Abstract: **Application of Mobile Technology in Virtual Communities with Information of Conflict-Affected Areas**

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Abstract

Virtual communities are groups or organizations that have common interests and objectives and develop strategies to reach those goals. There is a range of organizations which have expertise that have been documented over the years, related to conflict areas (Universities, NGOs, governments, etc.). Many of these organizations have put their expertise in digital media that can be accessed by its members through technology platforms, many of them online. The collection process is expensive and their expertise is largely difficult to access because of the nature of conflict in the territories. Also in many cases there is no information related to these areas or no information is known about them; is also true that organizations that have such information do not possess adequate technological tools to share with others. The information in conflict areas is useful for decision making, to generate public policies for the control and humanitarian support, and diversity of solutions that can be offered to the victims of conflicts. Organizations are willing to cooperate and share their expertise with others, but there is a technological problem that is making the above impossible and therefore causing isolation. This is caused by the inability of the technology platforms that each organization has, to locate and interoperate with expertise from other platforms. There is also a problem for community members regarding the location and access to territorial information they share. This paper describes an experience in which mobile technologies are used as sensing devices to identify positioning and movement of people who are in conflict areas and to capture multimedia information in such territory. These sensing devices allow access to a portfolio of services from a cooperating cloud of territorial information in the region of Montes de Maria (Colombia), which is a territory with social, political and public order conflicts. With this experience, a solution to the problem of technological isolation is offered and access to the expertise shared by peers in the community.