Fast tracking digital dividends for women in CASA, IGF 2017

Blended learning with limited connectivity: mobile soft skills training in Afghanistan

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THE WHAT & WHY

Reach more students with limited resources: the existing face-to-face soft skills courses a) presented some attendance barriers for female students (mobility, restricted schedules) and b) were oversubscribed.

PROPOSED ACTION

Transition to a blended model with students completing interactive, video-based course modules on their phones prior to attending a condensed face-to-face course.
The challenges

01
SCRIPTING AND FILMING RELEVANT AND ENGAGING VIDEO CONTENT

02
LIMITED MONETARY RESOURCES & SMARTPHONE PENETRATION

03
LIMITED CONNECTIVITY AND INFRASTRUCTURE
What we did

01
PRODUCED RELEVANT AND ENGAGING CONTENT (CAST, GENDER, LANGUAGES)

02
REDUCED TOTAL COST OF OWNERSHIP (BYOD, BUILD ON EXISTING SYSTEMS, USE OPEN SOURCE AND OPEN STANDARDS)

03
PROVIDED OFFLINE, IN-APP PEER-TO-PEER CONTENT SHARING
Offline peer-to-peer sharing

Download the modules and complete them offline.

Share the app and modules offline with any device nearby.

Source: FHI 360/USWDP
Results so far...

Pre-Test Av. | Post-Test Av. | Gain
---|---|---

Source: FHI 360/USWDP
Sustainability

The word "sustainable" is unsustainable.

2036: "Sustainable" occurs an average of once per page.

2061: "Sustainable" occurs an average of once per sentence.

2109: All sentences are just the word "sustainable" repeated over and over.

**Source:** HTTPS://XKCD.COM/1007/
Scaleability

Open source using existing open standards

Source: https://xkcd.com/927/
Offline peer-to-peer sharing enables scaleability

It (a) results in no additional recurrent costs and (b) mitigates user data costs. Therefore, this solution, if able to validate the initial findings, promises cost-effectiveness at scale.
Try it out!

Search for "Mobile Soft Skills Training" in the Google Play Store or download the app via this link:

www.ustadmobile.com/uswdp
Questions or comments?

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Read more about the mobile soft skills training app here: