

CWRC WEEKLY MEETING

FRIDAY 3RD AUGUST 2007

PRESENT

1. Dr. Dorothy Okello
2. Frank Kitumba
3. Edwin Mugume
4. Miriam Ssanyu Nalule
5. Emmanuel Miyingo
6. Peterson Mwesiga
7. Lillian Olule

VIA E-MAIL

1. Alberto Escudero
2. Louise Berthilson

Proceedings:

Introduction

Dr. Dorothy welcomed everyone for the meeting and was particularly happy that many members were around. She particularly welcomed Lillian Olule who was now recuperating from the accident, back to the CWRC meetings.

1. IT+46 Support

Frank got feedback from Louise on the issues raised during the exercise with the routing node problem relating to configuring the WPP54AG-6C access points to obtain a repeater. Frank emphasized that we have to depart from the original plan if we are to be able to implement the Kabale network. After consultation with DICTS, he was advised to enable NAT during the configurations. However, he emphasized that the problems resulting from the departure from the original test bed were to be tackled with IT+46 support in September.

2. Nakaseke (pending issue)

After review with all key parties – CWRC, IT+46, IDRC, it was agreed to withdraw from Nakaseke. To be taken up after the Kabale implementation is the issue of what to do with the equipment originally meant for Nakaseke.

Action

The CWRC team needs to devise a plan on how to use the Nakaseke equipment in Kabale or any other place for that matter. Frank to take the lead in this matter. However this matter will remain pending till the Kabale network implementation is completed.

3. Lira Deployment

The Lira deployment was successfully finished on July 6th 2007. A public copy of the Lira implementation documentation, in PDF form, was issued out and two comments have been received as per this meeting. The comments mainly point out the issue of IP ranges at the three partner sites.

Frank responded to the issue of IP ranges at the partner sites in Lira by informing the meeting that the same IP ranges for the wireless networks were used at the partner sites.

The students presented a preliminary report about security concerns relating to static or dynamic IP addresses which showed that there are no security concerns related to the type of IP addressing used. Upon input from Frank, the issue was to be considered further by the students and a report to be presented in two weeks.

Action

1. The CWRC trainees to further their research about security concerns related to IP addressing and present a report in two weeks. The report would also include the local availability of wireless components, the possibility of using a broadband service in Kabale and the booking costs for the September CWRC workshop.

4. Nabweru follow-up (pending issue)

The issue of no Internet access was followed up and Louise provided Edwin with options of what can be done with the wireless network in the meantime. Edwin shared the information with everyone concerned. In light of the above, Dr. Dorothy suggested that the team comes up with a needs assessment before actually setting up any system.

Action

1. The team to come up with a needs assessment for the case of Nabweru before planning to install a Content Management System there.

2. In the mean time, CWRC should continue to encourage Nabweru Telecentre to set up their internet by asking “how far?” more often.
3. CWRC staff and trainees to carry out a site survey of Nansana Town council premises after the Kabale deployment.

5. Kabale Deployment

The Kabale deployment will commence next week and two phases will be done due to the complexity of the network. Edwin has already got a contact person in Kabale after the untimely death of Adrian. The priority clients will be considered in the first phase. For the test bed, we still cannot get behind the routers of the client side. The radios at the client sites will be changed to client mode. The day of departure to Kabale was to be decided on by the CWRC team after all the technical aspects of implementation are dealt with by Frank.

Action

1. Frank to finalize the technical requirements in preparation for the Kabale trip.
2. Edwin to send to the contact person in Kabale a list of all the partner sites to be connected in the first phase.

6. September workshop preparation

The September workshop, which will include theoretical training and site visits, is scheduled for 3-14th September 2007. Louise and Alberto are due to arrive in Uganda on 1st September and depart on 15th September 2007. The training will require two tower PCs which are to be borrowed from FOT (Faculty of Technology) Computer Laboratory. However, since two ethernet interface ports are necessary, CWRC will buy two-port NICs for each PC. CWRC will look to book a venue at the Faculty of Food Science for theory sessions while the FOT Computer Lab will be booked for practical training.

A final decision is yet to be taken on the sites to be visited during the practical sessions of the workshop. However, Lira and Kabale are still on the table. Lira should be chosen because it was not visited during the first workshop and Kabale should be visited because its complexity will offer more opportunities for learning to the participants.

Action:

1. CWRC staff and trainees to suggest more topics of interest to be covered in the workshop from their experience with Lira and Nabweru.

2. CWRC is to procure two NICs for the workshop.
3. CWRC trainees to check the possibility of having internet connectivity in the conference room at the Faculty of Food Science for the workshop.
4. A decision to be taken on which sites to be visited during the workshop.

7. CWRC Website and Press Release

The blog on the CWRC website has been sorted out and members are now able to login and post their comments. Dr. Dorothy particularly encouraged CWRC trainees to blog at least once a week. A CWRC team has also prepared a press release that will be published and/or distributed on various mailing lists at the university. This is to make the general public especially the ICT community aware of CWRC and its activities.

Action:

1. The Lira profile to be posted to the mailing list and ask other telecentres to send in their profiles.

8. A.O.B:

Alberto and Louise would like to begin plans for the September workshop. It will include theoretical training and site visits where practical training is to be undertaken. It is due to take place from 3-14th September 2007. Louise also requested for many photos to be taken during implementation.

Dr. Dorothy suggested that after getting a profile for Nabweru, the information could be shared with the partners so as to get similar information from them for the website.

Action

1. Material on Lira telecentre for updating the website has been sent by Juma. The trainees have updated the website with the same.
2. Edwin to call Ivan about the profile for Nabweru.
3. Both in Lira and Nabweru, there is a problem of a partner's connectivity directly depending on another partner's power supply. This issue needs to be taken up for further action.
4. Dr. Dorothy is to formally welcome Eng. Odoi to the CWRC mailing list.

5. Frank recommended that 2 managers from each telecentre should be considered for the September workshop. This is to prevent disappointment to the project, incase one of the managers leaves the telecentre for some reason, with all the information and technical capacity, a situation that has been faced in Nabweru.