
Do digital services really add value to smallholder farmers? Evidence and prospects

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Digital opportunities for the youth



Communication



Digital services



Service provision

Examples of digital services

Information & Learning



Input and Output markets



Financial services



What do we actually know about the impacts of digital services on smallholder farmers?

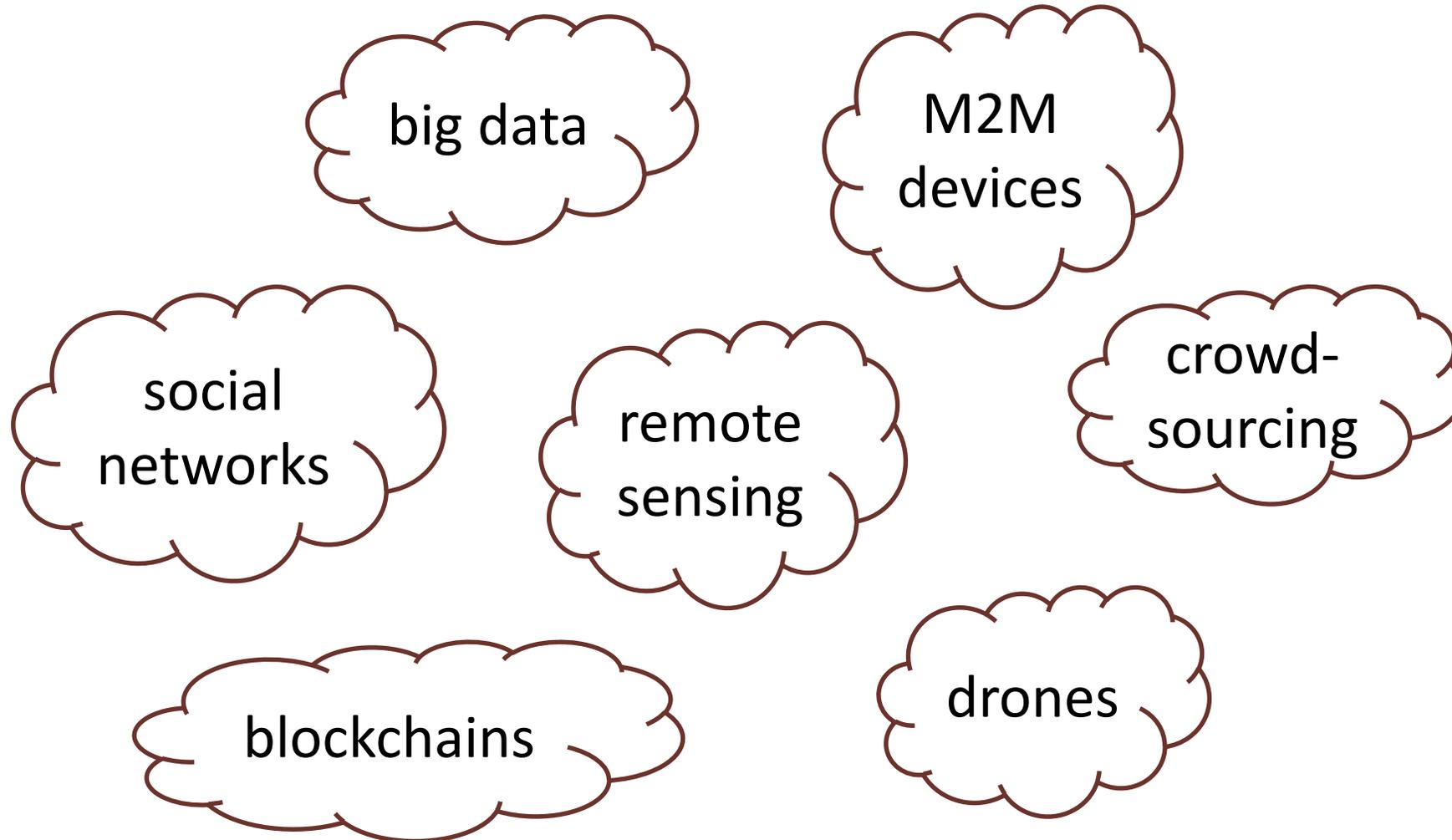


Key findings in the literature

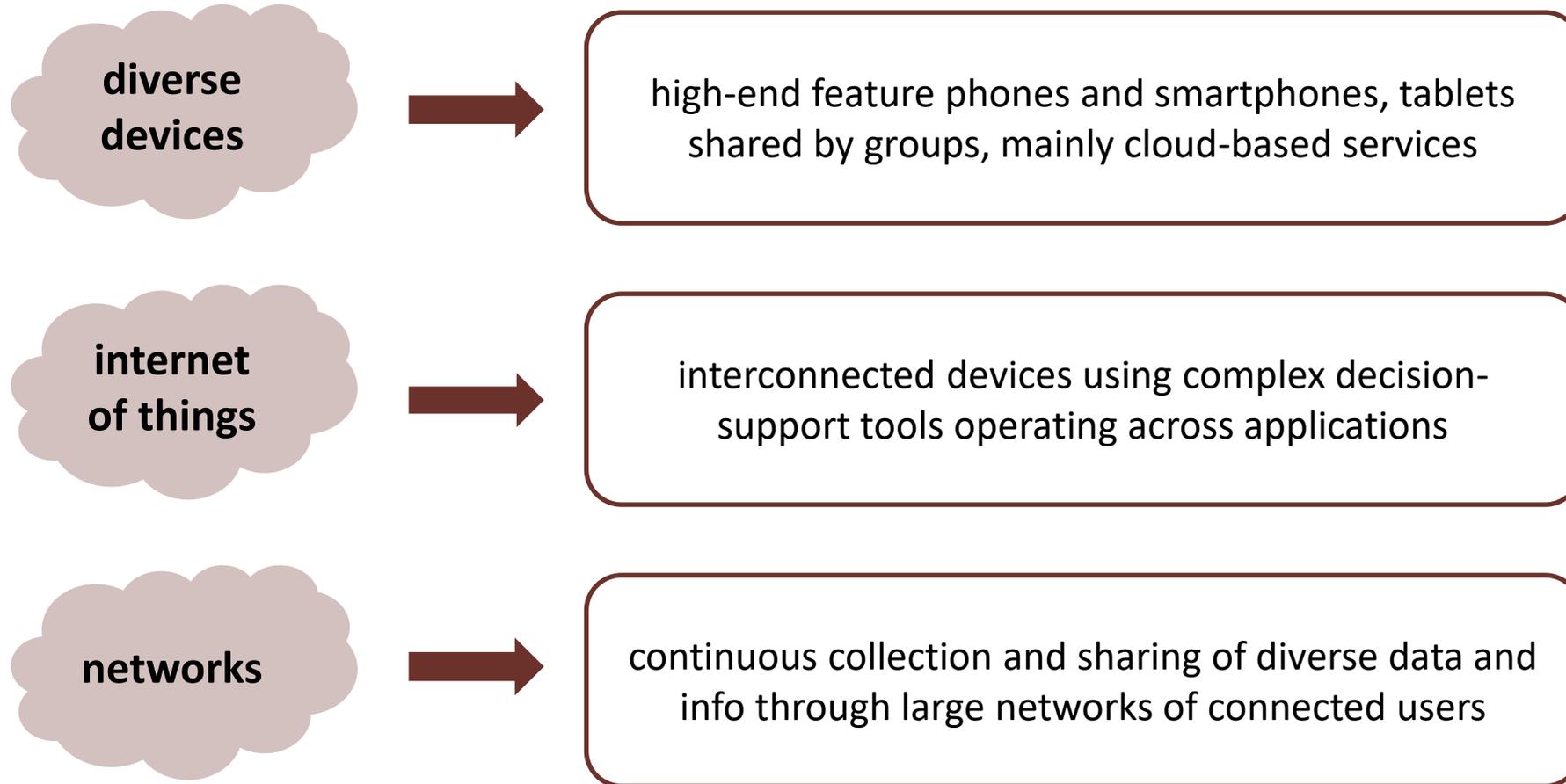
- **Information services** useful for production planning and management of weather-related risks
- **Price information** will raise prices only if there are opportunities for arbitrage
- Limited impacts on **trading** patterns because of other factors influencing sales decisions
- Likely benefits from better **supply chain management**
- **Mobile money** mainly used to receive money, incl. remittances and off-farm income

BUT: limited empirical evidence overall,
users, usage and impacts of digital services are under-researched

Outlook: Digital technology trends



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Policy Recommendations

1. To benefit smallholder farmers, focus more on digital services along the entire value chain
2. Integrate different digital services on ICT platforms
3. Plan infrastructure investments and design digital services with a long-term, evidence-based perspective
4. Integrate ICTs into schooling, vocational education and university courses

For further information

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