



## CUCSTorino2013

# *Imagining cultures of cooperation: universities networking to face the new development challenges*

III Congress of the Italian University Network for Development Cooperation (CUCS)  
Turin, 19-21 September 2013

**GEOGRAPHIES FOR PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION.  
MAPPING AND PREVENTING VIOLENCE AND POST-ELECTORAL  
DISORDERS IN NAIROBI SLUMS: AN ICT4D PARTICIPATIVE PROJECT**

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## The Project

A monitoring activity of Kenya presidential elections by using an open source crowdmap to prevent violence and disorders

## Where?

In Kibera, Mathare and Mukuru slums, Nairobi (Kenya).





## Monitoring elections in three slums of Nairobi: Kibera, Mathare and Mukuru

### **Kibera**

Population ranging from 235.000 to 1.200.000, depending on the source. It is the biggest Nairobi slum and a big recipient of local and international NGO projects.

### **Mathare**

Population around 500.000 people. Theater of violence between two gangs from Luo and Kikuyu's tribes in 2006.

### **Mukuru**

Home to over 600.000 people, is one of the poorest Nairobi slum.



# Ushahidi, the crowdmapping open source software



## The crowdmap history

- Non-profit **Kenyan** tech company
- A participatory mapping process: map made by **people** (crowd)
- Developed to map reports of **violence** after post-election fallout in 2008

## How does it works?



# Map Kibera



The initiative started in 2009 with Ground Truth Initiative, with a small grant from Jumpstart International that allowed them to create **the first digital map of Kibera**

**How?** Training a group of local youths in the use of an open source GPS tool: Open Street Map

## Projects

- **Mappers:** mapping project that uses Open Street Map
- **Voice of Kibera:** blogger and SMS reporting team that uses the Ushahidi platform to enable residents to text in reports on events in Kibera
- **Kibera News Network:** video maker who create documentaries about Kibera enhancing citizen journalism



# The Research

- How can a **crowdmapping project** work in a place like a slum and in a particular period like presidential elections?
- How the project may **involve** slum dwellers and **influence** them positively?
- What is the **background** of Map Kibera members and how they are integrated within the territory of the slum?
- Can this project be considered a successful ICT4D case study?



# Methodology

- Three months of fieldwork in Kibera and Mathare slums, Nairobi
- Semi-structured questionnaires to Map Kibera members
- Local NGO and CBO interviews
- Focus groups and participation to the organization daily activities
- Previous research on ICT4D and Kenya politic

# Map Kibera monitoring project

*Three working groups*

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ALMA UNIVERSITAS  
TAURINENSIS



## 1. Repoters

55 young volunteers from the slum sending reports from the field

7 video reporters shooting videos and taking pictures



## 2. SMS Team

2 people receiving and verifying the veridicity of the reports...

...and geolocating them into the map, available to everyone



## 3. Media monitoring Team

4 people editing the web site and blogs by monitoring the reports of the volunteers in the field and the mainstream media news



# Working in iHub in partnership with the Ushahidi staff during election days

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# The crowdmap of Map Kibera

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## VOICE of KIBERA

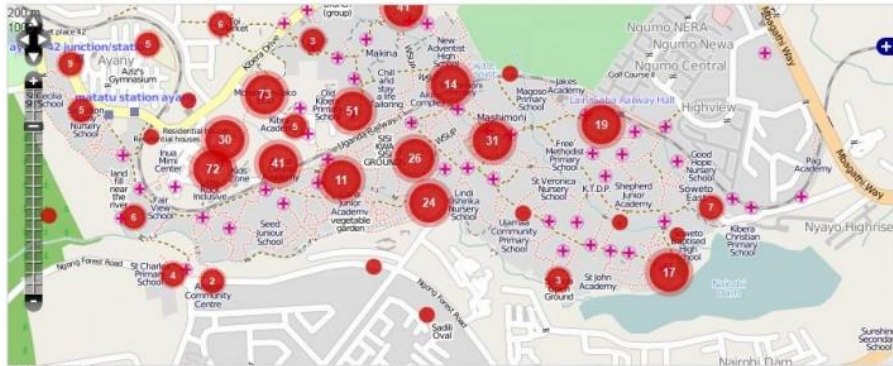


BONGA STORY YAKO

SHARE

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HOME
REPORTS
CONTACT US
ABOUT US
0738888330
SUBMIT A REPORT



Scale = 1 : 14K  
EPSG:900913  
36.78910, -1.30807

**CATEGORY FILTER**

- All Categories
- Events
- Media Contributors
- News
- Emergencies
- Issues
- Mathare
- People And Culture
- Talent In Kibera


**FEATURED REPORT**

**Dialog Medical Camp**

There is a medical camp in Laini-Saba today. The camp brings together Community Health Workers from all over Kibera to compete with others from different villages. Mashimoni Unit who won last years competition country wide are among the four competi...

Read More

**FEATURED PHOTOS**



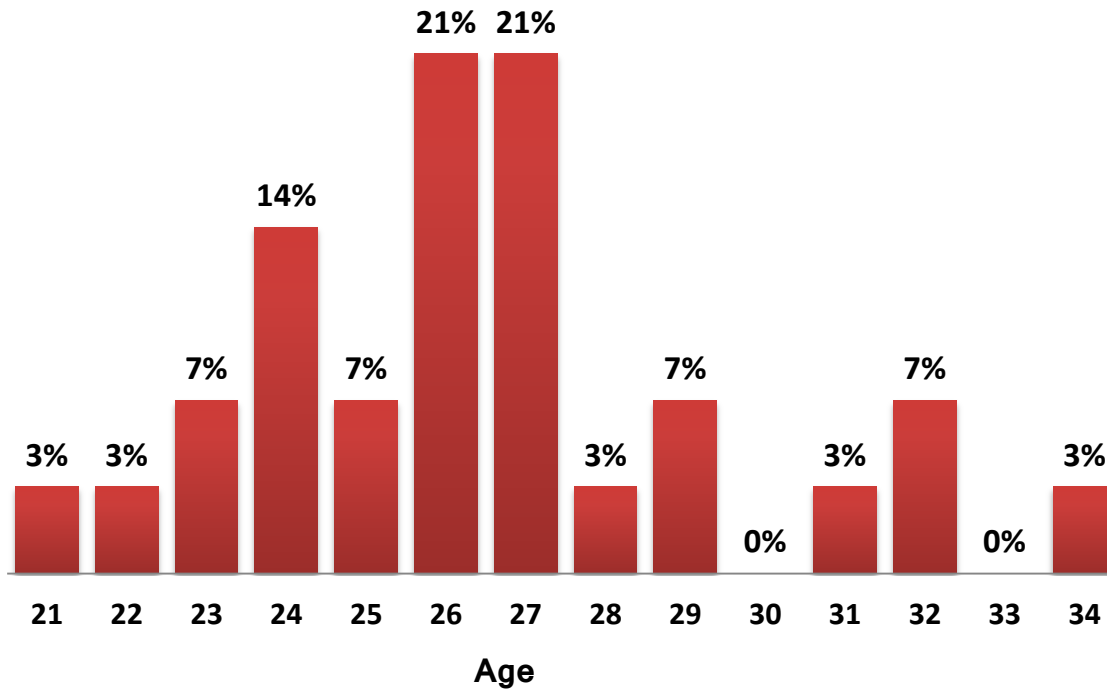
Housing Project

**FEATURED VIDEOS**

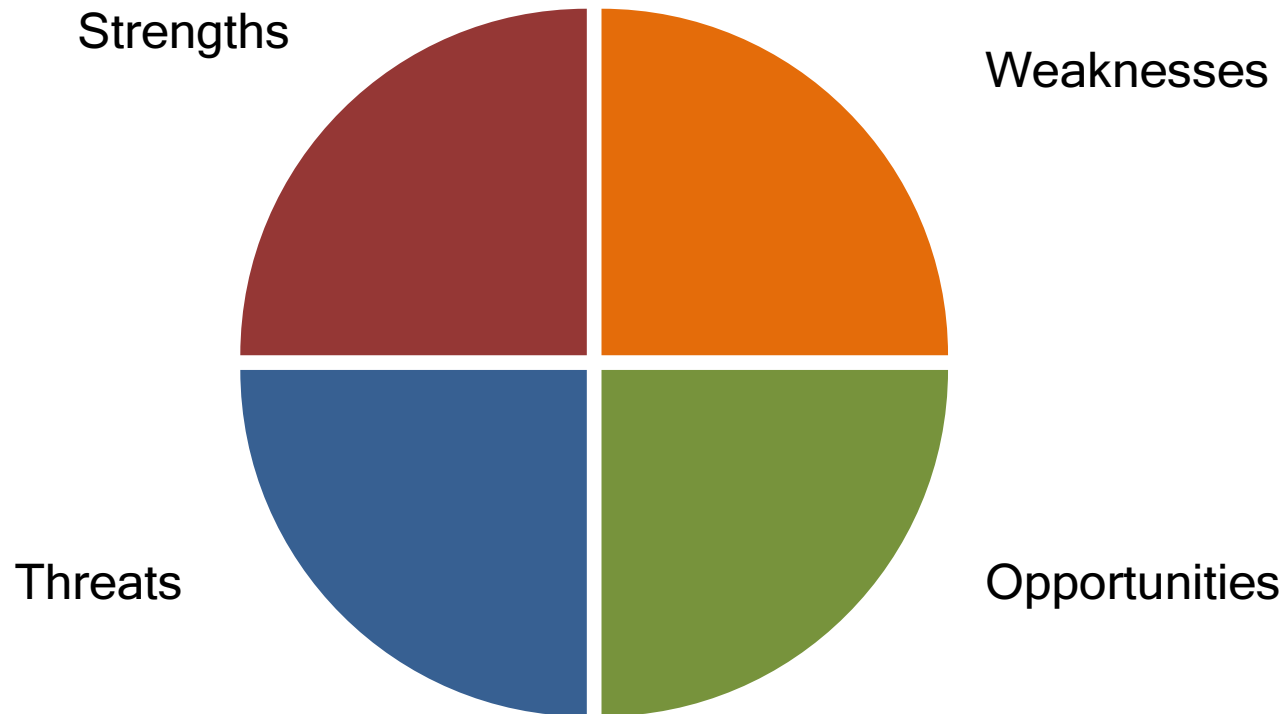
**SMS REPORT STREAM**

TITLE	LOCATION	DATE
Airtel Booster	Kibera, Kisumu, Ndogo	Aug 30 2011
OASIS EVENT	Kibera, Dc Social Grounds	Aug 19 2011
Clean Up Exercise	Kibera	Aug 19 2011

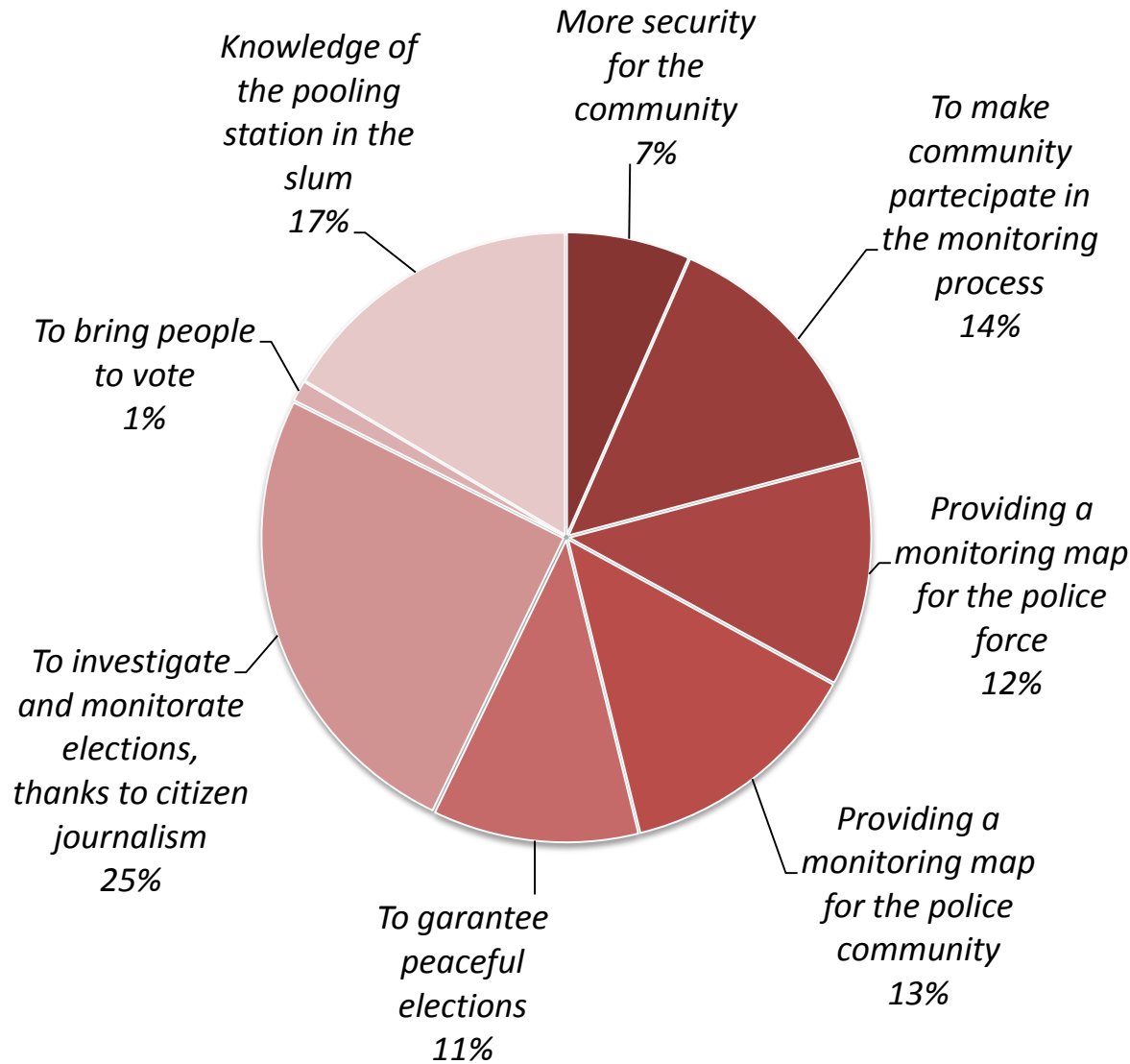
# Age of Map Kibera members



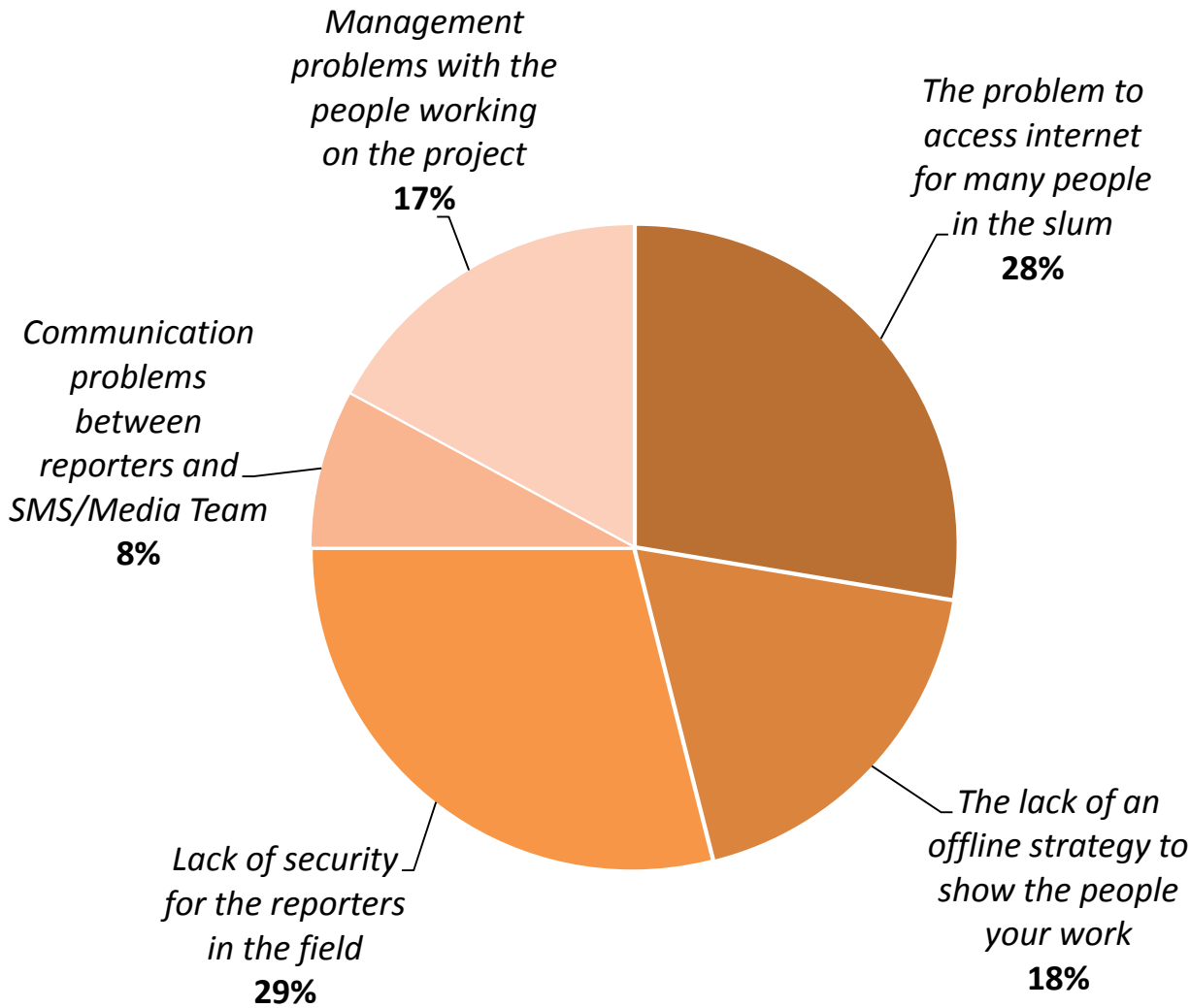
# SWOT analysis of the project using the semi-structured interview results



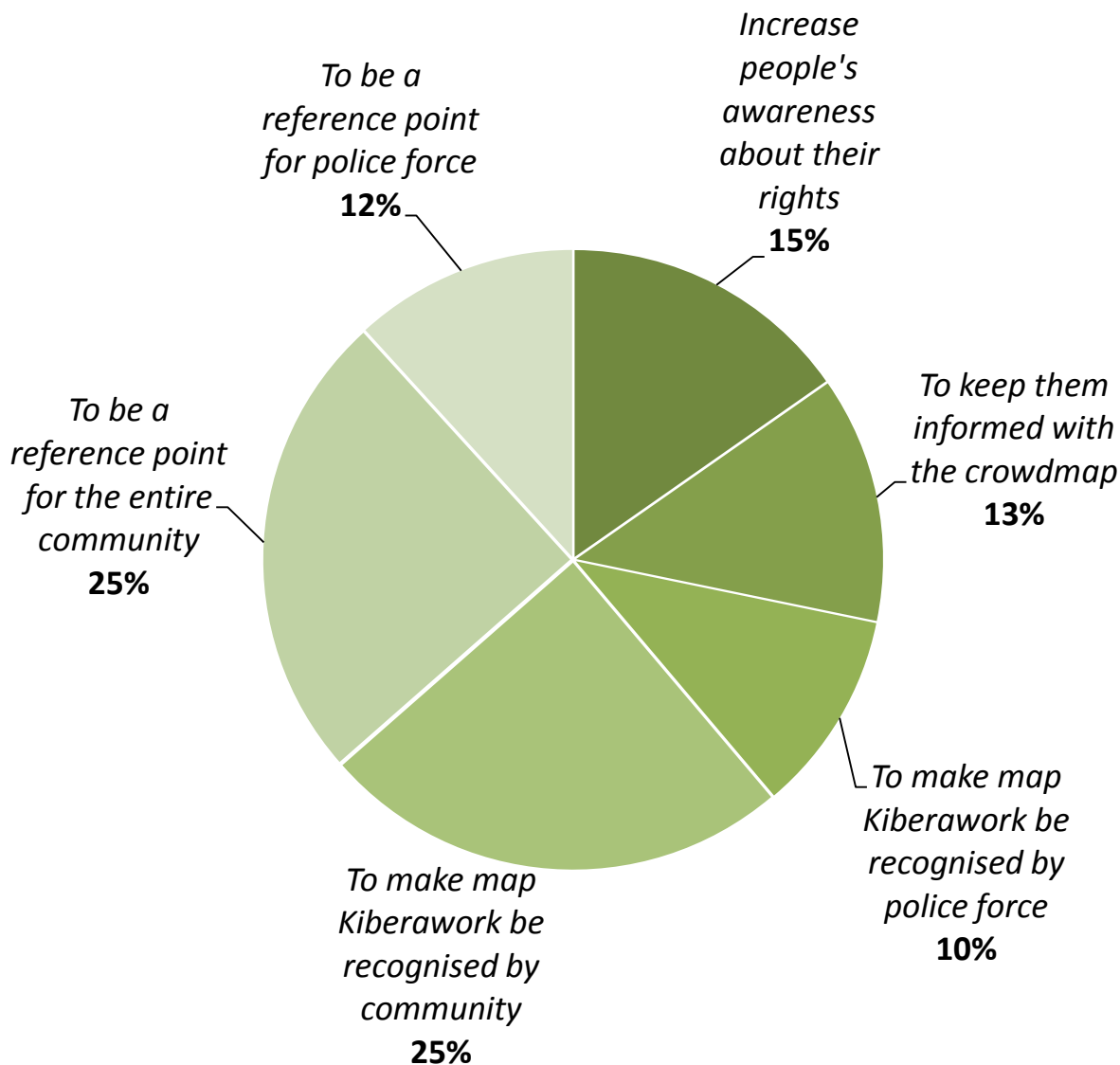
# Strenghts



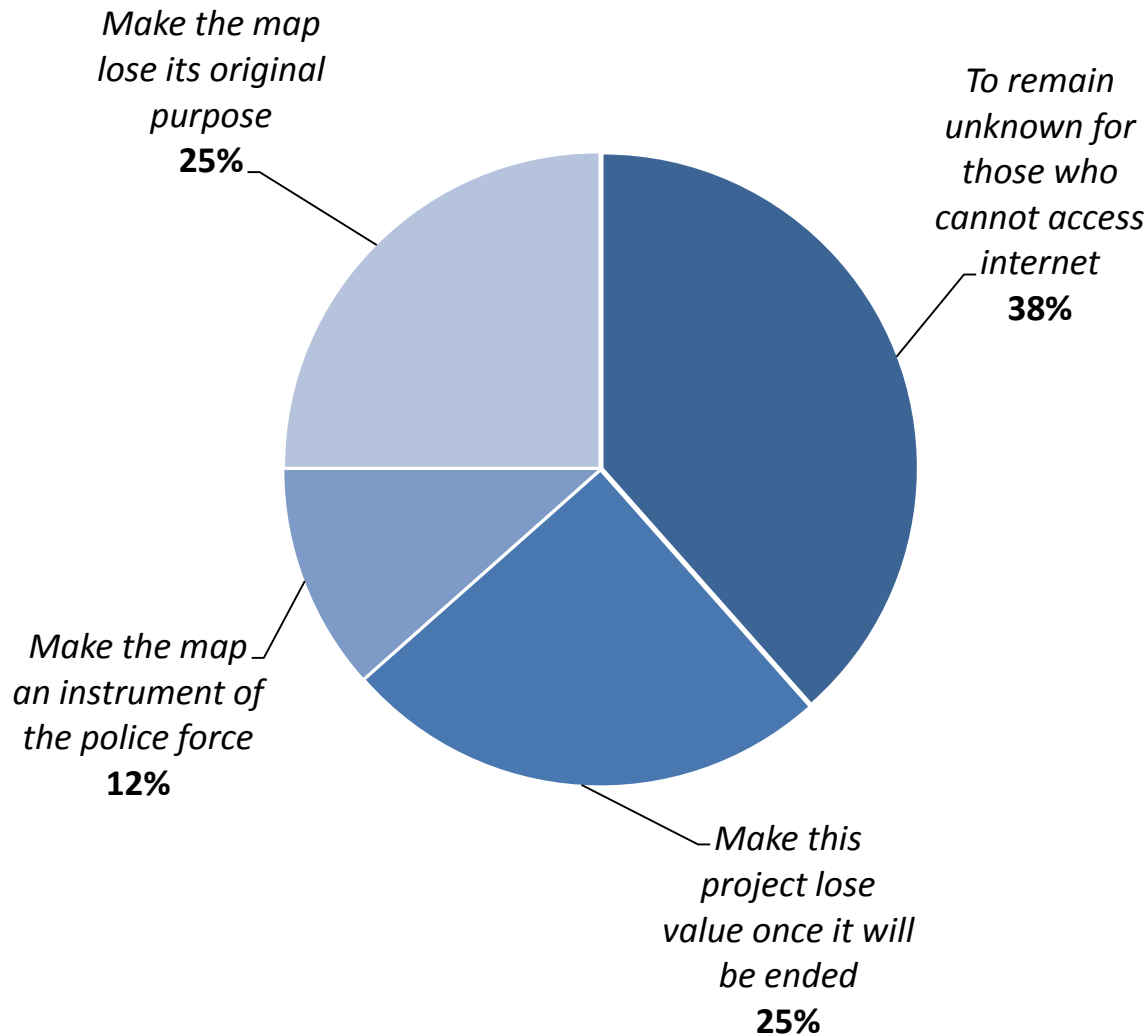
# Weaknesses



# Opportunities



# Threats





# CBOs and NGOs interviews



*Do you know Map Kibera monitoring project during election?*



Out of 15 people interviewed, 5 answered yes and the rest answered no



Map Kibera members did not give enough visibility of the project with the local community actors

# CBO and NGO interviews



## The question...

*What do you think about the efficacy of the project?  
Did the community really benefit from it?*

## ...some interesting answers

- *Map Kibera gave a strong contribution*
- *It depends on the involvement of community*
- *«If we see peace in Kibera, it's because those kind of project»*
- *«Yes, and the security agencies used Map Kibera security map»*

# New technologies for an urban inclusive development?



Use of a **local technology**: Ushahidi



Not just bottom-up, but an **exchange** and **dialogue** between North and South



Empowerment of the **local trust** and easier interaction between local actors



Map Kibera and Ushahidi in partnership with the police force



HIGHT LEVEL OF  
COMMUNITY  
INVOLVEMENT

**Map Kibera security map hanging on Langata District Peace Committee wall in Kibera.  
The police station of Kibera**



# New technologies for an urban inclusive development?



The personal relationships of Map Kibera members were essential in the verification of the reports



Thanks to the social relations (families and friends) got to know the project and spread the word



The **community** benefited indirectly from the monitoring project



# New technologies for an urban inclusive development?



Failure of the project in Mukuru slum



Logistic and management inner problems



How an open source technology can be useful when the money lack?





# New technologies for an urban inclusive development?

Difficulty to access internet for the most slum communities



Easily access for middle class and police force



It can become an instrument of power and control from those who can access internet



TECHNOLOGY AND  
KNOWLEDGE GAP



# CONCLUSION



Can the positive impact of the project overpass the lack of technology accessibility?

How can an ICT4D technology like this one guarantee a positive long term effects in the slum community?

How an open source technology can be useful when the money run out?





# THANK YOU!

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