## Web 2.0 and Government

Quentin Williams Manager: W3C Southern Africa Office 26 May 2010 eGovernment





## Content

- Relevance of Web 2.0
- Where are we now?
- Web 2.0: What can it do for Government
- Examples
- Conclusion



## **Relevance of Web 2.0 for Africa**

#### Top 10 Sites visited from Mobile Phones

- 1) Facebook
- 2) Google
- 3) Wikipedia
- 4) Yahoo
- 5) Opera
- 6) Zamob
- 7) GMail
- 8) Gamejump
- 9) Waptrick
- 10) Peperonity

(Courtesy of Opera Mini)



#### Top 20 Sites visited by South Africans

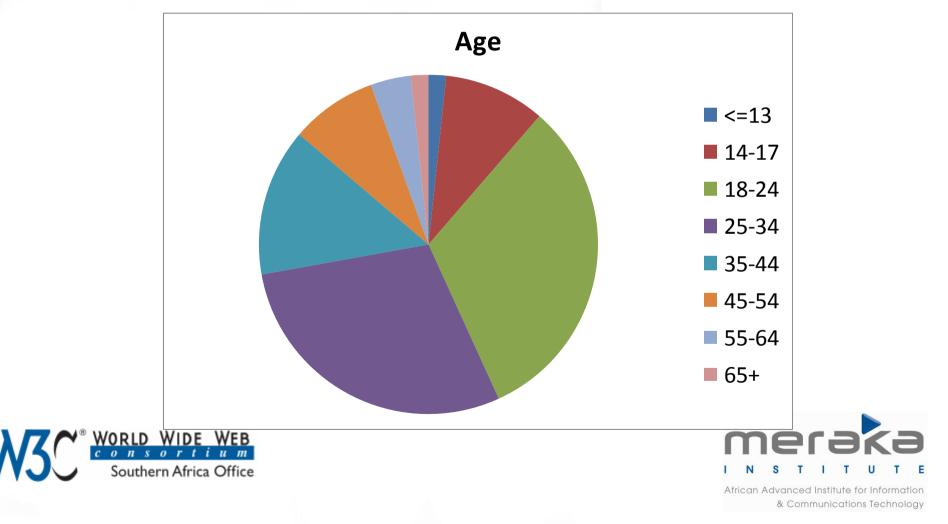
- 1) Google SA
- 2) Facebook
- 3) Google
- 4) YouTube
- 5) Yahoo
- 6) Wikipedia
- 7) Twitter
- 8) Blogger
- 9) News24
- 10) Gumtree
- 11) Standard Bank
- 12) Live
- 13) Wordpress
- 14) ABSA
- 15) Microsoft
- 16) Linkedin
- 17)IOL
- 18) Amazon
- 19) Flickr
- 20) MyBroadband
- (Courtesy of Alexa.com)



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## **Facebook Users**

2,677,840 South African Users



## **South African Users does**

- Social Networking
- Read News
- Banking





Source: W3C interest Group Note, "Improving Access to Government through better use of the Web", 2009

## Where are we now?

• Government service delivery protests (29 in 6 mths Jan–June 2009)

Why?

- Lack of / Poor service delivery
- Lack of / Inadequate housing
- Evictions
- High levels of unemployment
- Lack of communication with communities
- Lack of leadership in the municipality
- Corruption / Maladministration
- Nepotism
- Financial mismanagement





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Source: "A REPORT ON THE CURRENT 'SERVICE DELIVERY PROTESTS' IN SOUTH AFRICA.", Aug, 2009

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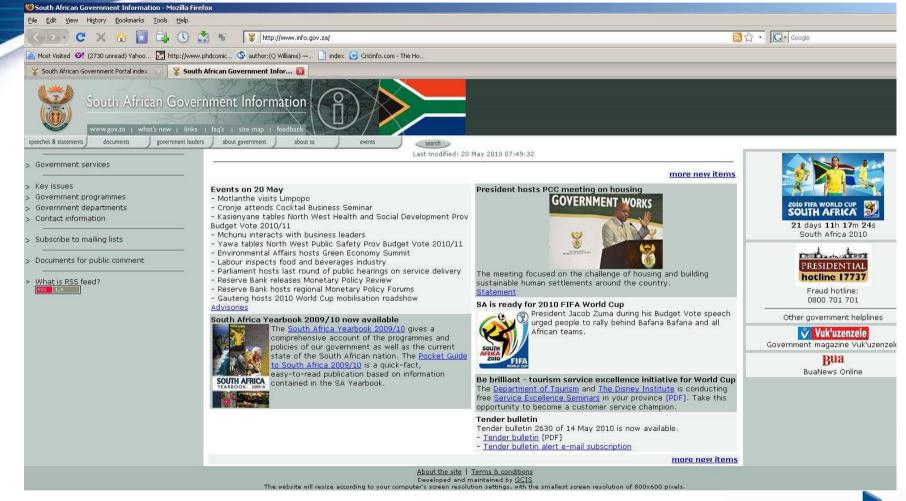


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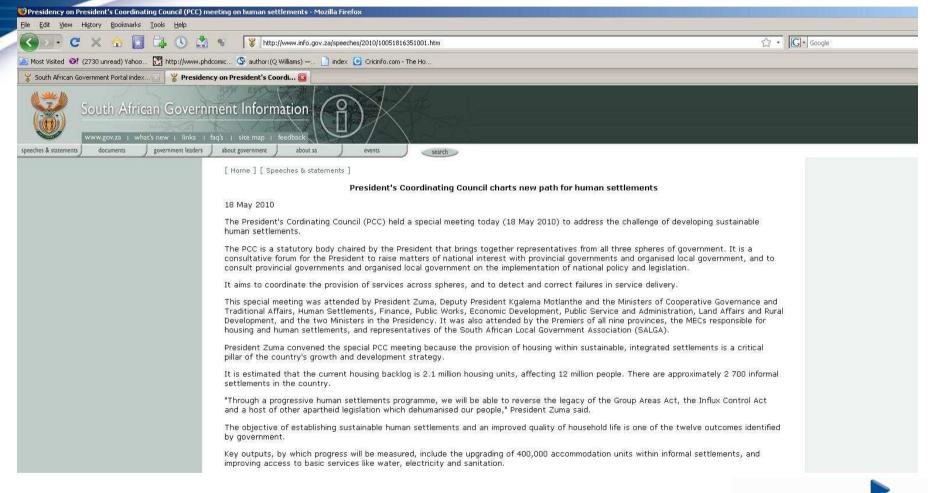
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## **The Web and Government**

- "The Web is transformative simply because it allows anyone to be a publisher. This changes the power relationships in the public sphere in profound ways."
- "A **Government** is a complex entity, consisting of many institutions that grow and develop over time."





Source: W3C interest Group Note, "Improving Access to Government through better use of the Web". 2009

# What is Web 2.0

- User-Generated Content
- Users want to:
  - Create and Co-Create Content
  - Edit Content
  - Rate Content
  - Comment on Content
  - Discuss Content
  - Tag and Organise Content
  - Mash Content with other Content
  - Personalise and Share Content







## Web 2.0 Makes Possible

- Participation
  - Opinions can be expressed, synthesised and coalesced in new ways
  - New routes to power, crowd sourcing both finance and campaign teams
  - Afford Citizens new ways to have their say: Marginalised or extreme voices can now be heard
  - Shape, direct or change public policy
  - Communication to elected officials
  - Push towards transparent and democratic accountability

Possible loss of control for increase in public trust





## Web 2.0 Makes Possible

## • Engagement

- Possibility of anyone as public servant to become communicator and a representative of government
- Increase government to citizen interaction about public policy
- Enabling Citizen choice and Improving Public Services
- Providing advice and support to citizens to achieve public policy outcomes
- Changing behaviours and establishing new social norms

More approachable, more credible, and more likely to be listened to

and valued

WORLD WIDE WEB *c o n s o r t i u m* Southern Africa Office

## Web 2.0 Benefits

- Open Communication
- Transparency
- Participation
- Collaboration
- Trust

Operations • Service delivery • Engagement





# Web 2.0 Challenges

- Representation Boundaries
- Relationships
- Ownership and Use of 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Services
- Inclusive Access to Information
- Authoritative Sources
- Archiving Challenges





# Things to do

- Clear and Simple rules for Public Servants
- Training, support and cultural change
- Support Open Debates and Discussions
- Provide the Institutional Resources





## Web 2.0 Tools

- RSS Feeds
- Blogs
- Micro-blogging
- Wikis
- Video & Photo Sharing, Podcasting
- Social Networking Sites

- Social Bookmarking Sites
- Mashups
- Widgets
- Virtual Worlds
- Social Media Releases
- Social News Rooms



Source: GSA Office of General Counsel, "Open Government, Transparency and Social Media", Apr 2009

## **Example: Benefits of RSS**

- Expand reach of government information and service
- Authoritative source develops content, used many places
- Allow users to choose to consume content where they want to
- Reduce duplication
- Can aggregate similar content across government





## **Example: RSS Feeds**

# Wew Government Speeches - Mozilla Firefox Elle Edit: Yew Higtory Bookmarks Tools Help Image: Subscribe to this feed using Image: Subscribe to feeds, Image: Subscribe to feeds, Image: Subscribe to feeds, Image: Subscribe Now Image: Subscribe No

#### **New Government Speeches**

Speeches updated in the last 24 hours

#### A Motshekga: Answers to question in National Assembly on closure of schools in Johannesburg

Reply by Minister of Basic Education, Angle Motshekga, on questions posed in the National Assembly for written reply 7 May 2010 Question No. 1352 Mr DC Ross (Democratic Alliance) to ask the Minister of Basic Education: (1) Whether any (a) primary and or (b) secondary schools have been closed down in Johannesburg in the past three years; if so, in each case, (i) how many schools, (ii) why and (iii) which schools were closed down; (2) Whether any schools in

#### G Barry to launch Nelson Mandela Metro Road Rangers Programme, 21 May

MEC Barry to launch the Nelson Mandela Metro Road Rangers Programme 19 May 2010 With the 2010 FIFA World Cup around the corner, Eastern Cape MEC for Transport, Safety and Liaison, Ghishma Barry, will launch the Nelson Mandela Bay Metro Road Rangers in Port Elizabeth on Friday, 21 May 2010 at 10h00. The event will take place on the M17 next to Corobricks, between Motherwell and Swartkops River and will feature a prayer session in partner

#### J Zuma to visit Siyathemba Township, 22 May 19 May 2010 02:00 AM

President Zuma to report back to residents of Siyathemba Township 19 May 2010 President Jacob Zuma will on 22 May 2010 conduct a report back visit to Siyathemba Township in Balfour, Mpumalanga province. The President undertook a surprise visit to the area during the sporadic service delivery protests that took place in few municipalities in some provinces last year. President Zuma established an inter-Ministerial task team to look

#### C Mathale to brief K Motlanthe on 2010 FIFA World Cup state of readiness, 22 May 18 May 2010 02:00 AM

Deputy President to address the readiness of Limpopo province in hosting 2010 FIFA World Cup 18 May 2010 There will be ululations, joy and happiness when the Deputy President of the Republic of South Africa ascends the stage. Noise of Vuvuzelas will give excitement to the City of Polokwane and the surrounding areas. The Deputy President, Mr Kgalema Motianthe is the leader of government's Special Projects Committee including the 2010 FIFA World Cup.

#### M Mdladlana on report in Business Day newspaper 18 May 2010 02:00 AM

Maladiana dismisses newspaper report as mischievous 18 May 2010 A newspaper report that the Director-General of Labour, Jimmy Manyi has been given an ultimatum at the weekend to choose between his job in government and his position as president of the Black Management Forum (BMF) is misleading, distorted and sensational to put it mildly. That's the view of Labour Minister, Membathisi Maladiana. Responding to today's article of the Business Day newspaper, Mal

#### Gauteng Health on electricity restoration at Chris Hani Baragwanath Hospital 19 May 2010 02:00 AM

Electricity restored at Chris Hani Baragwanath Hospital 19 May 2010 Gauteng Health and Social Development MEC, Qedani Mahlangu, has expressed her delight that electricity has been restored at Chris Hani Baragwanath Hospital in Soweto tonight. The hospital has been without electricity for the past two days due to cable theft. Hospital management had to reschedule some elective surgeries and ambulances had to be diverted to nearby health facilities as the hospit

#### Statement on Cabinet meeting of 19 May 20 May 2010 02:00 AM

Statement on the Cabinet meeting, 19 May 2010, Cape Town 20 May 2010 Cabinet held its ordinary meeting in Cape Town on 19 May 2010. Cabinet noted that the negotiations between the unions, PRASA and Transnet were at an advanced stage. Cabinet expressed the hope that the parties would do their best to reach a settlement sooner rather than later to avoid the huge cost to the economy and the untoid inconvenience to commuters. The meeting noted that although there





## **Example: Benefits of Blogging**

- Put a Human Face to Government
- Open up a conversation
- Surface issues and solve them





## **Blogging for Different Purposes**



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#### Stimulating the Economy









TERRORISTS EVOLVE. THREATS EVOLVE. SECURITY MUST STAY AHEAD. YOU PLAY A PART

#### 2.06,2008 HOORAY BLOGGERS!

A Win for the Blogesphere

Posters on this blog have had their first official impact on our operations. That's right, less than one week since we began the blog and already you're affecting security in a very positive way.

On Monday afternoon we began receiving questions about airports that were requiring ALL electronics to be removed from carry-on bags (everything, including blackberrys, iPods and even cords). This practice was also mentioned on several other blogs and left us scratching our heads.

So...we checked with our security operations team to figure out what was going on. After some calls to our airports, we learned that this exercise was set up by local TSA offices and was not part of any grand plan across the country. These practices were stopped on Monday afternoon and blackberrys, cords and iPods began to flow through checkpoints like

#### Get Input for Hot Issues



Source: GSA Office of General Counsel, "Open Government, Transparency and Social Media",

African Advanced Institute for Information & Communications Technology

Apr 2009

# **Blogging for Different Purposes**



Interesting Info – Spread the Word



Source: GSA Office of General Counsel, "Open Government, Transparency and Social Media",

African Advanced Institute for Information & Communications Technology

Apr 2009

# Multimedia Sharing: Video, Photos, Audio

- Government has lots of multimedia
- Underutilised and not coordinated
- Not reaching some users
- Not meeting expectations





## **Multimedia Sharing: Benefits**

- Compelling Content: Effective way to convey message
- New Audiences and Public
  Outreach
- Education and Training
- Awareness
- Builds trust with Conversational Voice



- Cross Government Coordination
- Join Public Communities
- Event Invitations / Announcements
- It's Social ... Viral



& Communications Technology

## **Multimedia Sharing: Examples**





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Source: GSA Office of General Counsel, "Open Government, Transparency and Social Media", Apr 2009

## **Multimedia Sharing: Examples**



Source: GSA Office of General Counsel, "Open Government, Transparency and Social Media", Apr 2009

Southern Africa Office

## **Other Examples**

- Twitter: Keep the public interest
- Mashups: Share relevant Government Information
- Widgets and Apps: Huge Opportunity for on the spot delivery





## Conclusion

- Government can be Useful, Interesting and Cool
- Increases Government Relevance, Popularity and Trust
- Requires careful planning, policy and implementation
- Use the lessons learned from those who did it before and make it relevant for Africa







# **Thank You**

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