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CS319 / 5-3 Milestone: Data Priorities

For borrowers in a situation where they only have a flip phone to use and access Kiva, it makes sense to save them time and prioritize showing the more important data to keep the platform simple, and easy to navigate. Borrowers would want to see their loan amount and terms and their monthly payments, and a progress tracker or bar that displays how much of the loan is paid and how much is left to be paid. The best data sets that apply are loan amount, amount funded, loan term, and repayment intervals, I think those are the most important ones to have. I believe that a graphical user interface (GUI) is the interface best suited to this since it can work with an embedded system and maintain efficiency and usability. There will be several users that would be considered borrowers that would use the system, you would have some users who want to borrow money but haven’t started and whose goal is to use the system to request funds and tell their story, Secondly, there would be users who started the borrowing process but want to come and check on their request’s status and see if their borrowing goal has been reached, Thirdly there would be existing borrowers coming back to start repaying and check on their loan repayment progress. My design requirement is designing the system to work in an efficient smooth way without facing lags, Making the system usable by all possible user regardless of their level of technical knowledge and lastly making the system accessible on flip phones and other similar devices.

After reading borrowers' stories and what made them come onto Kiva and request a loan is that a lot of them are doing it out of necessity and it means a lot to them to get a loan that would help them with their challenges, the stories I came across we’re loan requests for business purposes like needing capital to scale the business or needing capital to buy the necessary resources to start a business, from what I read a huge number of people who would be considered at a disadvantage or vulnerable use Kiva to help them with starting something that can provide to them and their families and that the majority of borrowers don’t have the luxury of having a smart device that they can access easily. After reading and reviewing my data requirements I accurately analyzed what needs to be prioritized for the system.

In a UI/UX wireframe for the system I think it is important to make the design easy to navigate and use and at the same time provide the details and info the user wants to see without any hassle, so my goal is to make it very informative and easy to use, so based on that I would display the amount request, the amount raised so far, that way users can know how much has been raised so far and design a progress bar visual next to it and then after it has been raised I would display the loan term and the monthly date for repayments every month and a progress tracker so that information is visualized. It is important to make sure that users can trust the application in showing all the relevant information and not hiding anything and be transparent with how everything is going.

I think lenders will want to know the borrower’s reason for wanting a loan if the user is a frequent borrower or is his first time if the borrower is vetted by a lending partner, and the loan details (amount, duration, and type), the data sets that would show that to them would be the loan amount the raised amount the description, country, repayment intervals, and distribution model. A web-based interface would be the best one to go with for this cloud-based software, the different users that would use this app from the lender's side would be users who come in with the intent of lending but haven’t started lending yet looking for a borrower to lend to and established lenders who are coming to look at the repayment process and view data that can visualize to them where their money is and at what step they are at. The data requirements for this web-based system would be to make it data-intensive and be transparent with lenders with the data, and to make the app scalable to work on all platforms and devices.