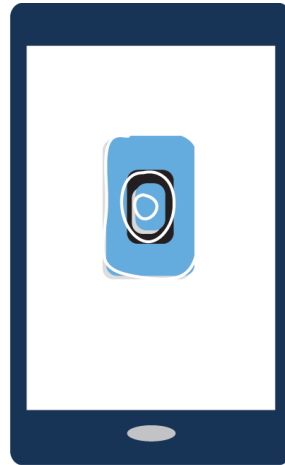# Kobo Toolbox concepts

Yewondwossen Assefa
assefay@gmail.com

KoBo Toolbox

KoBo Toolbox
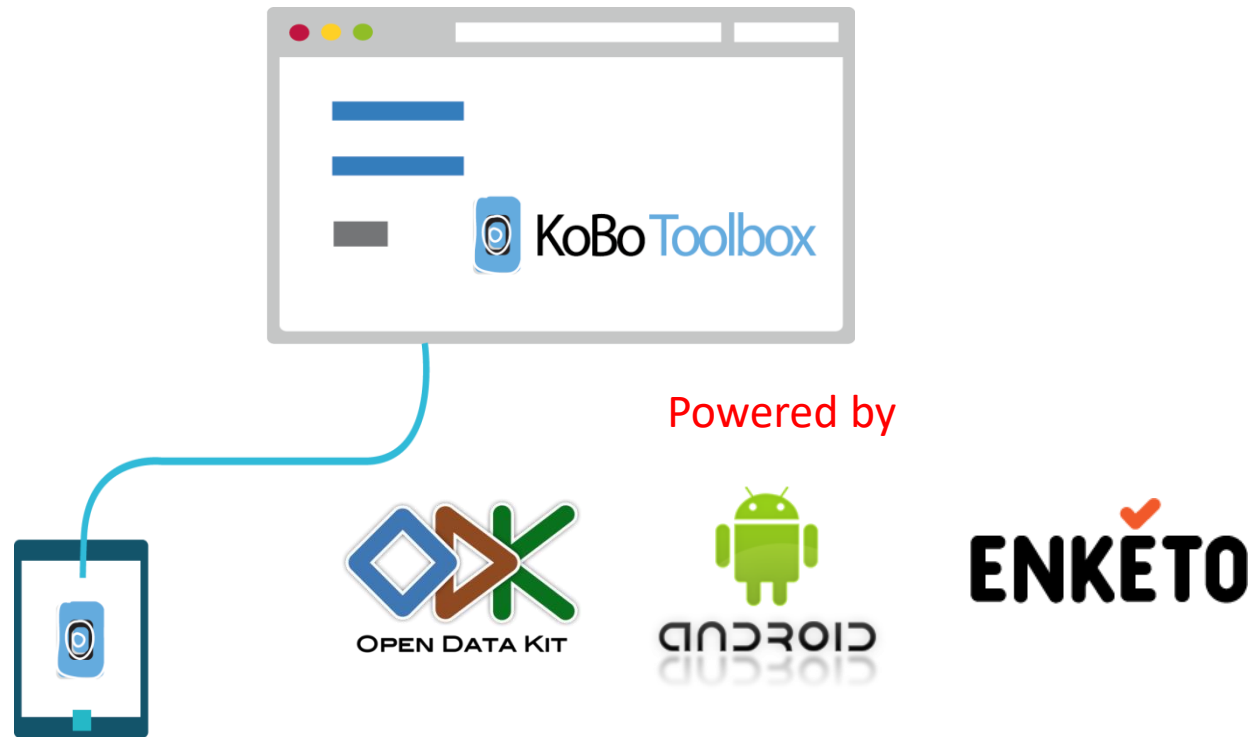
- Now available free for humanitarian use

Build to collect data in humanitarian crisis

Open source technology

Powered by

Open source technology and free for humanitarian use

Key advantages

KoBo Toolbox

Collect GPS locations

Take a photographs

Collect data offline

Sync data immediately or later

Collect data on paper form and data entry on browser

Collect on mobile devices
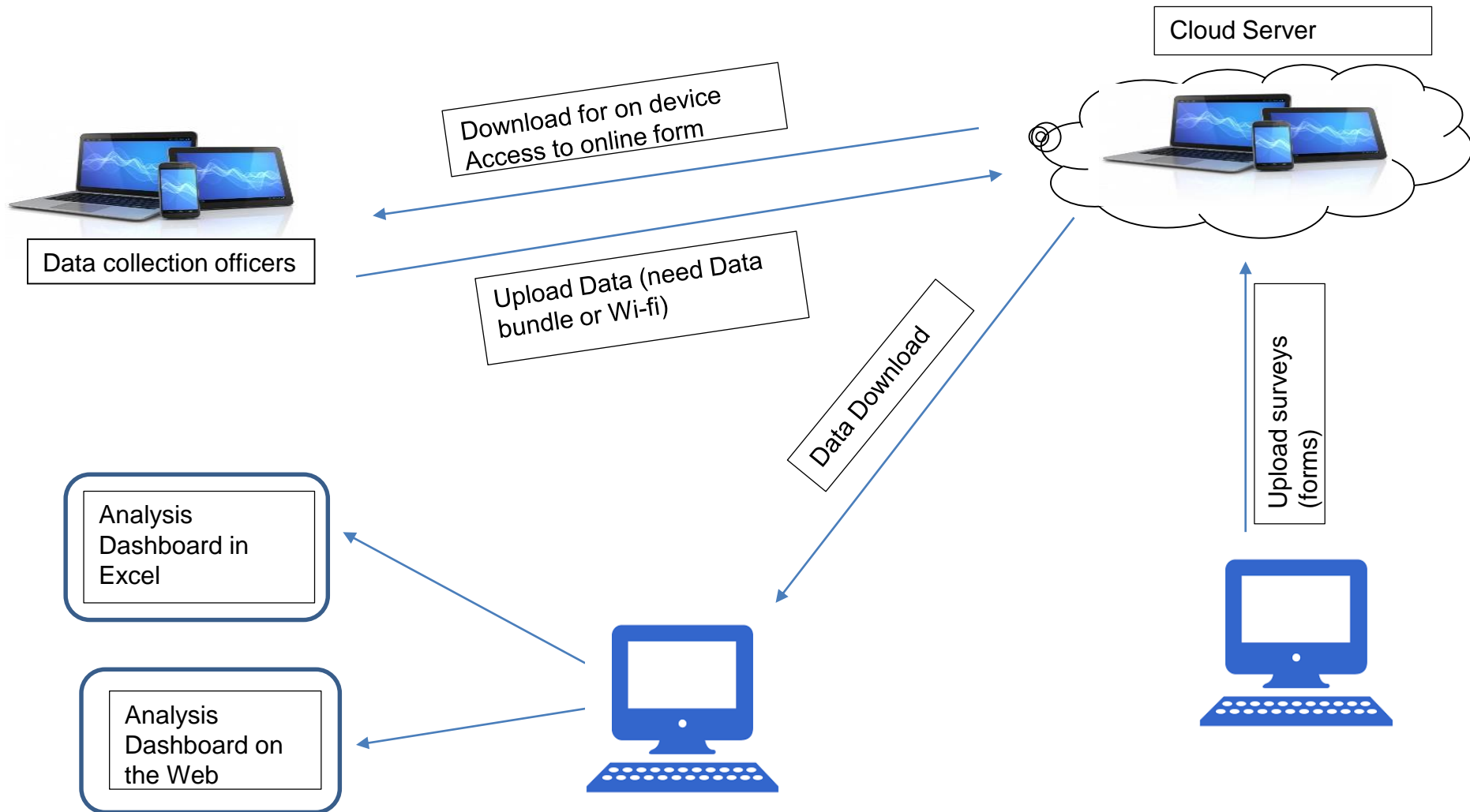
Design your own digital forms without programming

Better data management (database, integrated error checking)

KoBoToolbox

Disadvantages

- Learning curve (paper is easy!)

- Dependency on technology

- Initial cost

Disadvantages

Key Messages

- It is a technology not a solution to a problem

- Proven technology

- Needs to be properly "owned"

- Adaptable to different types of surveys

Question types

Question type	Answer input
integer	Integer (i.e., whole number) input.
decimal	Decimal input.
range	Range input.
text	Free text response.
select_one [options]	Multiple choice question; only one answer can be selected.
select_multiple [options]	Multiple choice question; multiple answers can be selected.
note	Display a note on the screen, takes no input.
geopoint	Collect a single GPS coordinate.
geotrace	Record a line of two or more GPS coordinates.
geoshape	Record a polygon of multiple GPS coordinates; the last point is the same as the first point.
date	Date input.
time	Time input.
dateTime	Accepts a date and a time input.
image	Take a picture or upload an image file.
audio	Take an audio recording or upload an audio file.
video	Take a video recording or upload a video file.
file	Generic file input (txt, pdf, xls, xlsx, doc, docx, rtf, zip)
barcode	Scan a barcode, requires the barcode scanner app to be installed.
calculate	Perform a calculation; see the Calculation section below.
acknowledge	Acknowledge prompt that sets value to "OK" if selected.
hidden	A field with no associated UI element
xml-external	Adds a reference to an external XML data file

Further reading

http://www.kobotoolbox.org/

http://xlsform.org/

https://opendatakit.org/help/form-design/