Parallel FIWARE-FI-MEDIA session at ICEGOV2017, 7-9th March 2017, ASHOK Hotel New Delhi, India

On 7-9th March 2017, at Hotel Ashok, New Delhi, the 10th edition of the International Conference on Theory and Practice of Electronic Governance (ICEGOV) was hosted by the Government of India. The responsible Government department was NeGD, the National e-Governance Division, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, with excellent support from the United Nations' University Operating Unit on Policy-Driven Electronic Governance (UNU-EGOV), in collaboration with UNESCO.

Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad, Hon'ble Union Minister, Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology, Government of India, chaired the conference along with Ms. Maria Manuel Leitao Marques, Hon'ble Minister of Presidency & Administrative Modernization, Portugal, as co-chair. The conference theme was "Building Knowledge Societies: from Digital Government to Digital Empowerment".

On 8th March 2017, a special event session on FIWARE along with Smart Cities was organised with the objective to discuss "**How to benefit from FIWARE open platform to accelerate development of innovative smart city services?"**

In the FIWARE - Smart City- session, the EU-India FI-Media Project[1], an EU-India project funded by the Delegation of the European Commission to India[2], was represented and presented by one of the India partners, Mr. Abhishek Sharma, Managing Director of Beyond Evolution Tech Solutions Pvt Ltd (BETS). The other speakers of the panel of the session included:

1. Mr. HeeraLal, Managing Director, UPDESCO, Dept. of IT, Govt of Uttar Pradesh;
2. Mr. M Nagarajan - CEO, Smart City Surat, Govt. of Gujrat;
3. Ms. Emilia Nicolae – Orange Labs, Gurgaon , India
4. R. Mohit Dhingra – Orange Labs, Gurgaon , India.

The other attendees of the session were Municipality representatives, web developers, academics, students, SMEs, and start-ups.

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[1]http://www.bic-fimedia.eu/
[2] https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/india_en

The session commenced with the presentation by Ms. Emilia Nicolae of Orange Labs in Gurgaon, whose presentation gave background of the [FIWARE Foundation](#)[3] and its work highlighted the role of the FIWARE platform for the smart city ecosystem - city managers, enabling solution providers and developers in developing innovation applications for the smart city domains such as:

- Parking management system;
- Surveillance system/Security;
- Mobility including multi-modality;
- Intelligent traffic management;
- Intelligent solid waste management;
- Electrical smart metering;;
- Street Lighting management
- Smart tourism services;
- Dynamic messaging boards and web/mobile applications with route information;
- City level application and smart dashboard, Data Analytics and MIS.

Mr. HeeraLal, Managing Director, UPDESCO, Dept. of IT, Govt of Uttar Pradesh made a presentation highlighting the various plans, ongoing activities and the roadmap of the Govt. of U.P. towards making its cities "Smart". He mentioned that the U.P. Govt's approach for Smart Cities is holistic and duly appreciating the role of FIWARE, as was showcased by Ms Emilia Nicolae, and he welcomed the prospects of utilising the FIWARE platform for developing applications in the areas as mentioned above.

Thereafter, Mr. M Nagarajan, CEO, Smart City Surat, Govt. of Gujrat, shared his comprehensive vision and requirements for the city of Surat, whose main priority areas include smart transport management, smart health care and smart energy management.

Mr. Abhishek Sharma, of the FI-MEDIA project, elaborated the manner in which the developers and system mangers could develop their applications and solutions much faster and more efficiently with the help of the FIWARE platform. He also explained the role of FI-Media and how the project can facilitate the bridging of the European and India communities via Cluster to Cluster (C2C) partnerships, which can be facilitated by the project to make the best use of the advanced technologies and the developments taking place in Europe by their counterparts in India. The explanation on the support of FI-Media for C2C partnership was well received by the participants of the session including the panelists who then offered the invitations to their respective places for taking it forward.

Mr. Mohit Dhingra of Orange Labs in Gurgaon gave an enlightening demonstration of the FIWARE platform and explained various aspects related to the utilization of the open platform for developing various smart applications and solutions.

The discussions that followed were on various questions raised by the attendees, from technological details of the FIWARE platform, entry procedures to the C2C partnerships, and explanations on the best procedures to become providers of the smart solutions and the difficulties faced by the companies due to Government processes in tendering for advanced services. Mr. Heeralal and Mr. Nagarajan responded to those queries.

The session concluded on a positive note of appreciation for the FIWARE platform and the C2C approach of the EU-India FI-Media project. The project has recently published a Yearbook of Success stories that can be found on their web site at http://www.bic-fimedia.eu/?view=news&news_id=48.

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[3] https://www.fiware.org/foundation/