M A Marais - Short CV Sept 2022

Mario Alphonso Marais is a Principal Researcher in the Technology, Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation (TIME) research group of the E-Government Impact Area in the CSIR Next Generation Enterprises and Institutions Cluster.

Specialization: Organisational, entrepreneurial and community development research as well as monitoring and evaluation (M&E) from social capital, knowledge creation and behaviourial change perspectives.

Research areas include Systemic approaches to developing the capacity of organisations and communities to adapt to and embrace change. An example is the use of social community mapping. The use of ICT for development and community informatics. Systems based Monitoring and Evaluation of projects. Problem structuring via soft operations research techniques. The study of decision-making and knowledge management. CSIR profile: https://www.csir.co.za/mario-marais

He was a CSIR representative at two South African Government Phakisa ("Hurry up") policy and strategy development initiatives: Education (2015) and Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (2016). Evaluation work includes an ICT for Education project in 26 rural schools and the establishment of ICT-hubs for service delivery to rural communities. In the last seven years, projects included managing the M&E of the Digital Doorway initiative (http://www.digitaldoorway.org.za/index_main.php), business modelling of an entrepreneurial model for local technical support for a project (BB4All) that provided Internet connectivity to 176 schools and communities in a rural area using wireless mesh technology. He holds a PhD in Informatics that focussed on the role of social capital in supporting entrepreneurs supplying ICT-based services in rural communities (http://hdl.handle.net/2263/60506).

Nationality South African **Date of Birth** 27 June 1960. Employed at CSIR from July 1983.

Selection of Papers and Publications

full list at https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Mario_Marais

Network Weaving to Foster Resilience and Sustainability in ICT4D. M. A. Marais and Sara Vannini, in Proceedings of then1st Virtual Conference on Implications of Information and Digital Technologies for Development, 2021 IFIPWG9.4 Virtual Conference, 2021 arXiv:2108.09808v1 [cs.CY]

SA Connect policy implications for the innovative use of ICTs in South African rural schools and its impact towards diffusion and adoption of tablets. S. D. Mwapwele, M. Marais, and J. van Biljon. (2019) Proceedings of the Digital Skills Conference of NEMISA. http://www.k4i.co.za/   (Revised version published as an article in The African Journal of Information and Communication)

Scoping community resilience concepts relevant to a South African definition for resource constrained environments. S. Dlamini, M. Herselman, and M. Marais, in K. Krause, M. Turpin, and F. Naudé (eds.) Proceedings of the 10th International Development Informatics Association Conference (IDIA2018), 23 to 24 August 2018, La'Wiida Lodge & Conference Centre, Gauteng, South Africa, 2018. ISBN: 978-0-620-79456-5.

Systemic levers for change towards sustainable institutionalisation of ICT in schools. I Meyer, M Ford,

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Social Mapping for Supporting Sensemaking and Collaboration: the Case of Development Informatics Research in South Africa. M. Marais and J. van Biljon, in P Cunningham and M Cunningham (eds), Proceedings of the IST-Africa 2017 Conference, 31 May to 2 June, Windhoek, Namibia ,IIMC International Information Management Corporation, 2017.
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Social Mapping for Communal Sensemaking: the case of Development Informatics Researchers in South Africa. J. van Biljon and M. Marais in J Choudrie, M S Islam, F Wahid, J M Bass and J E Priyatma (eds.), Proceedings of 14th IFIP WG 9.4 International Conference on Social Implications of Computers in Developing Countries, ICT4D 2017. Yogyakarta, Indonesia, May 22–24, 2017. IFIP AICT 504, pp. 280–291, 2017. DOI: 10.1007/978-3-319-59111-7_24. ISBN 978-3-319-59110-0 and ISBN 978-3-319-59111-7 (eBook).

M A Marais (2015). ICT4D and Sustainability in *The International Encyclopedia of Digital Communication and Society (IEDCS)*, Mansell, R and Hwa Ang, P (Editors-in-Chief). John Wiley & Sons, Inc. (ISBN 978-111-829-074-3). Available at *Wiley Online Library* *http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/book/10.1002/9781118767771* DOI: 10.1002/9781118767771 Published in print on 9th February 2015.

I Meyer and M A Marais (2015). Design for Sustainability: Countering the Drivers of Unsustainability in Development Projects. *Journal of Community Informatics.* 11(3). Available at http://ci-journal.net/index.php/ciej/article/view/1169/1161

Beyond 'Technology for Development' and 'Sustainability' towards Systemic and Holistic Rural Innovation: Success Factors from the Southern African Experience over 20 years. J van Rensburg, U du Buisson, B Cronje, M Marais and E Haruperi (2014).3rd UNESCO Conference on Technologies for Development (Tech4Dev), 4-6 June 2014, EPFL, Lausanne, Switzerland. http://cooperation.epfl.ch/2014Tech4Dev