

## Technology and Global Development Fall 2007

### *Participatory Research & Development Homework*

*Assigned: September 12, 2007*

*Due: September 26, 2007*

Submit homework to the “Participatory Homework” assignment in [Blackboard](#)  
(please do **not** submit to the general drop-box)

This assignment has three parts.

#### **Assignment Part One**

Assume you are going to be part of a development project in Trincomalee, Sri Lanka. What cultural, demographic, development-related, and economic information would you want to know about Sri Lanka generally, and Trincomalee in particular, ahead of time? Where would you find it? You don't need to report your findings, but you need to tell us what information you would collect and where you would look for it.

Some hints: 1) You should start by looking at the CIA World Fact Book and recent Human Development Reports (if you don't know where to find these resources, please use the search engine of your choice to find them). Because of the recent tsunami, there is also a lot of information about Sri Lanka available on the internet (but you need to think about what sources are trustworthy); 2) remember that you are going to be working with a wide variety of *people* in addition to technology.

Your answer to Part One should be one page maximum.

#### **Assignment Part Two**

For the following 3 scenarios:

- 1) Geographically focused: You would like to make a positive impact in Trincomalee, Sri Lanka.
- 2) Problem focused: You would like to improve the clearing of land mines (anywhere in the world).
- 3) Technology focused: You would like to test a specific technology (e.g. a robot, or a sensing device) you have developed that you think would improve clearing land mines.

Assume that you have won the ICTD Fellowship that comes with \$100K/year for 3 years to support the application of technology in development.

For each of the 3 scenarios, give a preliminary plan for the first 6 months of using your Fellowship to pursue the goal for the scenario. We are not asking for you to plan out the full 3 years, only how you would begin the first 6 months.

In crafting your plan, consider all relevant participatory steps we have discussed in class. Each plan should be described in prose and/or outline of about a half to two-thirds page. Be as specific and detailed as you can in that space

### **Assignment Part Three**

Answer: How did your plans differ in the 3 scenarios, and why did they differ?

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**WHAT YOU WILL TURN IN:** You are expected to turn in a 4-5 page Microsoft Word document (12 point font, 1” margins, appropriately spaced). Submit homework to the “Participatory Homework” assignment in [Blackboard](#) (please do not submit to the general drop-box)

### **HELPFUL HINTS:**

Besides relying on the readings for class and the class discussions, it is strongly recommended that you browse the following two documents, and also take a look at the useful links section of the website:

Building Capacities of Local Self Governments, CSOs and the Domestic Business Sector to participate in the national PRS and MDG process in Macedonia Training Manual, Volume 2

<http://www.undp.org.mk/datacenter/publications/documents/Vol 2 NEEDS ASSESSMENT FOR VULENRABLE GROUPS.doc>

Field Guide for Participatory Needs Assessment:

<http://www.ifsp-srilanka.org/TP-06-pna-fieldguide.pdf>