

Connecting Digitally: eNGO Workshop now in Pakistan

With the advent of new technology, there is a need to empower NGOs with the latest tools to help them scale up for better outcome. There is no second view on why and how Information Communication Technology (ICT) tools, platforms and devices led by web platform can bring positive transformation in processes, mechanism and delivery capacities of NGOs in contemporary times. With increase in scope of NGOs in Pakistan to intervene and undertake social and developmental responsibilities, there emerges a challenge for NGOs to escalate and develop their institutional capacities for good results. NGOs are increasingly seen as pro-active and front face of citizen service deliveries and community empowerment, in rural/countryside in Pakistan.

On 10th May 2014 Digital Empowerment Foundation is going to organize an eNGO workshop in partnership with Public Interest Registry in Islamabad, Pakistan. Located in South of Asia, Pakistan's economy is the 26th largest in the world in terms of purchasing power parity (PPP), and 44th largest in terms of nominal GDP.

Around 70 NGOs are expected to participate in this workshop. The country partner for this event is Bytes for All. It is a human rights organization and a research think tank with a focus on Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs). It experiments with and organizes debates on the relevance of ICTs for sustainable development and strengthening human rights movements in the country.

The collective efforts of PIR and DEF, since 2010, have brought good results in the eNGO Network and Challenge programme. The vision of the eNGO is to see that all grassroots organisations are ICT enabled and in turn transform into changing agents of societies and communities they serve. At a wider policy and programme level it is desired that governments and authorities realize the necessity to empower NGOs and other community based organisations with technology skills to serve national development goals and objectives by supplementing and complimenting the role of governments.