

DEF organized its second workshop on 11<sup>th</sup> august under the Project Sookna Seva, as a part of initiative of European Union. Consultation workshop was based on "**Information on Public entitlements & Role of Digital tools**". It was a second meet among 14 partners to analyze & understand the requirement & feasibility of ICT in disseminating the information about the government entitlements and also to measure the impact in long term.



Around 50 people participated from 14 partner organisations in the workshop and worked together for one whole day to extract the best from the reference material & ICT tools available for dissemination of information on-ground. During the workshop, DEF showcased the **Baseline Survey application**, especially designed to conduct the survey online/offline mode in rural locations, using a tablet/mobile phone. Apart from this, **Database of 4500+ Public schemes** collected via ground teams of various states & existing departments. Each public scheme is available in Audio, Video, Jingle, comic, Poster, SMS, text formats, make it easy to serve users from varied backgrounds. It is a strange paradox that despite the multitude of schemes & programmes for the marginalized, there is hardly any improvement in their condition. Even all the well-intentioned plans are in place, but nothing seems to trickle down to the beneficiaries. In this technology age, where we are witnessing a complete telecom revolution & we understand that there can be no medium other than Mobile which can ensure the last mile information reach; DEF has also proposed the mobile application (under process). This mobile application will be accessed through smart phones & low-cost mobile phones with a different approach & content. We understand the geographic & demographic diversity of the

country where the needs of localities vary from one location to other in terms of content, language, priorities, concerns & more. With this background, we are dedicated to design this mobile application in such a way that one can enter & view data in all possible regional languages & as per their marked priorities.

A detailed workshop report will shortly be available on Sochna Seva page of DEF website. We have already reached out to various partners involved in ICT, education and other areas. But just as information grows exponentially when transferred, we would like to join hands with interested stakeholders to deal with the challenge together. We are looking for Fellows, Partners and dedicated team members for this project.

You can also contact us through [sochnaseva@defindia.net](mailto:sochnaseva@defindia.net)