

George Chidziwisano
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EDUCATION

2016 – Present: MA Human Computer Interaction specializing in ICT4D
Department of Media and Information
Michigan State University

Advisor: Susan Wyche PhD

2011 – 2015: BSc in Computer Science and Physics
Chancellor College
University of Malawi

RESEARCH PROJECTS

2017: Use of sensor based technologies for agriculture and domestic security in rural Kenya.
Funded by National Science Foundation
Principal Researcher

2016: Sustainability of Kenya's MKopa Pay as You Go Energy System by Michigan State University
Funded by National Science Foundation
Research Assistant

Local Innovations in Rural Kenya and their Sustainability by Michigan State University
Funded by National Science Foundation
Research Assistant

2015: Pilot Project on Internet Independent Links for Disaster Preparedness in Malawi by Malawi Government and the University of Malawi
System Developer

Television White Space (TVWS) for Internet Access in Rural Malawi by Microsoft Research Group, University of Malawi and Malawi Communications Regulatory Authority
Network Administrator

- 2013: Use of Mobile Phones Among Malawian Farmers by Michigan State University and Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (LUANAR)
Web Developer and Research Assistant
- 2013: TVWS for Internet Access in Rural Malawi Pilot Phase by University of Malawi, ICTP and Malawi Communications Regulatory Authority
Research Student

WORK EXPERIENCE

- 2016 – Present: Research Assistant
Michigan State University
Department of Information and Media
- 2014 – 2015: Network Administrator
e-Communications Research Group (eCRG)
University of Malawi
- 2013 – 2014: Introduction to e-commerce Course Instructor
ABMA Certificate Short Courses
Chancellor College, Malawi
- 2013 – 2014: Web Developer & Researcher
ABMA Certificate Short Courses
Chancellor College, Malawi
- 2011 – 2012: Maranatha High School Teacher during Holiday
Teaching high school students physics and chemistry

AWARDS

- 2017: MSU Council of Graduate Students Award
- 2016: Facebook & Google Sponsored Malawi TNM Smart Challenge Finalist

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- 2017: Computer Science and Engineering Department
University of Michigan
Presenter on use of sensor based technologies for agriculture and domestic security in Kenya
- 2016: World Usability Day
Michigan State University

Presenter on Sustainable Development: Insights from Design Research in Rural Kenya.

- 2015: IST Africa Annual General Conference
Lilongwe, Malawi
Presenter on Television Whitespace for Internet Access in rural Malawi.
- 2015 National Symposium on Environment, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management
Lilongwe, Malawi
Presenter on Internet Independent Source of Source of Information for accessing weather information in rural areas.

SOFTWARE & HARDWARE PRODUCTS

- 2017: Sensor Based Home Security System for Rural Africa
I designed and developed a sensor based system for home monitoring as a research product. The product senses motion in a particular environment and then send a message to the owner. Under the supervision of Dr. Susan Wyche, I deployed research product in rural Kenya. I tested the system with 20 participants in rural Kenya and I am planning to scale it up. I also wrote a paper on the data collected and it was accepted for presentation and publication at CHI 2018. I also used this project for my master's thesis.
- 2016: PaMsika Mobile App
PaMsika allows users to obtain information about different products and services offered on the market right on their mobile phones. This application also allows the users of the application to be given the direction to the shop from their current position using GPS.
- 2015: Internet Independent Source of Information
The software contains a digital library consisting of local and international information in different categories such as education, health, agriculture, cultural and other social information that the public can use. This eliminates the cost of using the Internet by providing digital libraries in the tele-centers using internet independent networks.
- 2015: Malawi TV White Space Database
The Malawi TV White Space Database is a system that tracks and controls areas available channels in the TV band across Malawi. The system finds areas in Malawi where these channels are available so that they can be used for providing internet access in rural Malawi.
- 2014: Zanyengo App

The mobile app allows rural farmers access weather information through their mobile phones

PUBLICATIONS:

2017: **Chidziwisano G., Wyche S.** M-Kulinda: Using Sensor Based Technology Probes to Explore Domestic Security in Rural Kenya (*to appear*) *ACM SIGCHI Conf. (CHI '18)*.

LEADERSHIP

2014: e-CRG Labs Student Leader
University of Malawi

2013: Computer Science Society Vice President
University of Malawi

Earth Sciences Society Vice President
University of Malawi