

Name

Jamie Cropley

P Number

P15188432

Reading of the week Deriving an ICT4D research agenda: a commentary on 'Information and communication technologies for development (ICT4D): solutions seeking problems?'

Briefly note down your responses to the answers, which can be in paragraphs or bullet points. But be prepared to elaborate and share them with the class.

What are the key ideas of the paper? Or what key messages are presented by the author(s)?

- ICT4D which means refers to the use of information and communication technologies in socioeconomic developments.
- How ICT4D relates to the government.
- How ICT4D relates to the economy of such country.
- Many aspects of a society are weighed against each other in respect of the benefits of ICT4D

What evidence or method, if any, is used to support the main argument of the paper?

- Referencing indicated at the end of the paper.

Do you agree or disagree with what is being said? Why? Or what are your comments on the argument presented by the author(s).

- I agree with some of what is being said overall, I think ICT4D can be very successful depending on what country it is implemented in and its current socio economic structure as well as sometimes its political structure therein.
- I agree with the aspect of supply vs demand, where supply although seems to benefit the local economy it tends to have an effect on demand, people tend to buy into a product for what it is rather than what it does.
- I disagree with the majority of the paper in respect of it not being specific enough, it would of perhaps been more precise to use examples of past countries that have utilised ICT4D vs current vs future ones. I also think the lack of evidence supporting the paper adds to it not being specific enough, a lot aspects of a country for example can be analysed very well whether developing or not statistically speaking yet there is nothing like this in the paper.

Name

P Number

--

How can you relate points made by the author(s) to reality? Any examples?

Upon living in a developing village in Costa Rica, there IT infrastructure was outstanding considering the poverty aspects of the place, however as a result this drove tourism into the village hence improving the local economy. The government in this country still at the time of living there had control over the mobile phone network so this did not work very well, I recall using an iPod touch and using this as my main communication device as the WiFi throughout the entire village was surprisingly well constructed, mobile phones were rarely used due to how bad the signal and service was in the country, I do know that current day Costa Rica they now have started to use commercial mobile phone infrastructure which is apparently better, but the point being this how one aspect of communication can be very bad in a developing country if it were to be ran by a ever developing government, whilst when it is done in an affordable way using consumer technology it seems to excel and people tend to adapt very well thus improving the economy of such a place.