



7th HELINA Conference
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Health Informatics Capacity Development through South-South, North-South and South-North Collaboration: The INDEHELA Experience

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INDEHELA initiative

INDEHELA (**I**nformatics **D**evelopment for **H**ealth in **A**frica) is a long-term initiative to strengthen the capacity of the participating African higher education institutions to **contribute to the socio-economic and human development** in their countries, particularly in the **scientific field of Health Informatics (HI)** and the **practice of e-health**.

... by means of **international collaboration**.





INDEHELA partners and projects: Finland+Nigeria, 1989-2003

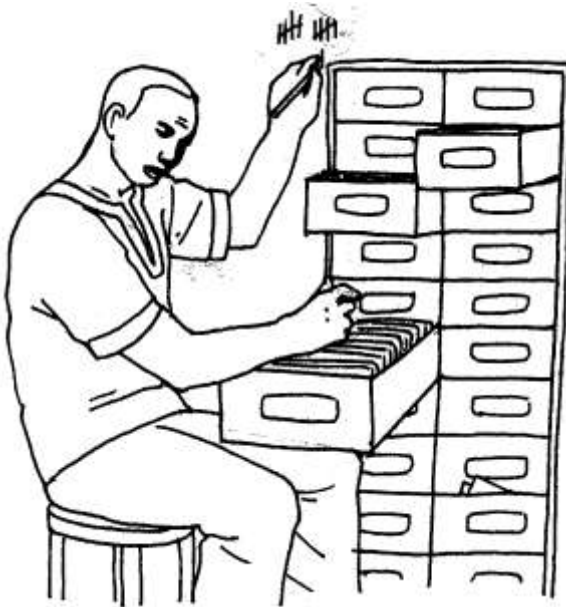


UNIVERSITY OF
EASTERN FINLAND

UEF-FI

OAU-NG

- MINPHIS (1989-): System devel
- INDEHELA-Methods (1998-2001):
Research / Academy of Finland





INDEHELA partners and projects: +Mozambique+South Africa, 2004-2008



UEM-MZ

CPUT-ZA

UEF-FI

OAU-NG

- MINPHIS (1989-): System devl
- INDEHELA-Methods (1998-2001):
Research / Academy of Finland

- INDEHELA-Context (2004-2007): Research / Academy of Finland



Cape Peninsula
University of Technology



Mikko Korpela

29/11/2011



INDEHELA partners and projects: +Savonia, 2009-2011

SUAS-FI

UEM-MZ

CPUT-ZA

UEF-FI

OAU-NG



SAVONIA

- MINPHIS (1989-): System devl
- INDEHELA-Methods (1998-2001):
Research / Academy of Finland

- INDEHELA-Context (2004-2007): Research / Academy of Finland

- INDEHELA-Education (2009-2011): Student and staff exchange / North-South-South pgm





INDEHELA-Education intensive courses



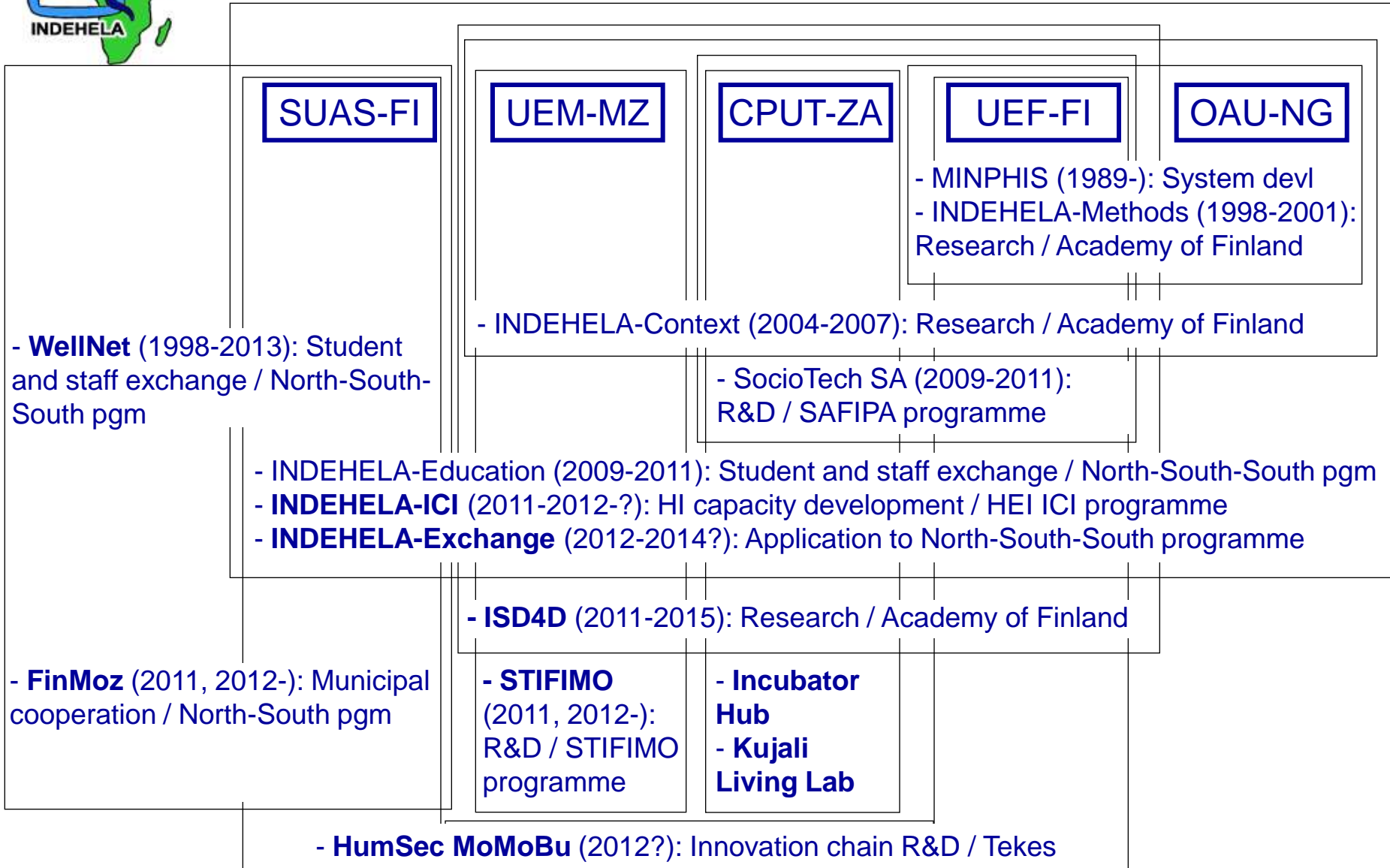
**Designing and
Implementing
Information Systems in
Health Care**



**Information Systems Analysis
and Design in Health Care**



INDEHELA partners and projects: now

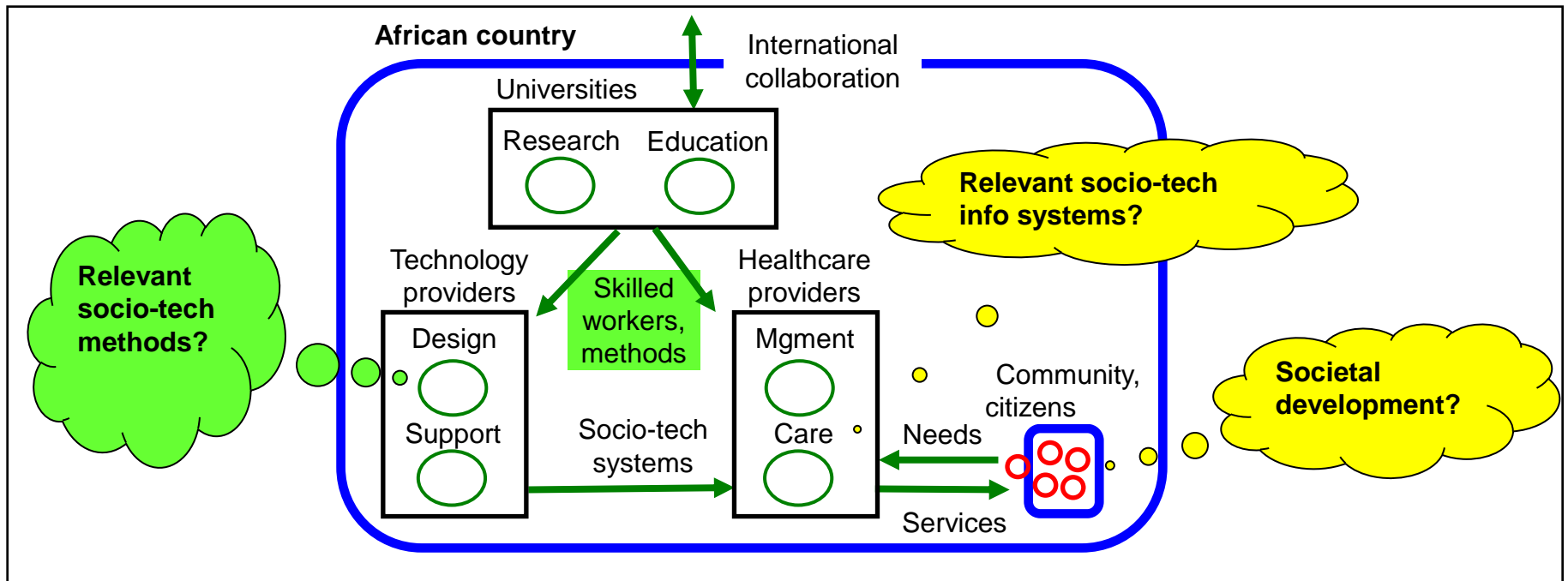




Current INDEHELA projects – 1 ISD4D research project

A Holistic Information Systems Development Approach for Societal Development

- Funding from the Academy of Finland for 4 years from Sept 2011
- 2 workshops per year, ZA and MZ alternating





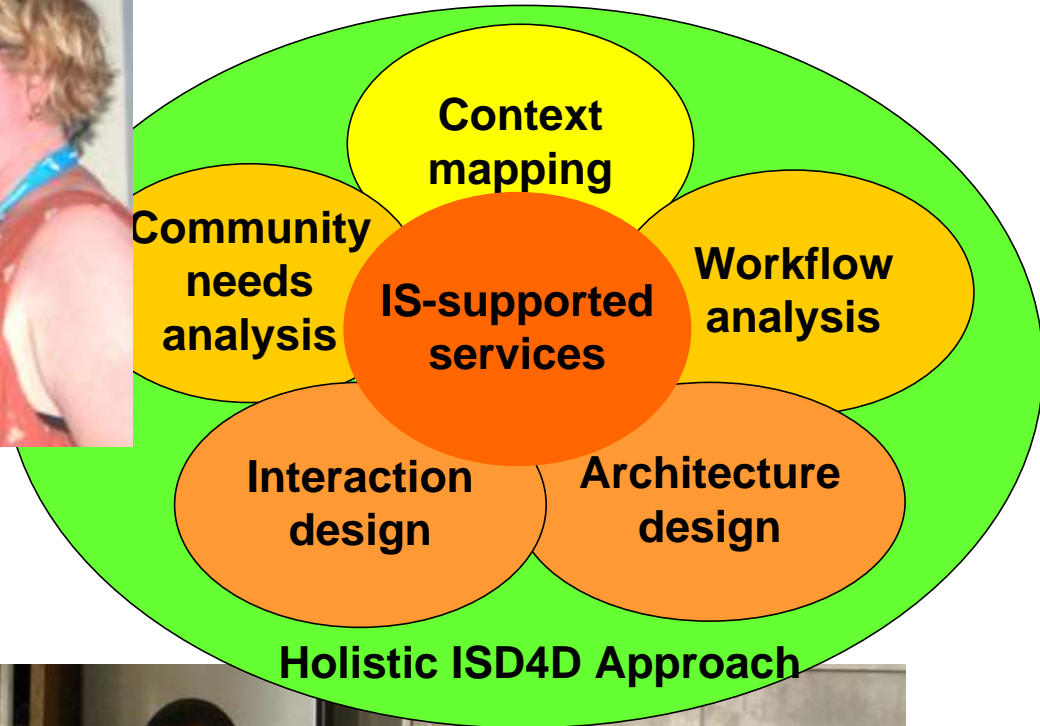
Objective

Develop a **comprehensive approach** (methodology) for the **analysis** and **design** of sustainable and scalable **socio-technical information systems** that promote **societal development** of local communities in varying developing-country contexts



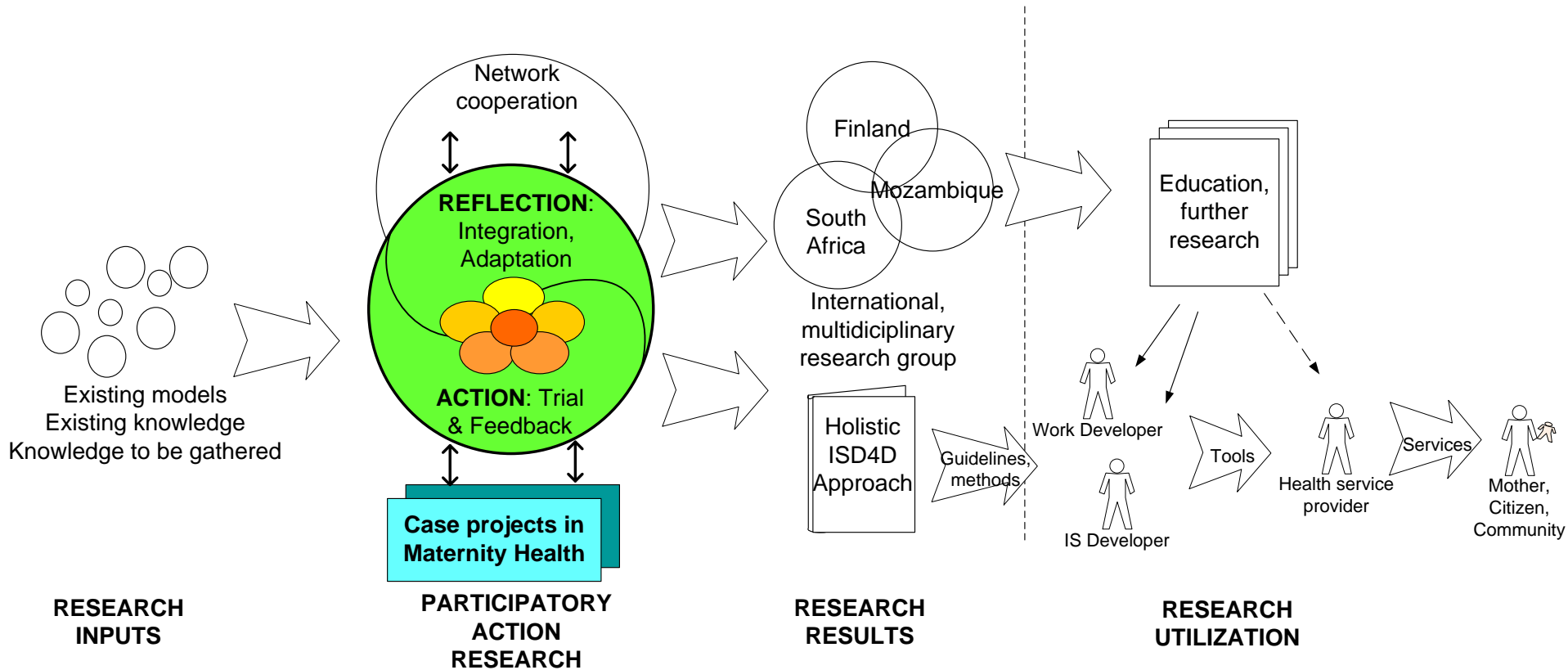


The holistic ISD4D approach





Research design





Action research in real-life cases





Current INDEHELA projects – 2

INDEHELA-ICI

INDEHELA-ICI: Institutional Collaboration Instrument for Informatics Development for Health in Africa

- Focuses on developing the capacities of three African HEIs in **Health Informatics and e-health education** in three areas:
 1. **Staff** development
 2. **Educational** capacity development
 3. **Administrative** capacity development.
- **Partners:** Finland: UEF and Savonia; Africa: OAU, UEM, CPUT
- **Expected timeframe:** 3-5 years (two funding periods)
- **Current funding:** 18 months (till end of 2012)



INDEHELA-ICI project, cont.

Expected results by end of 2012 (current funding):

- Staff development:
 - 6-10 junior and 3-5 senior academic staff have been identified
 - Each junior member with a feasible postgraduate degree plan / proposal
 - Supervisors appointed, African-Finnish co-supervision / mentoring groups
- Educational capacity development:
 - Each African partner HEI has the curriculum and a timed plan for implementing its Masters and/or certificate programme
 - First modules have been designed, the teaching / learning methods set, and at least one pilot module implemented in each African partner HEI
- Administrative capacity development:
 - Project Coordinator / Project Officer / Administrator with good organizing skills has been identified and employed in each African partner HEI
 - Legal and financial project administration practices created within each HEI and at the international level
 - Personal development plans approved for each project officer



INDEHELA-ICI project, cont.

Core activities required to achieve the results:
workshops at all African partner HEIs

1. OAU, Nigeria: September 2011
2. CPUT, South Africa: November 2011
3. OAU, Nigeria: February 2012
4. UEM, Mozambique: June 2012
5. OAU, Nigeria: November-December 2012

Senior experts from both African and European partners
Between workshops, **electronic communication**
(web site, email lists, skype meetings, skype lectures)

At OAU and UEM, **infrastructure development**, too



INDEHELA-ICI project, cont.





Discussion: Some key enablers and obstacles

- **A little bit of money** is a key enabler, to enable people travel to meet each other; big money not needed
- **Shared interest and purpose** is the key enabler
- **Loose group of projects** with same direction enabled specific funding for specific parts of the bigger picture
- Capacity develops by **doing**, supported by ability to **learn** from theories and other people – so a combination of **both action and research** is a key enabler
- **Differences between contexts** are an obvious obstacle that must be recognized, appreciated and overcome
- **Red tape** is an awful obstacle