AT-INFO-MAP

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What is SAFOD

- Formed in 1986 by disabled people for disabled people as a federation of Disabled Peoples Organizations (DPOs).

- Leading disability-focused network.

- Engaged in coordination of activities of DPOs in Southern Africa.

- Strong presence in 10 countries.

- Coordinate our programs and activities through our national affiliates.

About AT-INFO-MAP

- AT-Info-Map Project stands for Assistive Technology Information Mapping project (AT-Info-Map).

- Project awarded by Google Impact Challenge – *'big ideas that will use technology to expand opportunity and independence for people with disabilities'.*

  - Technology-based solutions
  - High risk/high impact
  - List of grants funded https://www.google.org/impactchallenge/disabilities/grants.html

AT-INFO-MAP: Project Vision

Aim: Map the availability of different types of assistive technology in Southern Africa.

Why?

☐ To connect persons with disabilities to AT available

☐ To increase availability of appropriate AT

What is the project doing?

- The project is currently capturing, organizing, and mapping availability of AT with a mobile data system called CommCare.

- Through this mobile data system, developed by our partner Dimagi, we aim to inform AT designers, producers, service providers, and policymakers about the local availability of AT.

- So that we can influence the increase in access to AT for people with disabilities

Project Team/Roles

SAFOD: Lead implementing partner

DIMAGI: CommCare design, testing and training

UW: Fiscal management, coordination, liaison with Google.org

AfriNEAD: Monitoring and evaluation

How did this project get started?

- ☐ Lack of awareness of what AT is available

- ☐ DPOs and people they serve were not sure how to access AT in southern Africa

- ☐ Inadequate availability of low-cost and appropriate AT in southern Africa

What solutions are we working on?

- AT-Info-Map
  - Develop an app that collects and provides information about available AT
  - Development of the web-based version of the database (https://assistivetechmap.org/)
- Education and awareness raising
  - What is AT?
  - How do people with disabilities benefits from AT?

Scope of AT-Info-Map

SAFOD and national DPO affiliates in 10 countries in southern Africa

- Pilot: Botswana in YR 1 – March 2016-March 2017
- Scale up in YR 2 and 3: Angola, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Swaziland, South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Process of App development

- Iterative process from the ground up to identify a App solution that will be useful and used
- Ensure App complements other AT information available
- Develop different versions of App and gather feedback to make modifications

Process of App development

☐ Through this iterative process, we have conducted feedback sessions with various stakeholders.

☐ There some issues that came up which CommCare could not address:

  ◻ Removal of a code/barcode that let people to install or login into the app after it's installed

  ◻ The need to ensure it runs on both Android and IOs

Where we are at?

- We have now engaged a different app developer who is developing a new app that takes into consideration almost all the feedback we got, including removal of installation code and one that will also run on IOs.

- The app is still in test mode and expected to be live on Google Play by Feb 28th.

- Coincidentally, that is the date the contract with Dimagi expires.

Where we are at?

- My colleague, Louisa, will quickly present the app, plus the web-based version of the database.

- Everyone is welcome to download and try the test version of app before the final version goes lives next week, together with the web database.

Questions and Feedback?

- Meanwhile, if you have questions about the project, or the app or web database, feel free to contact us:

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