

SusDeViKI: Sustainable Development Virtual Knowledge Interface



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Summary: Extension materials for low-literate learners are often developed as part of specialized projects for specific regions or groups. In some cases these materials are inaccessible to other development organizations during the project's life or are lost at the end of the project. More recently, such development materials are typically placed on individual websites for the purpose of preserving the content beyond the scope of any given project. However, such materials are (i) often challenging to find and (ii) those individuals that are able to find and adapt these materials for local use cannot return these local adaptations to the World Wide Web without creating new, often separate, websites. We have developed an Internet-based virtual knowledge sharing system for development materials for low-literate learners that allows users to easily access the materials and to contribute with their local adaptations and local solutions. The site also will allow for pre- and post-publication online reviews and updates as mechanisms to assist in the improvement of content and to facilitate the localized adaptation of content. The system also permits for easy deployment of animations developed by the Scientific Animations Without Borders (SAWBO) program. The beta version of the system was launched in the spring of 2011 and contains over a hundred entries of videos in a variety of different languages and has been accessed by over ten thousand users, many of whom have downloaded these cell phone ready videos.

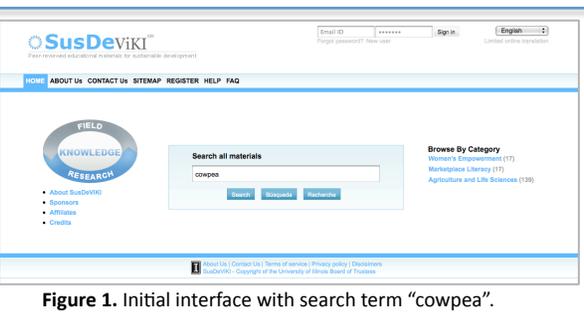


Figure 1. Initial interface with search term "cowpea".

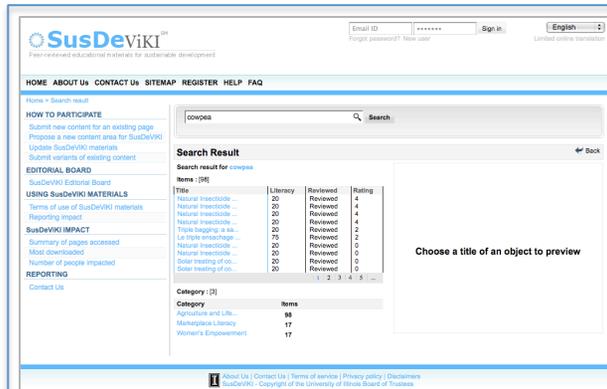


Figure 2. Content and language variants are displayed.

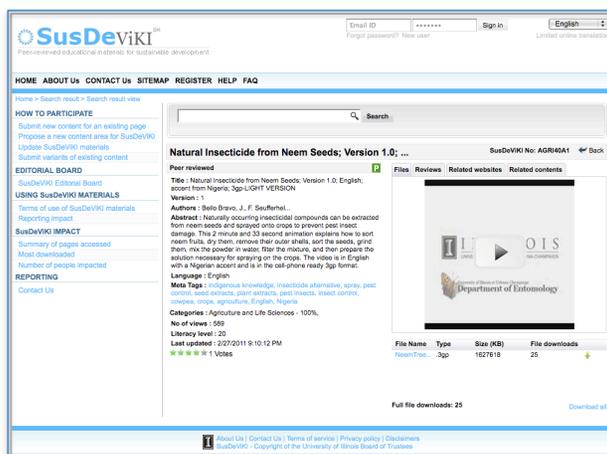


Figure 3. User chooses specific content and language/accents variant of interest.

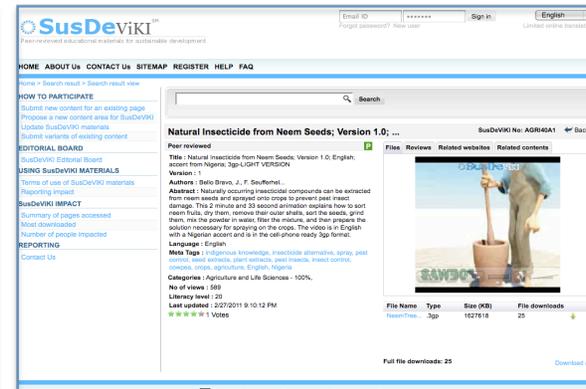


Figure 4. Content can be previewed with full video and audio capacity before downloading.

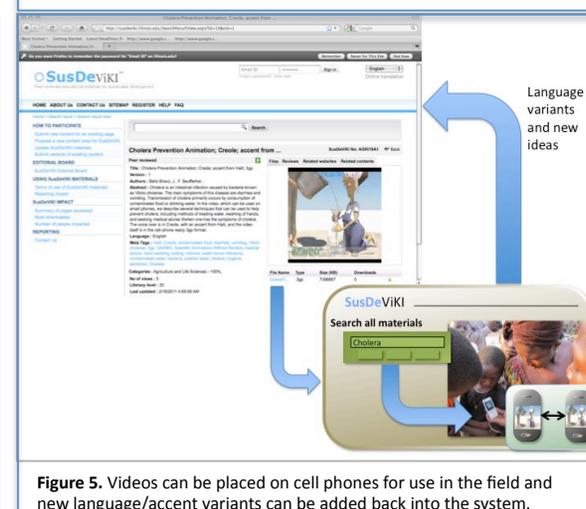


Figure 5. Videos can be placed on cell phones for use in the field and new language/accents variants can be added back into the system.



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