EU – India

Building International Cooperation Platform in

Future Internet & Electronic Media project

(shortname: FI-MEDIA)

Call Reference: EuropeAid/135-474/DD/ACT/IN

http://www.bic-fimedia.ie/

Name of document: FI-MEDIA Clusters formation executive summary (V2)

Purpose of document: Although not a formal deliverable, the project members have written this report describing the process followed, and successes to date, in the scoping, recruitment and establishment of potential ICT Clusters in India and EU related to the areas of convergence between Future Internet and Digital Media (FI-MEDIA).

Version number 2: Updates from the clustering activities in the EU (June 2015) and NEM Summit 2015 (October, 2015).

Date: 2nd November, 2015

Authors: James Clarke, Waterford IT (Coordinator), Abhishek Sharma, beTS, MP Gupta, IITD

Executive Summary

During the first year of the project, the FI-MEDIA partners have taken part in a number of highly relevant activities in both India and EU, enabling the presentation and explanation of the hot FI-MEDIA topics for cluster cooperation and leading to the recruitment from a pool of like-minded participants from both industry and research elements in both EU and India. Figure 1 summarises the events to which the FI-MEDIA partners have taken part and shows the planned upcoming events.
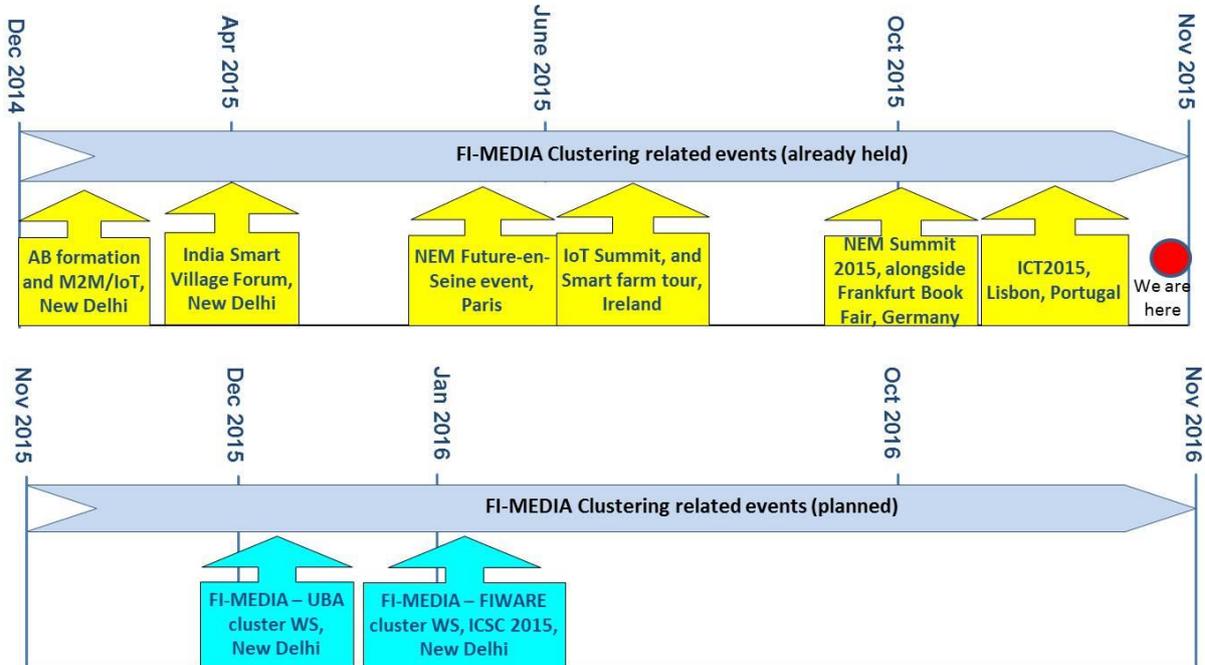

Figure 1 – Cluster related events in Year 1 of FI-MEDIA

The cluster building approach followed by the project members was stepwise, as shown in Figure 2.
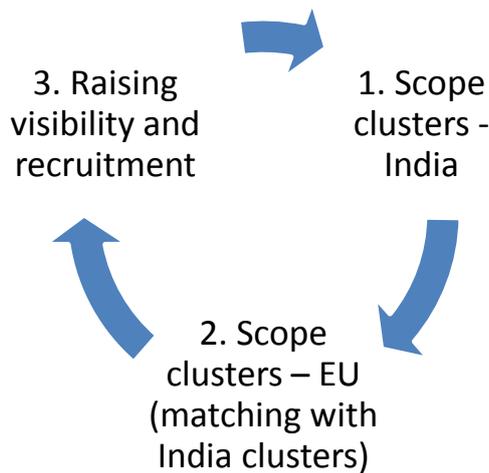

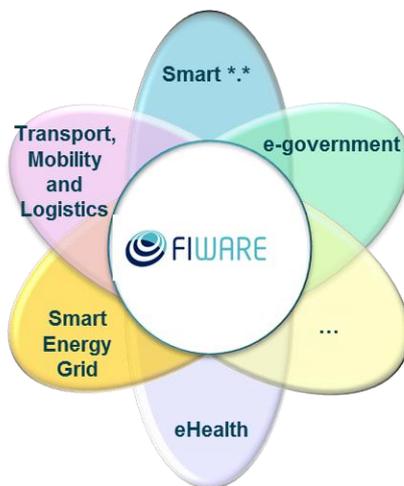**Figure 2 - Cluster formation process**

While identifying clusters, the project members followed a systematic process to investigate the landscape of relevant themes and topics in India first and then carry out a scoping, recruitment and matching exercise with the EU constituency thereafter, to ensure there would not be a chance of having any potential mismatches between the identified clusters in India and EU. The process took

longer than expected as a result, but it paid dividends as described in the report with a significant level of interest generated and commitment offered in both the India and EU participants to date.

For the first year, the FI-MEDIA project is concentrating on two Cluster to Cluster (C2C) partnerships:

C2C 1: Smart villages and Agriculture: FI-Media is collaborating with the Smart Villages Forum[1] and the IIT Delhi led Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA) initiative[2], which is inspired by the vision of transformational change in rural development processes by leveraging knowledge institutions (IITs, NITs, IIMs etc.) to help build the architecture of an Inclusive India. The mission is conceptualised as a movement to enable processes that connect institutes of higher education with local communities to address the development challenges of rural India through participatory processes and appropriate technologies for accelerating sustainable growth. It also aims to create a virtuous cycle between the society and an inclusive university system by providing knowledge and practices for emerging professions and to upgrade the capabilities of both the public and the private sectors. So far 132 villages have been identified to be taken up by various institutions. IIT Delhi has chosen a cluster of 32 villages[3] across the country to take UBA forward. Through the creation of this C2C partnership, FI-media will assist IIT Delhi to bring knowledge from the European setting on smart practices guiding rural economic life to these clusters for replications in whatever form/format that is feasible and relevant. The immediate opportunity available is in agriculture monitoring and dairy production, as this is a topic of interest identified during the clustering missions in the EU. Apart from these, it will also augment e-government services to citizens, which is another topic of interest between the EU and India. Through the clustering activities, it was felt these mutually beneficial initiatives will open up opportunities for skill development and entrepreneurship. **A joint C2C workshop of FI-MEDIA, Smart Villages Forum, and Unnat Bharat Abhiyan is currently scheduled for 17-18th December, 2015 in New Delhi, India (final date TBC).**

C2C 2: FIWARE[4] and Smart environments (e.g. smart campus, smart villages, smart cities). FIWARE

is an EU led initiative that was started as part of a Future Internet Public Private Partnership (FI-PPP), which is comprised of an Advanced OpenStack-based Cloud + rich library of Generic Enablers (GE) that make the development process much easier by hiding complexities (e.g. protocols) from the developers. A number of the major differential features of FIWARE are available including those related to Cloud, Data, IoT, Smart city / energy related apps, MiWi, Security, privacy and others. Although born in the EU, through the FI-LINKS/FIWARE Mundus global component, FIWARE is being extended towards other regions around the world who share the

ambition, including India and there is a welcomed opportunity to form a FIWARE C2C partnership with the important topics in India, such as smart campus, smart village, M2M, IoT, etc. **A co-organised FIWARE C2C event is planned that will be co-located with a larger scale event being held in IIT Delhi entitled International Conference on Smart Cities (ICSC 2016) on 22nd – 23rd of January, 2016.**

---

[1] http://www.smartvillagesforum.com/2015/index.php
[2] http://unnat.iitd.ac.in/index.php/en/
[3] http://unnat.iitd.ac.in/index.php/en/pilot-villages
[4] https://www.fiware.org/