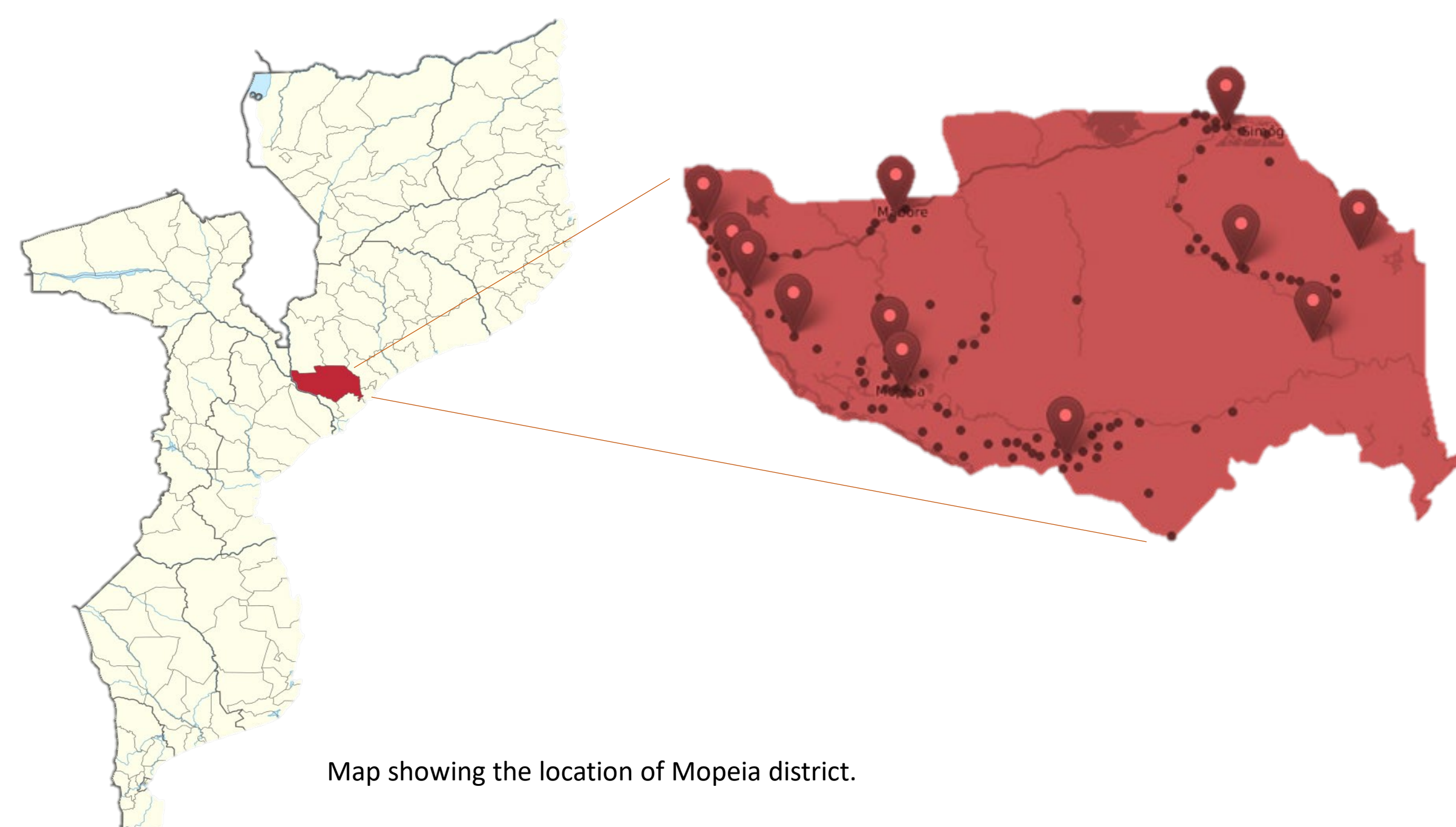# Challenges implementing mobile phone-based data collection in Mopeia, Mozambique

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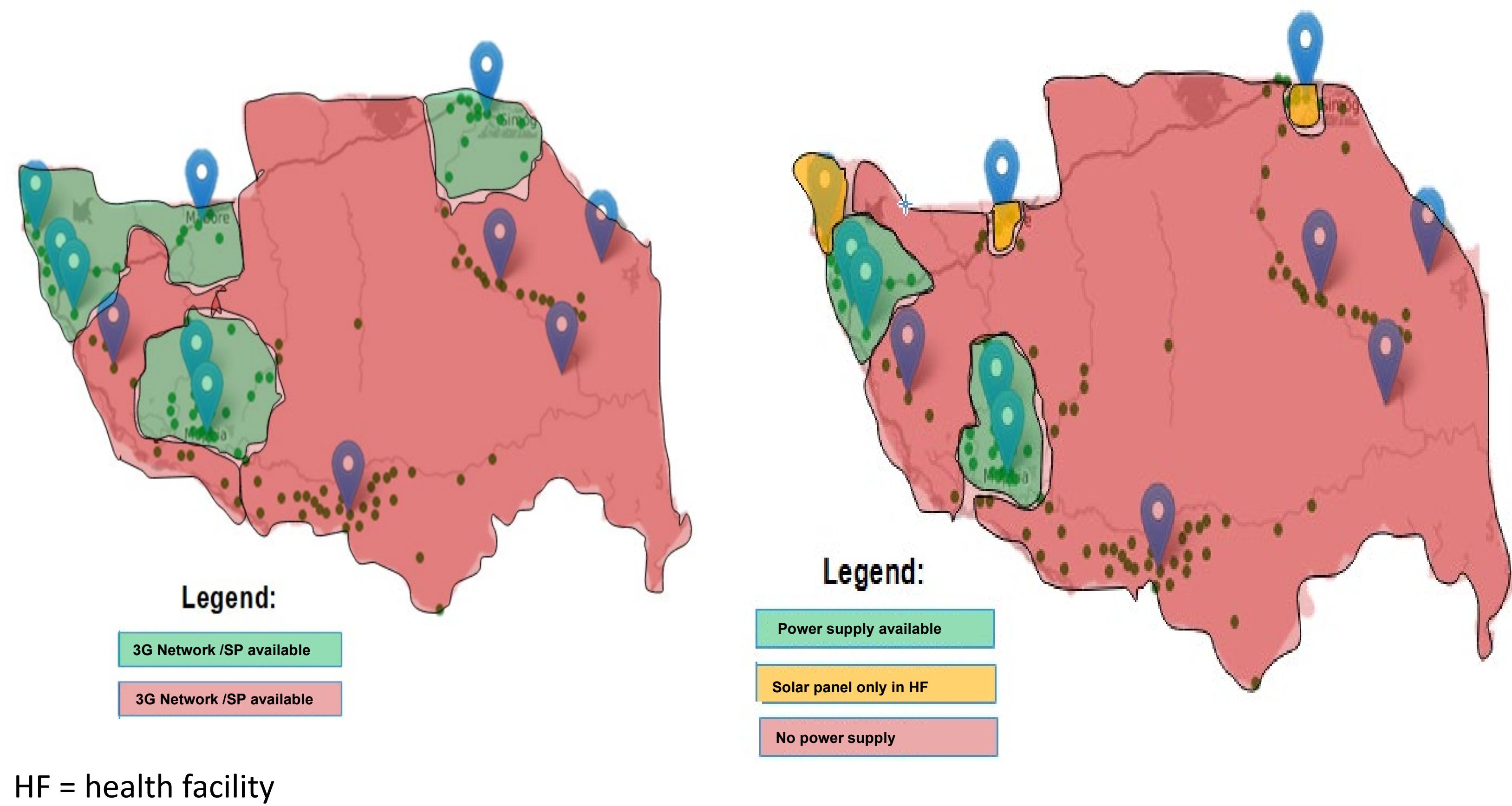
Background

Under the Next Generation Indoor Residual Spraying (NgenIRS) project, the cost-effectiveness evaluation of the indoor residual spraying (IRS) study in Mopeia, Mozambique, aims to provide clear evidence on the impact and cost-effectiveness of using non-pyrethroid IRS in a high transmission area. Data from the active cohort and cross-sectional surveys are collected electronically using Open Data Kit (ODK) Collect. Data collection in developing countries is being increasingly handled through electronic tools. Through ODK-based forms, the data are typically available in real time for checks and reviews. Data validations can also be programmed to prevent data entry/collection errors. The advantages of electronic collection can be undermined when its challenges are not foreseen and addressed quickly.

Map showing the location of Mopeia district.

Aims and method

Drawing on literature and our own experience, we present here the challenges in implementing ODK-based forms with mobile tablets and e-forms in remote communities of Mozambique and how these challenges impact the study.
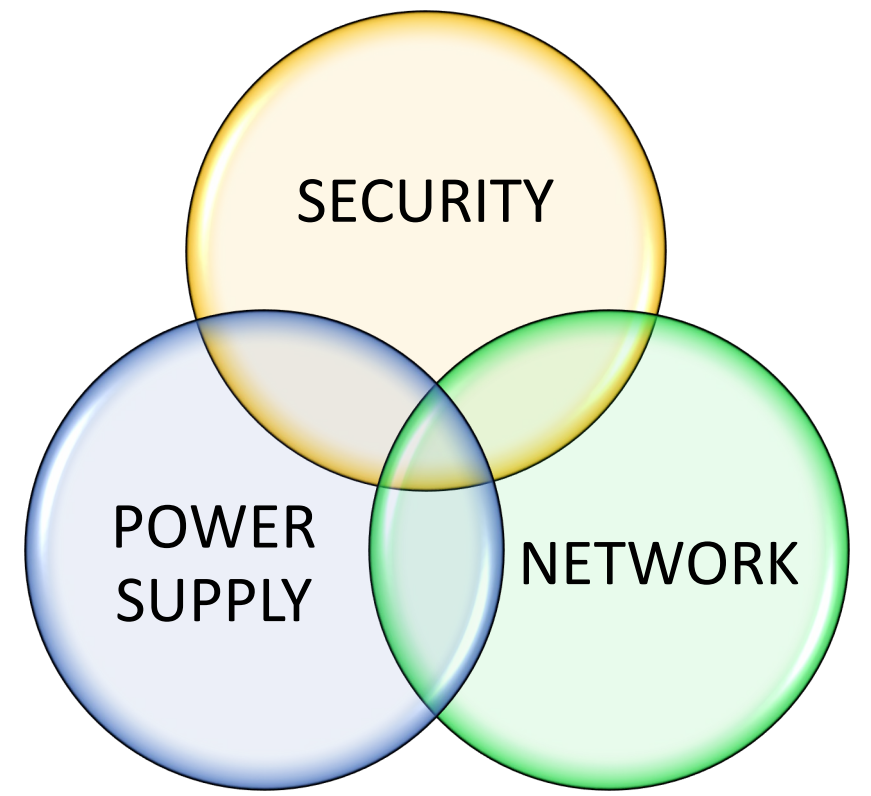

Legend:
- 3G Network /SP available
- 3G Network /SP available

Legend:
- Power supply available
- Solar panel only in HF
- No power supply

HF = health facility

SCAN ME

Find more about "The cost-effectiveness evaluation of the indoor residual spraying (IRS) study"

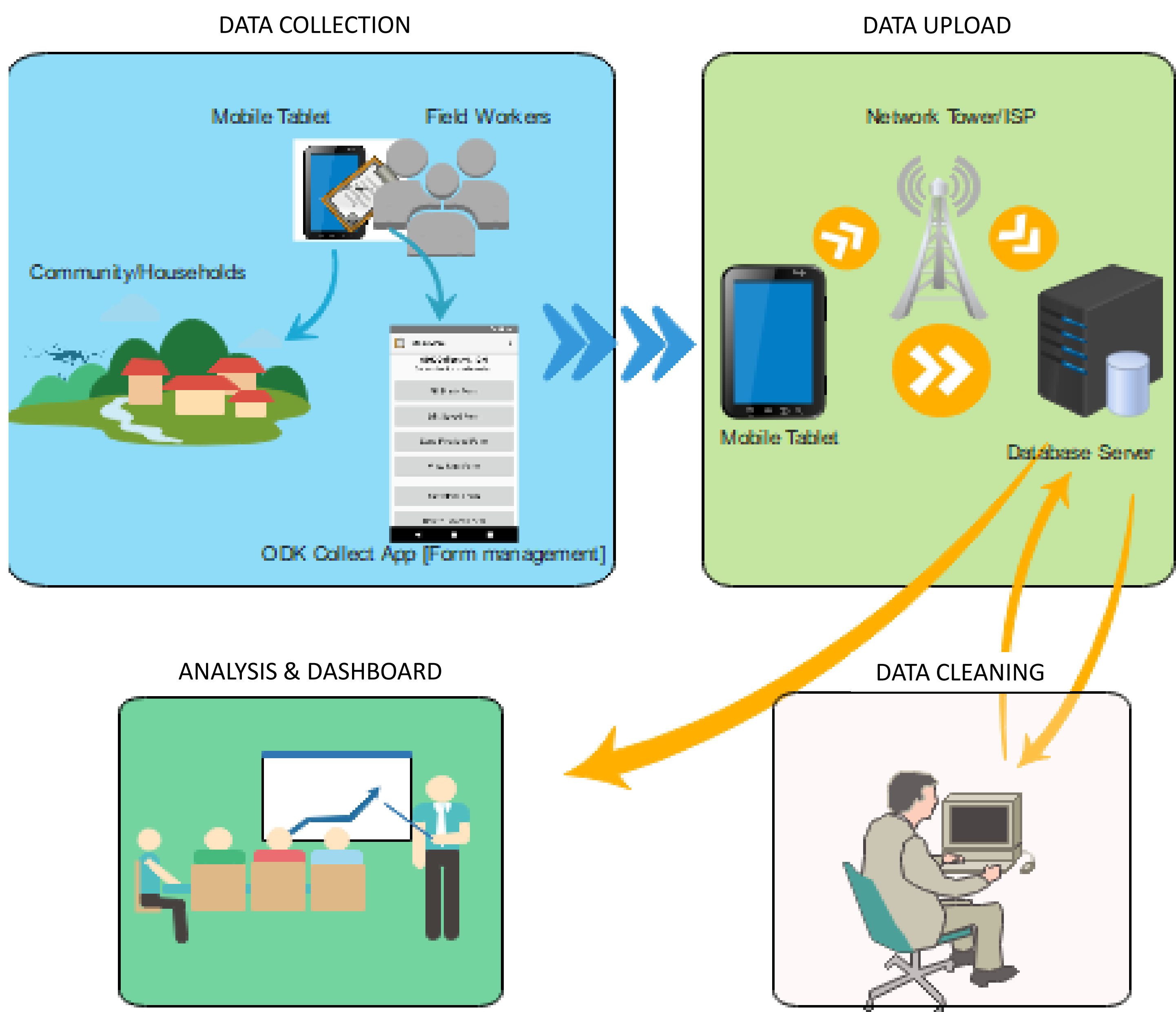eldo.elobolobo@manhica.net
www.manhica.org

Results

Three key challenges of collecting data by mobile phone could negatively impact a study and lead to higher costs when not foreseen, namely:
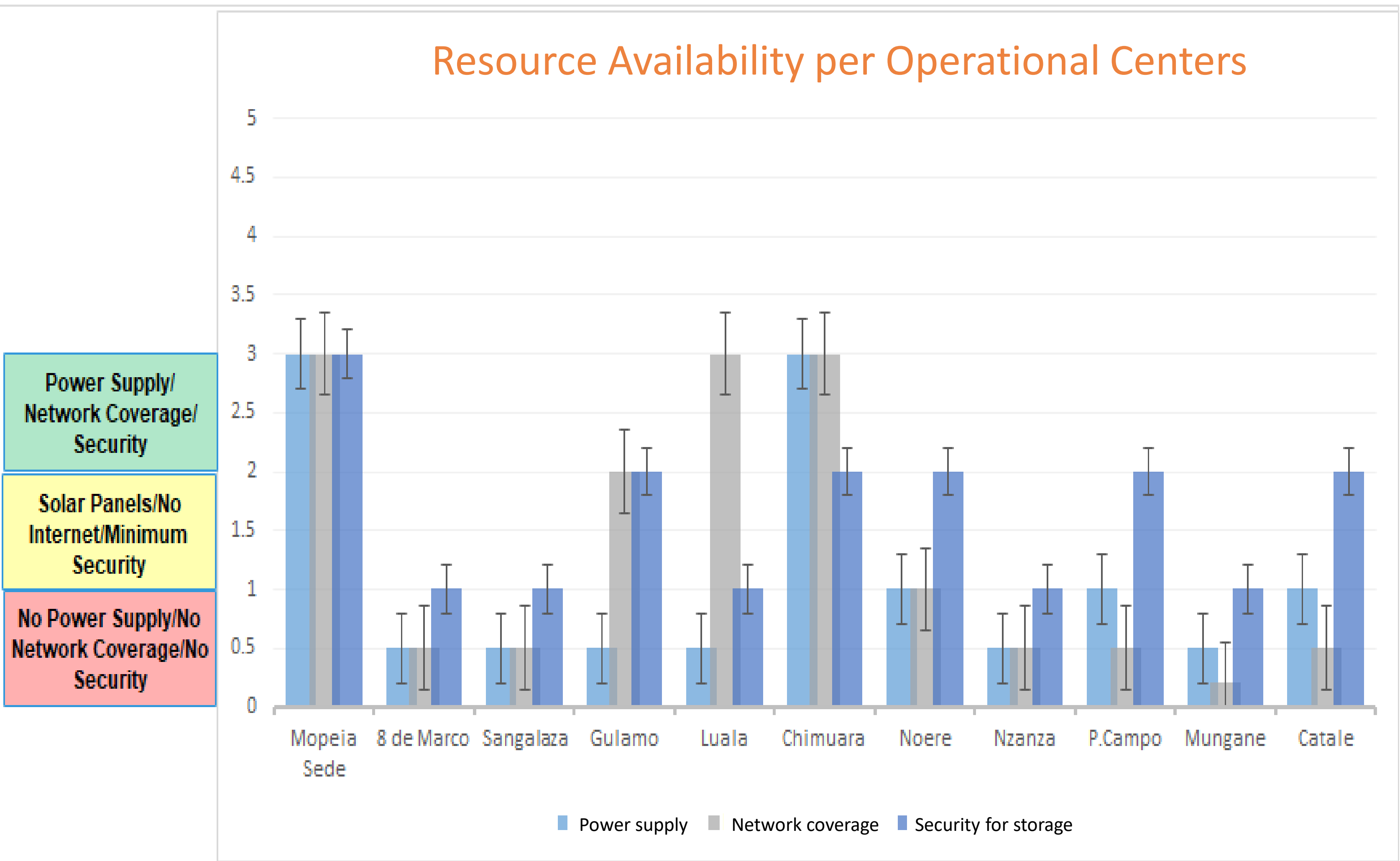
- **Security**
- **Lack of electricity**
- **Lack of internet connectivity**

Mobile data collection process

Resource Availability per Operational Centers

Conclusion

Researchers should be aware of these three challenges when budgeting for and implementing studies using electronic data systems in remote communities.