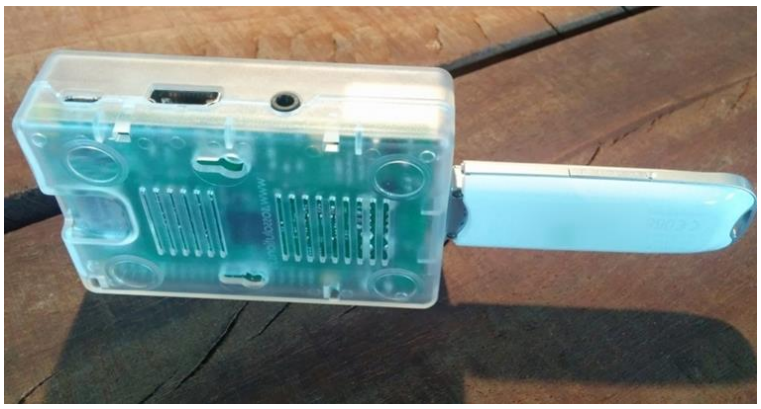
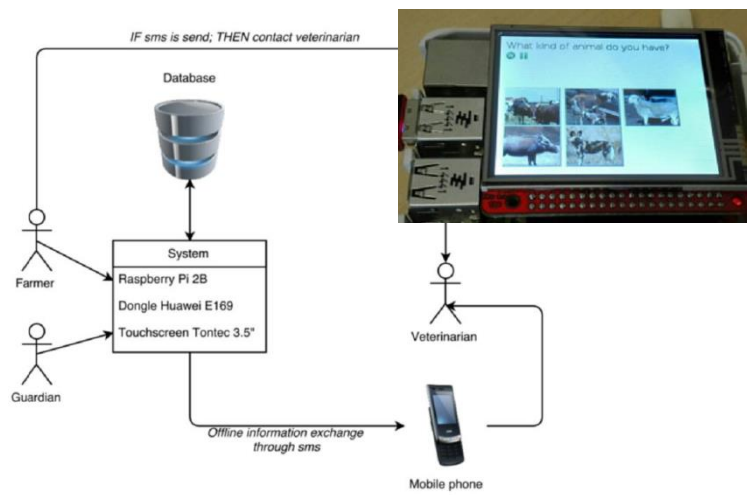
Kasadaka: a rapid prototyping platform for the rural poor



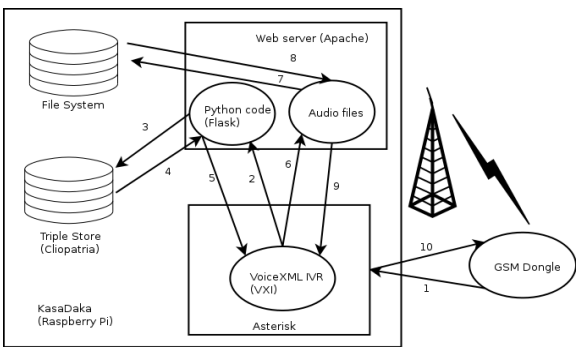
Farmers can access the diversity of informative services on Kasadaka through voice-based services by simply dialing into the system with their **first-generation mobile phones**. The information that the tool contains is focused on the local context and population, and enables farmers to **share their own knowledge** with others, thus stimulating their socio-economic development.

Contributions:

- Rapid-prototyping knowledge sharing tool
- Small, cheap and low-powered hardware
- Access to information through:
  - voice-, sms-based, visual or textual interfaces
  - the web or GSM network
- Linked Data triple store



Kasadaka is a **rapid prototyping platform** build on a Raspberry Pi computer, designed to enable knowledge sharing between farmers and experts in rural developing areas across several domains. The Raspberry Pi is **affordable, robust** and **easily replaceable**, which makes it the ideal hardware to be used in this context. The software is **open source** and enables **voice-based interaction**, enabling illiterate, marginalized people to make use of the system.



A number of use cases have already been translated into prototypical services. **DigiVet** is a voice-based veterinary service that enables farmers in diagnosing their livestock and bring them into contact with local veterinarians. Its aim is to remove the barrier that currently prevents farmers from timely visiting the veterinarian, in order to reduce livestock mortality. The voice-based service makes use of telephonic functionality, by automatically sending an SMS message with information on the symptoms of the livestock to a local veterinarian. He will then be informed about the health status of the animal.

HTTP://KASADAKA.COM

For more information about other VU-ICT4D initiatives: http://w4ra.org

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