Introduction to Mobile Data Collection

Innocent Bikara

6th November 2019

RESEARCH PROGRAM ON
Policies, Institutions, and Markets
CGIAR
Led by IFPRI

RESEARCH PROGRAM ON
Livestock
CGIAR

icarda.org
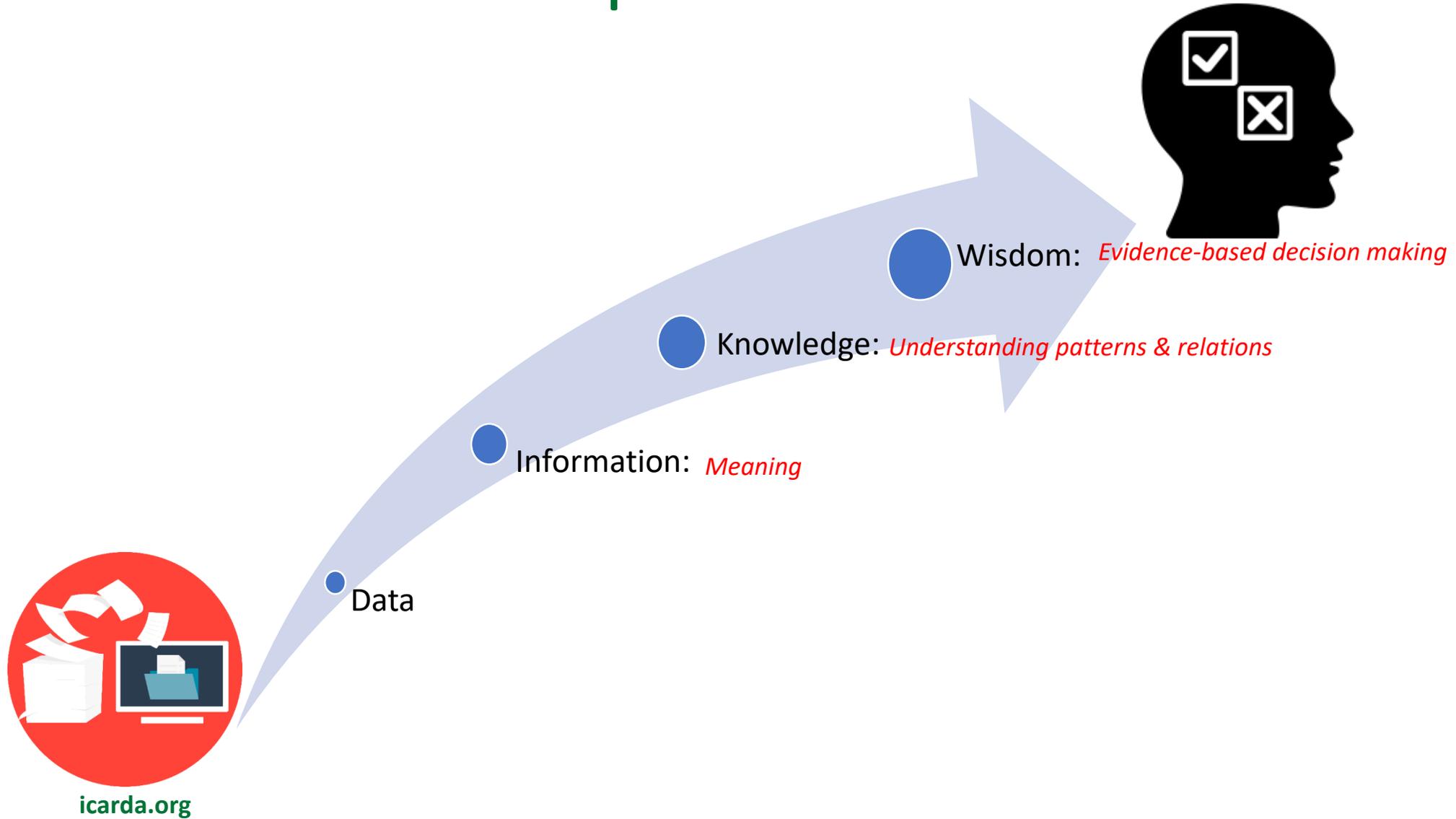International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas

cgiar.org
A CGIAR Research Center
CGIAR

ICARDA
Science for resilient livelihoods in dry areas

Why Mobile Data Collection?

The importance of data

Wisdom: *Evidence-based decision making*

Knowledge: *Understanding patterns & relations*

Information: *Meaning*

Data

icarda.org

3

Data collection Approaches

PAPI

Pen and paper interviewing

CAPI

Computer Aided Personal Interviewing

Why Computer Aided Personal Interviewing (CAPI)

Advantages of CAPI

- Quicker and easier to collect, analyze and present data

- Analysis can be set up in advance; e.g data on indicators can be set up to be automatically calculated on completion of a survey

- Reduced chance of error when inputting data (through in-built consistency checks and real-time data quality checks)

- Logistically more handy than folders of paper

- Various data types more possible than with PAPI e.g Photos, audio, video e.t.c

- Auto capture of GPS location, date & time allows for validation of the data collection process

Mobile data collection platforms

Why Open Data Kit (ODK)

OPEN DATA KIT

- Open source (free)- hence no features hidden behind pricing tiers

- Questionnaire built in XLS or builder that are easy and faster to use

- Offline data collection

- Data can be sent to a central server

- Allows repeats within repeats

Why Open Data Kit (ODK)

- Variety of question types

- No limit on number of responses

- No limit on number of devices used or user logins

- Stable data structure even when change is made while data collection is on-going