

An Industry Lab's View of

# Partnerships with NGOs and Academia

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**TIER Workshop**

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# Outline

MSR India Intro and Update

Partnerships with NGOs

Partnerships with Academia

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# Microsoft Research India

Established January, 2005

## Seven research areas

- Algorithms
- Cryptography, Security & Applied Math
- Digital Geographics
- Mobility, Networks, and Systems
- Multilingual Systems
- Rigorous Software Engineering
- ***Technology for Emerging Markets***

## Contributions to Microsoft:

- MultiPoint, SMS Server, Virtual India

Currently ~55 full-time staff, growing

Collaborations with government, academia, industry, and NGOs in India

<http://research.microsoft.com/india>



Microsoft Research India  
Sadashivnagar, Bangalore

# Previous Projects

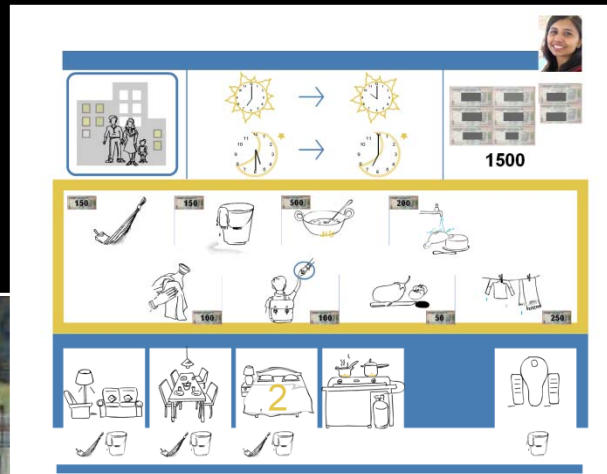


Warana Unwired

Mobiles and  
Microentrepreneurs



Technology for  
Microfinance



Text-Free UI



MultiPoint



Rural Kiosks



Digital StudyHall

# Recent Projects

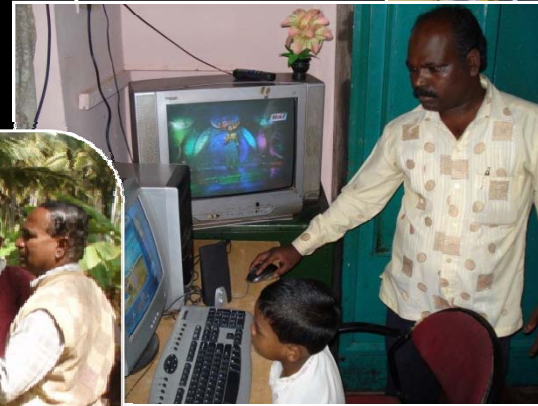
Mobile Banking



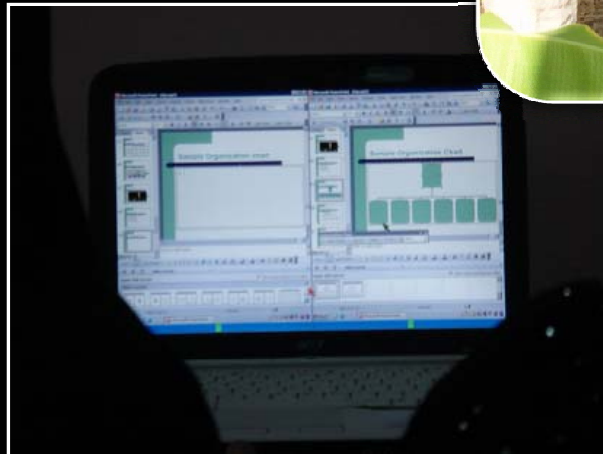
Kelsa+



Hope PC



Digital Green



Split Screen



PC+Projector

Featherweight Multimedia



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# Partnerships with Small NGOs



Learning about better agricultural practices  
(GREEN Foundation)

CLT India

- MultiPoint

Hope Foundation

- Split Screen

Warana Sugar Cooperative

- Warana Unwired

Stree Jagruti Samiti

- Text-free UI

Ujjivan

- Microfinance and technology

GREEN Foundation

- Digital Green

Sankara Eye Hospital

- Text-free education

Etc.

# Partnerships with Large NGOs

CGAP (microfinance)

- Design for mobile banking

IDRC (Canadian aid org.)

- Public access research

Gates Foundation (not Microsoft!)

- Consulting on ICT4D

Azim Premji Foundation (educ)

- MultiPoint, PC+Projector

PRADAN (rural development)

- Partner for Digital Green

Etc.

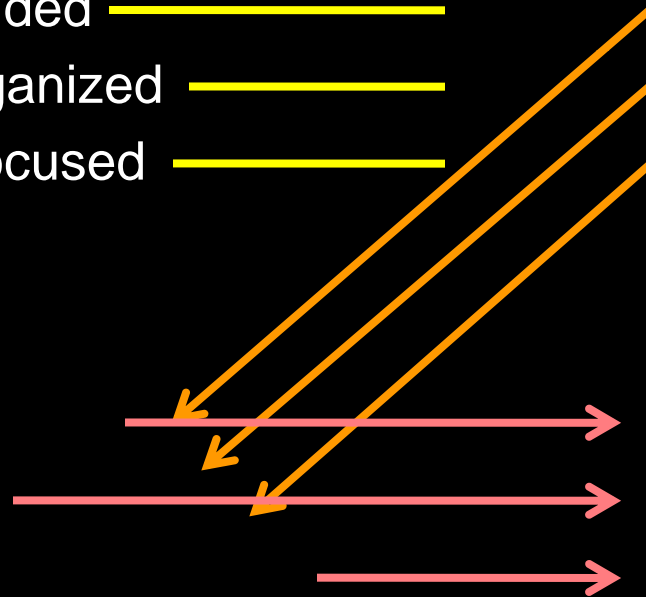


# Observations

## Pros

### – *Large NGOs*

- Well-funded \_\_\_\_\_
- Well-organized \_\_\_\_\_
- Scale-focused \_\_\_\_\_



*Partner with small NGOs for pilots; large NGOs for scale?*

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# Partnerships with Academia

## Conferences and other events

- E.g., ICTD

## Technical Advisory board

- Eric Brewer, Jitendra Malik

## Research funding

- E.g., research RFPs

## Fellowships

- E.g., PhD fellowship

## Visiting researchers

- E.g., Ravin Balakrishnan

## Roundtables, etc.

- E.g., ACM India task force



UC Berkeley, site of  
ICTD 2006

# Internships



50 interns so far in TEM

- North America : 40%
- Asia: 32%
  - India: 30%
- Europe: 20%
- Africa: 4%
- Middle East: 4%
  
- PhD candidates: 26%
  
- Men: 56%
- Women: 44%
  
- **Berkeley-affiliated: 14%**
- Other schools: IITs, BITS, DAIICT, IIITs, LUMS, Ashesi, MIT, CMU, UW, LSE, UCSD, Malta,...

# Brain Circulation

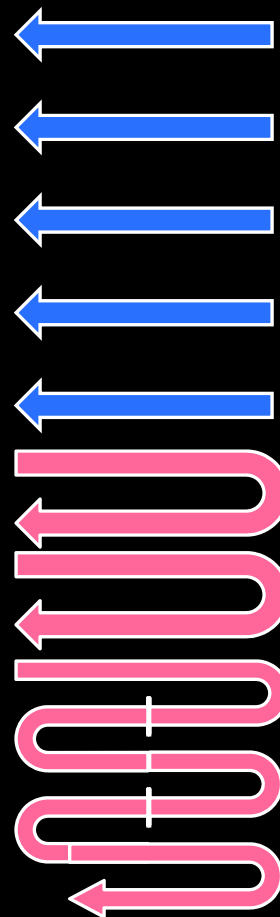
(With apologies to Anno)

## UC Berkeley

- *PhD candidate*
- *Professor*
- *PhD candidate*
- *MBA/MPH*
- *PhD candidate*
- Renee Kuriyan
- RJ Honicky
- Joyojeet Pal

## MSR India (TEM group)

- Janaki Srinivasan
- Tapan Parikh
- Kurtis Heimerl
- Paul Javid
- Rajesh Veeraraghavan
- *Research intern*
- *Research intern*
- *Research intern*



# Summary

New TEM research projects under way

Small NGOs make good partners, too.

Encourage brain circulation!



Photography in low-income communities  
(Udai Pawar, Nimmi Rangaswamy)

# Thank you!

<http://research.microsoft.com/research/tem>

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