

Election Hackathon notes (Mozilla Festival)

Mozilla Festival, November 2012

Attendees: Linda Kamau, Heather Leson

<http://mozillafestival.org/>

<http://mozillafestival.org/schedule/sessions/902-election-hacking-with-opennews/>

Problems:

Diversity of devices connected on demand

- feature/smart
- all different screens
- SMS, WAP

Lots of info

- geolocation
- Accessibility of info
- designing for diversity
- mobile sites/apps

Solutions

- Live information
- Responsiveness
- SMS
- WAP
- Geolocation
- screen reader for everyone
- your robot friend.ambient, valet

Outreach

Paper First

Churches, gathering places

Traditional media

SMS conversation

Where are you?.. I am in Nairobi

Here is your polling station... xxxx

Challenges:

1. SMS/USSD:

- design conversation/interaction
- account for typing errors
- cost

2. Mobile Web

- good device recognition a must
- design for low bandwidth connections (no rd)
- offer offline if browser allows
- geolocate information if browsers allow

3. Overarching

- 42 dialects, there is a limit to English and Swahili
- cost of SMS/Data
- gathering and presentation of lots of data
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How Polling traditionally works? Who are you voting for? What are their positions? How do I register? What can I vote