

# Mr. Kafui A. Prebbie oneVillage Foundation, Ghana



#### **Profile of Project Area**



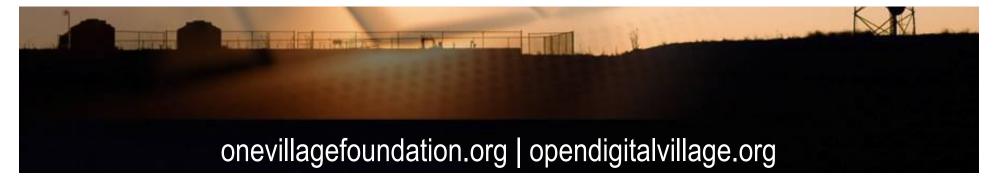
- We serve a coastal community in Ghana called Winneba
- Population over 50,000 made up of Educational Instns. & Govt. Agencies
  - University of Education, Winneba
  - Community Health & Police Training Schools
  - Senior High Schools & Junior High Schools
  - Municipal Assembly, Police, Prisons, Health, Education Directorates
- Power source: Stable and from the national hydro source
- ICTs: GSM, Analogue Phone, Radio stations, TV, Fax, etc.
- Income Levels: Low income levels
- Partner: Arrow Network Systems www.arrownetworks.net



#### **Site Selection**



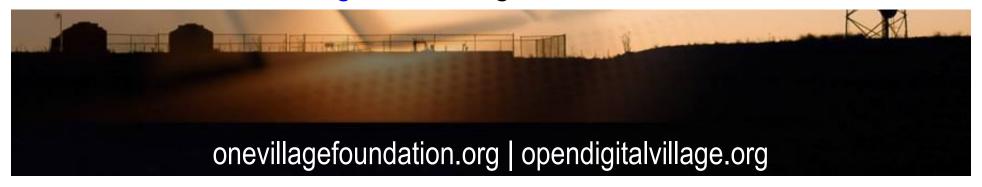
- Population's ICT Awareness: Largely literate with growing interest in knowledge in ICTs especially University Community
- ICT infrastructures: GSM, Analogue Phone, TV, WiFi, WiMax
- Needs assessment: Not thoroughly done and documented
  - Our free wireless broadcast has attracted a lot of people and statistics of visitors on our log shows increasing demand
- The Roles of Various Local Actors:
  - The Municipal Assembly, the Community Health Nurses, Hotels and Internet Cafe are connected to our network for Internet access at a fee. This shows conscious effort to increase access by stakeholders
  - WODiV is run as a with a social enterprise model



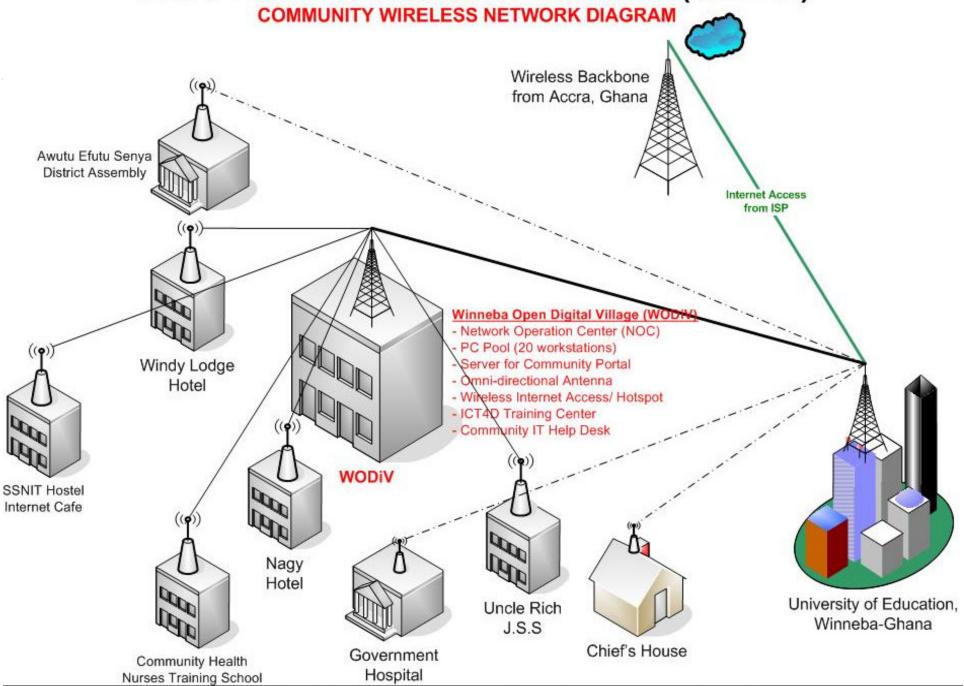
#### **Description of Project Network**



- The Technology Level
  - Wireless network: WiFi Point-to-point, Mesh
  - Power: 100 Ah Battery Back up
- Human Resource and Capacity
  - Highly skilled staff with IT Diplomas and First Degrees
- Financial
  - Grants and payments from subscribers: COL, DIIRWB
- Regulatory environment
  - WiFi is legal
- Wireless network diagram: Next Page



#### WINNEBA OPEN DIGITAL VILLAGE (WODIV)



#### **Business Models**



- Number of clients, running costs, income
  - Clients: Four (4) clients pay monthly
  - Hot Spot: Flat daily user fees & Internet Café at WODiV
  - Running Cost: USD 850 approx. monthly
  - Income: USD above USD 1000 monthly
- Do you recover costs?
  - Yes



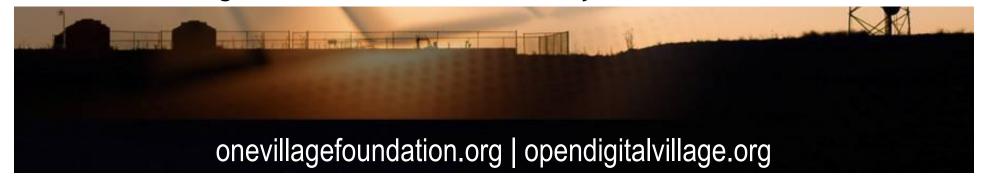
#### Business Models - Price lists for additional I T Services



#### **Challenges and Lessons Learned**



- Bandwidth Control & Management
  - Microtik Software for WiFi & Open Access for Mesh Hotspot
- Wired Network Billing
  - Cafezee Software
- Network Expansion
  - Limited Internet bandwidth & more hotspots with billing software.
- Challenges
  - Only 1Meg shared bandwidth from ISP with increasing demand
  - Open Source Billing software for wired and wireless/mesh
  - Establishing a more robust network security



#### Way Forward



- Phase 1: Completed 4 institutions with 1 hotspot
- Phase 2: Expanding the current network to cover the whole Winneba
- Phase 3: Set up a national network of Ghanaian Universities Project for the development of Digital Educational Content: GhARNet
- Phase 4: West African Sub-regional Gigabit network of NRENs called the Africa High Speed E-Content and Digital Repositories (AHEAD) Project.
  - Consortium being created; new members welcome



Way Forward: Phase 3 & 4



## African High Speed E-Content and Digital Repositories Network (AHEAD)

Ghana National Research Network (GhaRNet)

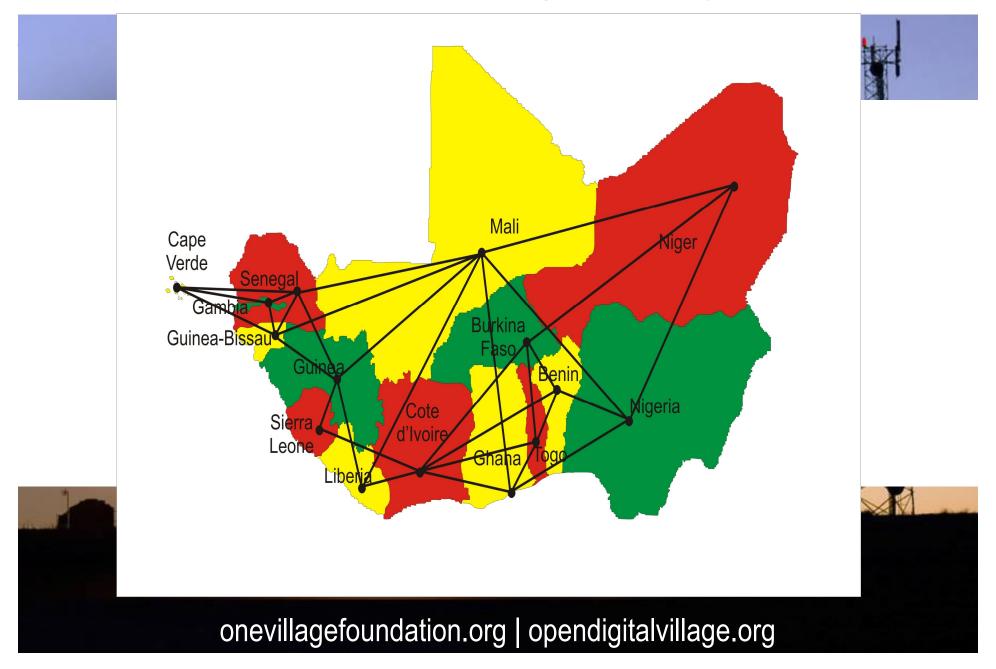
&
Multiple National Research Networks



#### Way Forward: Phase 3 - AHEAD, Ghana NRENs Gigabit Network



#### Way Forward: Phase 4 - AHEAD, Multiple NRENs Gigabit Network



#### What can I say to Meraka Institute, IDRC and You?



### **Thank You**

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