

Local e-gov/ITC Project in Senegal

Laboratoire des Technologies de l'Information - ESP - UCAD

RESEARCH-ACTION PILOT Project
Use of ITC in local-Governance process in SENEGAL

conducted by :
Laboratory of Data processing (LTI) of Polytechnic Higher School
(ESP) - University Cheikh Anta Diop of Dakar (UCAD).

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PARTNERS

- Alcatel France
- United Nations Fund for the Equipment/UNDP
 - IDRC Canada
- Agence de Régulation des Télécommunications et des Postes (ARTP)
 - Agence De l'Informatique de l'Etat (ADIE)

contacts : <http://lti.ucad.sn>

Site of project : <http://lti.ucad.sn/ticgouv>

Starting : March 2006

End of Survey and advocacy phase : October 2006

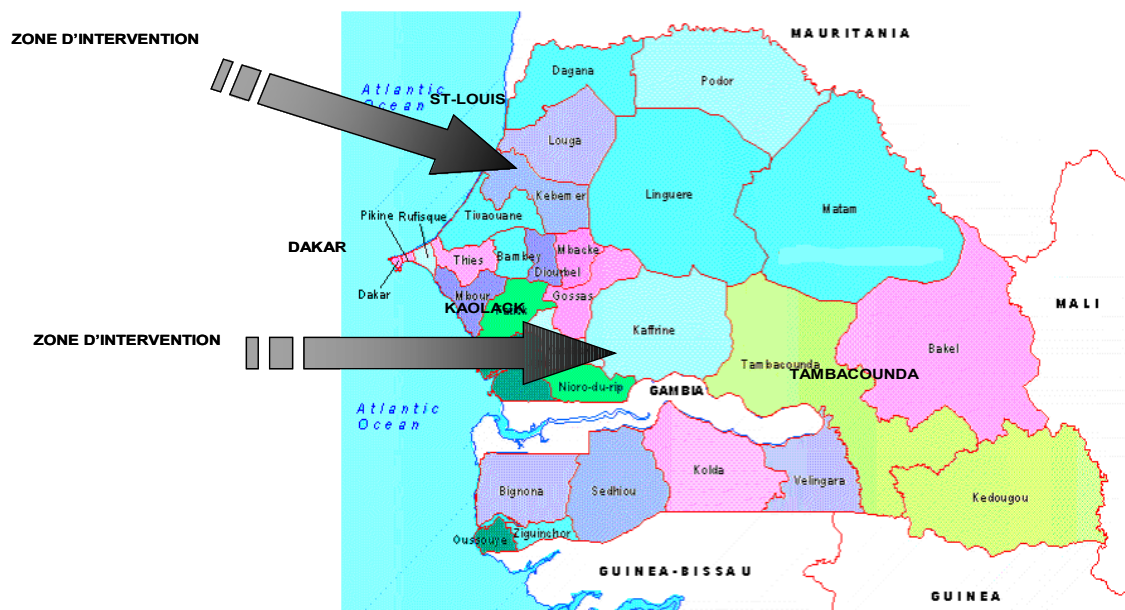
Methodology workshop : Beginning of December 2006

Duration : 30 Months

Synoptic of the project

The project consists in leading a pilot experiment with an aim of working out a strategy of integration of ITC applications and suitable services in the process of decentralization and local governance.

It will be deployed in eight (8) rural communities of two departments (Kaffrine and Kébémér) of Senegal, zones of intervention of the FENU, by a multi-field team of researchers of the Laboratory of data processing (LTI) of the Polytechnic Higher School of Dakar.



Technologies, services and applications (registers rural, tools for development of the budgets, interactive platform between the local communities and their citizens, inter alia), and also the modules of formation dedicated on their use will be introduced, developed, tested, validated by taking account of the contexts, of the needs and waitings of the communities.

This project enters within the general framework of the emergent African network LOGIN (Local Governance and ICTs Research Network for Africa). A synergy will be encouraged between the team of research of the project and that of the researchers implied in LOGIN.

The program of Support to decentralization in rural areas (PADMIR) is a program initiated by the Government of Senegal with the support of the Fund of Equipment of the United Nations (FENU/UNDP). However, in the experimental implementation of this first phase of the PADMIR, the TIC missed whereas they are regarded from now on as an essential element facilitating the changes, the innovation and the creativity to stimulate the economic development.

Steering committee :

composed of a representative of the CRDI, one of ALCATEL, one of the FENU, one of the University, one of the SONATEL (incumbent telco operator), representatives of the State, representatives of the Local councillors.

The role of this committee is to ensure the quality control of research while taking care of the implementation of the methodological approach, with the response to the concerns of the recipients, the respect of the calendar of the activities of the project, to comment on the reports/ratios and to contribute to the validation of the results of the project.

Expectations of the project

- To develop the institutional capacities of the Rural Councils, bodies of decision, keys in the process of decentralization, in order to help them to propel the local development. In other words to equip them for a better management of transferred competences (health, education, natural stock management and adjustment of space)
- To support the primary sector by the organization of the producers and actors and the support with diversification
- To improve the medical and school coverage in the zone
- To develop the access to drinking water
- To improve the prevention of pulmonary (in particular in the context of the VIH/SIDA), diseases endemic (paludism) and epidemic (cholera),
- To stimulate the internal communications and connections with outside
- To promote control citizen on the local government
- To promote creative activities of incomes for the local communities

Role of Research

An research-action relating to the integration of the TIC in the process of the local governance could make possible to document on the scientific point of view, the various strategies, practices and suitable behaviors necessary for the integration of the TIC in the process of local development.

That would make it possible to contribute to the debate in progress on the relevance of the introduction of the TIC into the poor zones from which initially the FENU would profit, into its future strategy of deployment of the PADMIR, in space, with a strong ITC component. These results should also profit, to the scientific community and actors of development in the development process of project ICT4D centered on the TIC.

This Research could contribute to the development of the new policies and strategies of integration of the TIC in the decentralized local communities and of the programmes of reinforcement of capacities of the actors of decentralization.

Development of contents improvement of the management of transferred competences: education, health, generations of incomes, etc land stock management, promotion of a control citizen on the management of the local businesses, creation of service and business districts, support with the local primary sector.

ISSUES

- How the TIC can improve they work of the local communities on the one hand to ensure the supply of:
 - local social services in the field educational, medical, agricultural, etc
 - administrative services: marital status, management of budget,
- Which are the changes necessary in the mode of organization of the local communities for the integration of the TIC in the device of the local governance ?
- Which strategies should make it possible the local communities to support the costs related to the introduction of the TIC?
- Which are the capacities necessary to ensure a successful introduction of the TIC into the management of the local communities?
- Which are the necessary changes in terms of policy and regulation so that the TIC are tools with serve the governance and the local development?

Specific objectives

- To work out, test and validate tools, applications and strategies of integration of the TIC in the process of local e-gov and local development.
- To diagnose in a participative way environment economic, technical, political and social of the rural communities into which the TIC will be introduced.
- To adapt and develop applications, services and communication networks administrative and information and citizens.
- To provide services and contents meeting the local needs for the rural communities and their population.
- To evaluate the impact of these technologies and services on the social and environmental economic development of the rural communities and of their population in term of process, changes in the modes of organization and management, the behaviors and the practices.
- To reinforce the capacities of the actors of the project, by the diffusion of contents of formation set of themes for a perpetuation of the assets and to contribute to the creation of new competences of research in TIC for the local gov

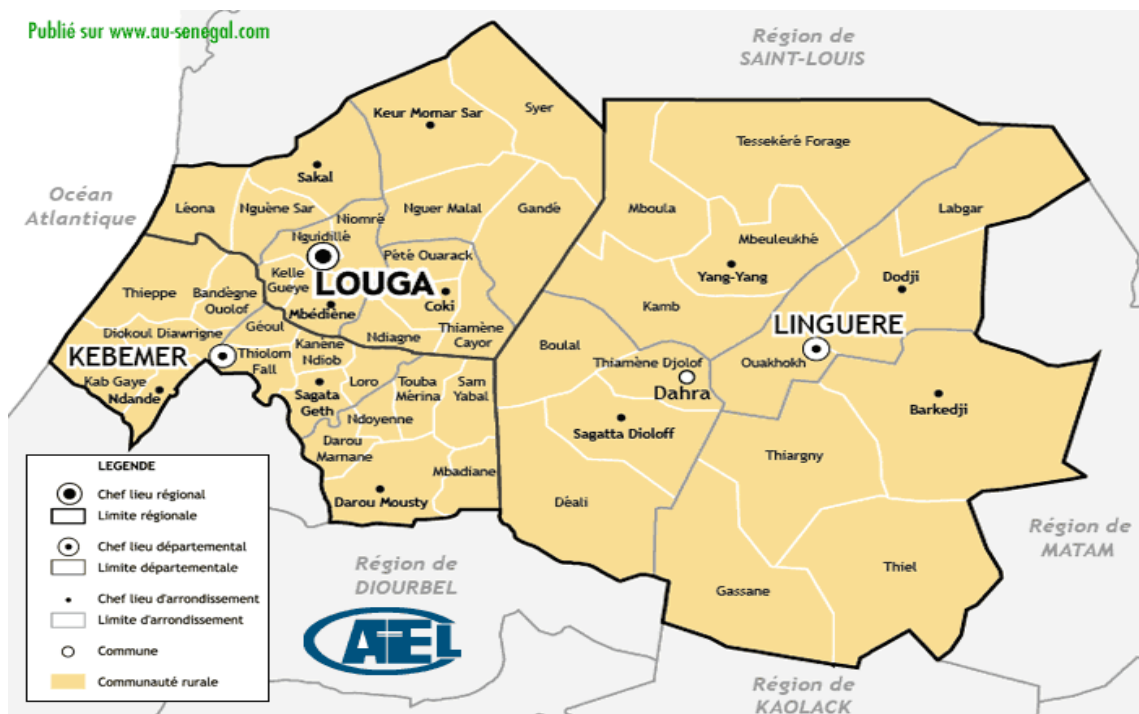
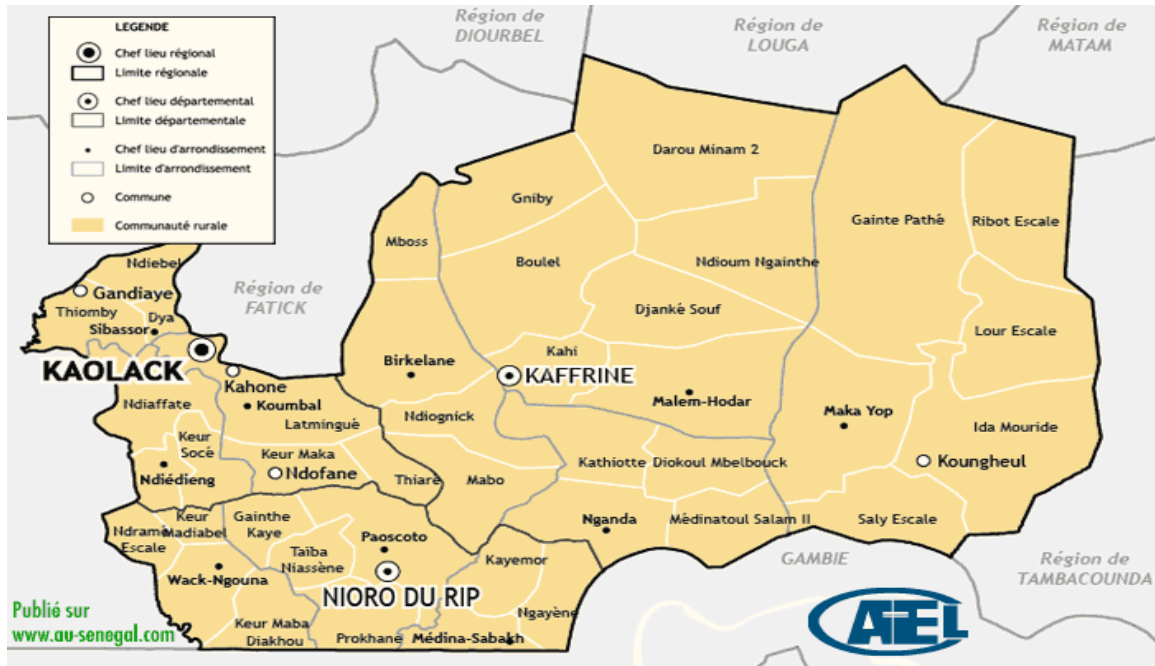
Documentation and diffusion of the results

To propose on the basis of pilot scheme a model multi-actors and a strategy allowing duplication with factors of optimal successes of the results obtained in the pilot phase

Localisation de l'intervention

This project will be deployed in eight (8) localities, HQ of community rural of two departments of Senegal:

- Darou Mousty, Thièppe, Kanène and Kébémér for the department of Kébémér,
- Boulèle, Malem Hodar, Ndiognick and Kaffrine for the department of Kaffrine.



Principal actors of the project

The actors will be inter alia:

- local communities and their representatives (local councillors, workers),
- citizens,
- experts in charge with the adaptation and the deployment with technologies of applications and services in the various contexts (Manobi, other consultants),
- the researchers (seniors and juniors) charged to lead the research-action.
- Administrative and territorial authorities, ground agents and experts of the PADMIR project (agroeconomists, appraisers, etc).

Objective 1

--> awaited Results phase 1

- To work out, test and validate tools, applications and strategies of integration of the TIC in the process of governorship and local development. With participative Diagnosis, characterization of the environment.
- A bibliographical study will be led and supplemented by an investigation of ground near the actors and recipients, to define waitings, the priority needs as regards access, of services and accompaniment of the communities and their population. It will come to supplement the preliminary study diagnosis led to prepare this present proposal for a research and will be organized according to following axes :
- State of the TIC (level of equipment, use and use) and needs for communication and information for the local communities and within the populations.
- Requirements in facilitation for the procedures and management for the communities.
- Needs for reinforcement of the institutional and organisational capacities
- Needs as regards support with the agricultural sector such as the production, marketing, the transformation, the management of the risks.
- Needs health schooling.
- Needs for local development and in particular for planning of the stock management hydrous and their accesses.
- Determination of the capacity and provision of the actors to support the cost of the innovation.
- Precision of economic fabric of the rural communities and their capacity to generate financial resources

Howto

A - Participative Diagnosis, characterization of the environment

- Identification of the principal types of data to be collected, determination of the variables and key indicators.
- Creation of support-test (form-test) of data acquisition, then validation near a sample of the population.
- Development of final supports for the data-gathering.
- Creation of electronic forms of seizure on PDA (Communicating Personal Assistant) to ensure the reliability of the data, to accelerate their increase, their analysis and restitution, like optimizing the follow-up of the results of the project.
- Data-gathering near homogeneous groups (local councillors, professional bodies, groupings of women, managers of infrastructures, farmers, teachers, pupils, tradesmen, personnel of health,...). Gone up in real time of the data in a data-processing base. Content analyses and statistical data processing with Genstat or SAS.
- Restitutions in real time of the results on an accessible space via Internet including a geographical representation of space concerned.
- Restitution in the form of seminars near various local actors and communities by the researchers.
- Participative definition of the priority actions, the criteria and indicators of performance of the project.

B - Development of IT services and deployment of communication and information networks for the administration and the citizens.

- Study of a plan ensuring the interconnection of the rural Communities via Internet and network GSM and identification of the local points of access.

C - Develop, adapt and provide applications, services and contents meeting the local needs for the rural communities and their population.

C1: A joint base of services will be placed initially at the disposal of the local communities so that they have an overall vision of their environment and actors present.

- A first group of services, provides by MANOBI, will be accessible through Internet and Mobile networks deployed in the action B and it will include:
 - A system of management of the plan of installation and

occupation of the grounds (at ends agricultural, commercial, of dwelling, infrastructures social,...). This one will constitute for the rural Communities the descriptive and interactive support of the management of their environment.

- The strategies developed by the local Communities to plan their development, to manage their receipts and to envisage their budget will be studied taking into consideration the use which they will make of this service in their decision-making.
- A system of assistance to the management of the groups of actors and their activities within the rural communities. The uses which the populations and the groups of actors of this device will make will make it possible to appreciate their level of appropriation of the TIC.
- A detailed attention will be given to the groups of female actors in order to ensure their active participation and to a level balanced in the project.

C2: A basket of electronic services and access to applications and software dealing with the requests, will be placed gradually at the disposal of the rural communities according to the following plan:

- Inventory of the existing services or applications in free access mode, mode ASP or paying mode, exploited in Senegal and elsewhere.
- Identify in this inventory the services meeting the needs expressed by the rural Communities.
- Define the complementary services to develop to answer the whole requests of the recipients.
- Deploy the services retained in each rural Community according to expressed needs'.
- Train the local trainers and of the picture framers to the use of the services.

C3: To work out a mechanism making possible to document the processes, constraints and challenges related to the implementation of these 2 options to give a base objective arbitration for the choice of one or the other option.

- The effects of this intervention will be studied by using the quantitative techniques supplemented by the qualitative, to identify behaviors and practical techniques.

Objective 2

To reinforce the capacities of the actors of the project, by the diffusion of contents of formation set of themes for a perpetuation of the assets and to contribute to the creation of new competences of research in TIC for the local governorship Formation traditional Formation: Local teacher training to the use of the TIC and training Courses applications of the potential user groups of punt forms technological within the local communities interactive Formation with the installation of a platform of formation set of themes integrating of the contents (helpdesk) on: The development of competences in particular for a group of actors of the local communities relatively techniques of use of the GPS for the parameter setting and the data-gathering which will feed the data bases for the development of the GI, with other tools such as the applications of marital status, the applications of budget of the local communities, etc the taking into account of dimension kind the management of the local communities the use of the TIC

Objective 3

To document and distribute the results

Objective 4

To propose on the basis of pilot scheme a model multistakeholders and a strategy allowing duplication with factors of optimal successes of the results obtained in the pilot phase

Agenda

CALENDRIER D'EXECUTION : Janvier 2006- Juin 2008 (en mois de l'année)

