


THE JOB REQUIREMENTS INFORMATION SYSTEM FOR RURAL COMMUNITIES

A thesis submitted to Graduate Department of Computer Science, college of Art and Science, in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Science (Information and Communication Technology) University Utara Malaysia

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Abstract

The rural communities take 37 percent of the population in Malaysia (9th Malaysia Plan, 2006), the income gap between the urban areas and the rural areas is very big. Even though the government has tried a lot of policies to develop the rural area, the income gap between the rural and urban continued to be wide. Many people live in the rural area try all means to go out and find a job since their job requirement can not be satisfied in the rural area. However, the problem of unemployment of the rural people is still very serious. The purpose of this study is therefore to understand and identify the job requirements of the rural community in Changlun. An online system will be proposed to store and manage information about job requirements for rural communities. With this system, the company can search for the employees they need and thus create more job opportunities for the rural communities. The information of the rural communities including their job requirements and ICT literacy can indicate the gap between their qualification and their desired job, so the specific training can be provided to rural communities to improve their competitive advantage and lead to job enlargement.

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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

A rural community is a group of people who live in the country which is far away from a big city or town (geocities, 2008). These people perform different kinds of jobs for a living. The economy in the rural communities, however, is not as developed as the urban communities. Most of the industries in the rural communities are related to natural resources such as the plant, mine, hunting and fishing (Takashi, 2008). Thus, the income of the rural people is lower than residents of the urban area. Since agriculture is the very important part to these communities, many of the works people do for a living depend on it. Some of them work in a farm or ranch, some of them work in a garden; other people may mine the earth for materials like coal, some of them log trees, at the same time, rural communities also work as teacher in school, doctor, nurse, small businessman, sales, government officer and so on.

As presented in the Dewan Rakyat on March 2006, there is about 37% of Malaysian population live in rural areas (Prime Minister, 2006). Large tracts of rural land can be found in seven states in Malaysia and about 12 percent of poverty in Malaysia occurs in

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