

Tech. for Developing Communities
16-871 / 08-790

Introductory “Assignment”
Fall 2007

Due: Thursday, September 6, 2007 before class

Scenario:

You work for a NGO/AID organization working in a less-developed Sub-Saharan African country. Traditionally, your work has dealt with infrastructure, such as building out water/sanitation, or schools, in underserved areas.

A donor wants to have their money go towards providing mobile phone service in this area, instead of traditional “aid” projects – no such services exist in that region today, but the capital and several urban areas do have mobile phone services. They are offering a reasonable sum of money that would pay for much of the up front costs.

Is that a good idea?

[What would you need to know to answer this?]

Please respond in **less than** one page.