



Internet Society

Zimbabwe Chapter

HUSTLE :INTERNET BASED INFORMAL JOB MARKET

Enabling young unemployed youths to continue to earn a living, despite Covid 19

BACKGROUND

Unemployment has been high in Zimbabwe for the past decade and greatly affect the youth. School leavers from high school and university has found regular job hard to attain. A recessing economy and dwindling employment opportunities in the formal sector has seen the youth resorting to the informal sector and casual jobs commonly referred to as 'piecework'. These has contributed greatly to income generation and sustaining households. These casual jobs range from weeding in fields and gardens to minor electrical repairs and satellite dish installations. However the advent of the Corona Virus pandemic has threatened these essential income generating jobs. Restrictions on movement and patrols by police has made it difficult for the youth to move around in search of these jobs. The jobs marketplace which has been disrupted with communication between labour suppliers and clients being cut. This has greatly impacted on food security and nutrition within households.

GOAL OF PROJECT

To create a mobile application which links the customers and the service providers for the casual jobs

HUSTLE

This web based platform is named Hustle, a street lingo for casual jobs, it has features whereby those with casual jobs which needs to be done post their jobs and labourers on the same platform can respond. This mobile platform compatible with android phones and acts as a virtual market place linking suppliers and consumers. It makes use of the internet and mobile network to connect the traders at the same time adhering to the lockdown restrictions.



The application will enable casual jobs such as weeding in fields, fetching water, tree cutting, minor home repairs and satellite dish repairs mainly done by male youths to be posted. This advert can be viewed by subscribers who able to respond and establish instant contact with the employers. Doing dishes, laundry, house cleaning, babysitting and hair plaiting are some of the female jobs which will be posted. Potential job seekers can also post their skills to attract attention of would be employers offers what they can do. The list of the jobs will constantly updated and managed by the application administrators.

OBJECTIVES

- To avail employment opportunities to youths doing informal jobs
- To link service providers and the market/consumers
- To combat hunger and malnutrition during the COVID 19 pandemic
- To reduce movements of people outside in search of work or workers.

POTENTIAL IMPACT

This mobile application was launched in Zengeza 3 Chitungwiza focusing on 1 000 houses which are within the 5km radius. Assuming that each household with has an average of 5 persons the expected beneficiaries will be 5000 persons. Of the 5000, 65% will be youth that is persons between the ages of 18 – 24. This will lead to creation of employment opportunities through linking the consumers and suppliers. This will lead to improved household incomes in a safe and non-contagious contact/interaction between customers and suppliers.