1. Background

Within in the frame of the cooperation between the RAIS within the GFAR frame, the need for a tool to condense and summarise information available on the web was identified. The requirements for such a tool also referred to the Information Platform www.RUNetwork.de, which provides both diversified information as also the opportunity for stakeholders from ARD and rural development to publish on the web. The objective of this tool is to setup a website, with selected articles from RUNetwork and other external websites.

1.1. The need for such a tool

The objective for the development of Kitabu, the bookmarking tool, was to allow to setup a website, which firstly gives access to selected websites, secondly allows editors without broad knowledge of html to publish summaries and statements about the selected websites and thirdly to design a system, which is easy to handle.
The approach to use different modules and to link them to new concepts is a basis for the concept. This means that Kitabu is a standalone application. On the other hand it will be possible in the next version of the system to place dynamic links by means of includes or RSS-feeds on other websites in order to redirect the user to the Kitabu-profiles. In adaptation to RUNetwork, it is also possible to publish individual RUNetwork articles. A specific output for this application can be viewed on each article of RUNetwork and is marked with the following symbol:  

1.2. **Kitabu – the name**

Every product needs a name! This facilitates promotion and also labelling of a product. The bookmarking tool was called “Kitabu”, which is Swahili and means book. The word is derived from from Arabic kitāb “book”. In Arabic it is pronounced Kitæb and in Persian (Farsi), where it also exists, it is pronounced Kita:b.

1.3. **URL of Kitabu**

Kitabu is meant to have a single URL, which everyone can access to register for a profile. Presently Kitabu can be found under http://www.kitabu.net.tc/. This is a URL without webspace and therefore another URL will be installed.

1.4. **Examples**

Examples for the use of Kitabu-profiles are:

1. The website of Sudeh Dehnavi, a Persian student, who specialised on Wheat: http://www.bookmark.it.tc/. Her articles on RUN can be viewed on http://www.runetwork.de/html/en/index.html?journal_id=209. In her Kitabu-Profile, the articles have been included as individual pages.

2. The website of ONASA, the partner institution of ZADI and CTA in Benin: www.onasa.org. An example for the creation for a site, by using a selection of RUN-articles can be viewed on: http://www.resimao.org/kitabu/ONASA/.

Image below: a screenshot of “Gandom” the website on wheat, which was published by Sudeh Dehnavi.

Sudeh is a student of Agriculture in Bonn/Germany. She called Gandom.

Languages in Asia, e.g. “Gandum” in Indonesian, as it is one of the many meanings of Bread = نان، فورت، نان دان.
2. The technical concept of Kitabu

2.1. Use of licence free software
Kitabu is developed on the based of license free software, i.e. on PHP, MySql, Apache Server.

2.2. The basic concept

2.2.1. Linking websites
The registered use can easily install a menu-item, under which he can publish different links to selected websites, which will open in an i-frame on the Kitabu-website.

2.2.2. Editing in Html
The registered user is given the possibility to edit his website by inserting titles, texts and images to create a webpage for each menu-item. The backend automatically insert html tags for the title, the CSS-Styles of the text and the image tags. Users, which master html, can also edit pages in html.

2.2.3. Adaptation of the layout
The registered user can – without knowledge of website programming – edit CSS-stylesheets and load up a header image, to nicely design his site.

2.2.4. Transferral to other URLs
The backend of each Kitabu profile offers an index.html, which can be loaded up on external servers to redirect users from the URL to the individual Kitabu-profile.
Please view a summarising images to explain the functionalities of Kitabu-bookmarking tool below:

- Uses an i-frame to display selected websites
- Automatically creates config. files and database tables for each profile of each user
- Displays menu in different languages
- Offers users an index.html, which can be uploaded on the user’s own server and will display the site created with the bookmarking-tool
2.3. **The registration procedure**

The registration procedure is very simple and was tested with various interns, who have average skills in the use of website:

1. The user has to register with name, password, e-mail-address and of course a name for his Kitabu-profile.
2. The user is asked to indicate the language of the menu and the helpfiles. Presently English, French and German are available.
3. The user can configure colours of the background, the fonts and the menu.
4. The user can load up an header image of his website.
5. All configurations are saved in an individual config-file
6. for each profile, an individual table is created in the database

Please view below a graphical explanation of the registration procedure on Kitabu:
The functions of the backend of Kitabu:

2.4. **Language issues**

2.4.1. **UTF-8, latin fonts and others**

Kitabu-bookmarking tool creates websites with UTF-8 settings. This allows display of latin fonts with different Umlauts, latin accents (ä, ö, ü, é, etc) and also the insertion of arabic and farsi fonts into the database.

Menus and help files are available in English, French and German. Other languages can be added.

2.5. **Essential changes on RUNetwork**

Each article on RUNetwork can be displayed in a view without menus and thus looks like an integrated part of the Kitabu-profile.

View the following links as examples:

1. The article on the RUNetwork website:  

2. The article prepared for the use in Kitabu:  

3. The article in the Gandom-Kitabu-profile:  
3. Stepwise explanation of the backend

3.1. The English Version of the Online Documentation

3.1.1. How to create a new Menu-Item and how to add your Bookmarks (English)

To add a Bookmark to your website, you first have to select a Menu-Item from the list under which the Bookmark should be presented.

A Menu-Item is the first level of your menu
A Bookmark (link) is the second level of your menu (pic 1)

- Click on "Insert"
- You have two choices:
  1. Select an existing Menu-Item from the list
  2. Create a new Menu-Item

If you chose to take an existing Menu-Item (pic 2), just click "continue" you will be directed to a form, where you insert the name of the Bookmark (link) and the URL of the Bookmark (link) (pic 3) and click on "save"

If you want to insert a new Menu-Item, just ignore the offered categories and use the input-field to the right to insert a new one and click "continue". You will be forwarded to a form where you can insert a title, a describing text and even an image according to your new Menu-Item (pic 4). Afterwards you will insert the name of the bookmark (link) and the URL of the bookmark (link) (pic 3) and click on "save"

Pic 1
3.1.2. How to alter a Menu-Item or a Bookmark

- Hover over "Update"
- Select "Menu-Items" or "Bookmarks" and click on it (pic 1)

1. Menu-Item:

   1. Select a Menu-Item and press "edit" (pic 2)
   2. You see the entries according to the Menu-Item, you selected (pic 3)
   3. Here you can change or delete the entries and delete the picture or take another one

   Attention: Don't leave the Menu-Item empty

2. Bookmark:

   1. Click on the little edit-sign aside the row of the Bookmark you want to alter (pic 4)
   2. Then you can change the Menu-Item and/or alter the Bookmark and/or the URL (pic 5)
The ISICAD-Toolbox is a collection of the different web-tools, the ISICAD-team has created....

isicad_logo_web.gif
3.1.3. How to delete a category or a bookmark

- hover over "Delete"
- select "Categories" or "Bookmarks" and click on it (pic 1)

1. Categories:

- Click on the little red trash can besides a category.
- The category will be deleted at once (pic 2)
- Notice: all related Bookmark-profiles will be erased, too

2. Bookmarks

- Click on the little red trash can besides a bookmark (pic 3)
- The bookmark will be deleted at once

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Id</th>
<th>Link</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td><a href="http://www.anancy.net">http://www.anancy.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td><a href="http://www.era-ard.org">http://www.era-ard.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td><a href="http://www.infoysplus.org">http://www.infoysplus.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td><a href="http://www.isicad.org">http://www.isicad.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td><a href="http://www.resimao.org">http://www.resimao.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td><a href="http://www.runetwork.de">http://www.runetwork.de</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3.1.4. How to sort Menu-Items or Bookmarks for the order in your menu

- Hover over "Sort"
- Select "Menu-Items" or "Bookmarks" and click on it (pic 1)

1. Menu-Item

- Shift the arrow besides a Menu-Items up or down to change the order (pic 2)
- The sequence of the Menu-Items will be altered

2. Bookmark

- Click on the Menu-Item where you want to sort the Bookmarks (pic 3)
- Shift the arrow besides a Bookmark up or down to change its order (pic 4)
- The sequence of your the Bookmarks at the selected Menu-Item will be altered
### Pic 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sort</th>
<th>S</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Menu-Items</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bookmarks</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Pic 2

Shift arrows up or down to change:

| Animal Production | ▼ |  |
| Plant Production | ▼ | ▲ |
| ISICAD-Toolbox | ▲ |  |

### Pic 3

Click on the category where you want to sort the bookmarks:

- Animal Production
- Plant Production
- ISICAD-Toolbox

### Pic 4

Shift arrows up or down to change the order of the bookmarks:

| Animal Production |  |
| Plant Production |  |
| Plant Production FAQ | ▼ |  |
| Plant Production Simulator | ▼ | ▲ |
| Natural Resources and Plant Science | ▲ |  |

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*KITABU – Bookmarking essential pages, ZADI / ISICAD.org*
3.1.5. Different general settings

General Settings and Download

- Hover over "Settings"
- Select "Mainsite", "Imprint", "Layout" or "Download" and click on it

1. Mainsite

- Here you can edit the appearance of your website when it is opened the first time, or when you click on "Home".
- You can give the site a title.
- You can add describing text.
- You also can load up an image - please regard that the size is not too big.
- And you can always change these entries or delete them

2. Imprint

- Here you can edit the imprint of your website

3. Layout

- Here you will be guided to the setup-area to alter the setting you have made at the very first beginning
- You can change the language, which is used on this Administration-site, you can change the picture on the top or you can change the colors
- Clicking "Continue" without loading up a new header-image or selecting one or more new colors will effect no change to the appearance of your site

4. Download

- Here you can download an "index.html" in a zipped format to simulate this site to be on the website of your own
- Download the file on your computer
- Extract it
- And now you can shift it via FTP to your own account
- Accessing this "index.html" you will have the appearance of this bookmark-tool under your own site-name
3.2. **The French Version of the Online Documentation**

The French Version of the online tutorial can be viewed on [http://www.kitabu.net.tc/](http://www.kitabu.net.tc/)