university students in the training of ICT to communities that so requires.

So, tanking into account a japanese scholar who has studied the impact of information technologies on society since a perspective that propels the possibility of a social transformation in telematics, we can conclude society could live together with different nets and with different management styles in terms of goals, ways and users. It would necessary to combine the efforts of the community of commerce and of the government aimed at with socio technical approach we can direct the uses the technology toward a social innovation [8] .

7. References

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