

# **Euro-India SPIRIT: ICT Road show–Delhi**

**13<sup>th</sup> December 2011 at FICCI**

## **Post Event Report**

Euro India SPIRIT has been putting efforts to analyze the research dimension of Indian ICT policy, identify medium to long term vision and perspectives and reveal complementarities amid EU priorities with the objective to refine the joint policy dialogue. The policy analysis is supported by three Working Groups comprising renowned experts from India and Europe, on three key areas: ICT Addressing Societal Challenges; Audio Visual Media & Internet; Emerging Technologies and e-Infrastructures.

Euro-India SPIRIT, reaching its conclusion has come-up with consolidated recommendations for EU and India under the identified themes, e-Governance, e-Inclusion, Future Network Infrastructure & Technologies, Cloud Computing and Trust & Security.

On this occasion, a roundtable with an objective to debate and discuss the recommendations brought forth during the two-year project with the Indian and European experts involved in the project was organized at FICCI on December 13, 2011. The handbook on the recommendations was unveiled during the Roadshow.

Mr. Sumeet Gupta, Additional Director, FICCI welcomed the audience and the experts and briefly enumerated the project. A brief on the Recommendations of the project was presented by Mr. Tom Williams, European Research Consortium for Informatics and Mathematics (ERCIM), France. Mr. Neeraj Suri, TUD Chair Professor Dependable Embedded Systems & Software, Department of Computer Science, Technische Universität, Darmstadt, Germany was the expert from European side and overall session was moderated by Mr. Ashok Kar, Managing Partner, Infra Technologies, France.

Two other work-group experts, Pr. HdR. Dr. Ing. Mounib Mekhilef, Director, Ability Europe Ltd., France and Mr. Abhishek Sharma, Chairman & CEO, NetEdge TeleSolutions Pvt. Ltd., India have marked their presence during the roadshow. Other participants were representatives from concerned Government departments, private bodies, NGOs and also experts and consultants in the subject area.

Mr. Neeraj Suri elucidated the fundamental differentiation between the Indian and European research and technological aspirations, and orientations to attain the same. Indicating the intricacies at both sides, he explained that projects designed by the European Commission are often multidimensional so as to take care of different priorities of its member countries in a broad subject line, while Indian projects are unidirectional and more specified in terms of technological requirements. He finally urged Indian stakeholders to kindly comprehend EU calls which being a collaborative job, may not be expected to focus on local specific technological issues but the areas of common interest must be appraised for collaboration.

Session Moderator, Mr. Ashok Kar has further elaborated the thought by pointing-out some common interest areas in 'Future & Secure Network' and 'Cloud' which have been

individually identified by the concerned government departments of both the side, India and the EU. He enlightened the necessity to identify broad areas of common interests and to bring-in change in strategic thinking, planning and mode of execution of the projects for collaborative research.

During the question answer round, it was felt and recommended that in order to create awareness and participation, such projects should come-up with more clarity in context and visibility in outer world with similar events with various stakeholders rather close group discussion among experts of the two sides. Connecting to this though, it was also indicated that there is huge gap between research identities and users based business models. Hence, EU must attempt to involve SMEs for their research based project calls.

Recommendations from the audience also highlighted on issues or rather non-clarity of IPR on partaking in international calls. Suggestions also pertained to a better understanding and participation from EU at Indian events like India Telecom, etc to increase visibility and enhance to Indian audiences, bridging the gap between research proposals and the India SMEs/ industry participation.

Participants were contented to be a part of the project and appreciated the idea and efforts for organizing such events.