FI-Media participates with the EU delegation on Future Internet PPP and Smart Cities Lab through FIWARE forum and 2ndSmart Cities India Expo 2016.

On May 11th, 2016, the FI-MEDIA project, in conjunction with a distinguished team from the EU, led by Mr. Olaf-Gerd Gemein, actually chairing the Steering Board of the Future Internet PPP (fi-ppp.eu) and Co-Founder of the Smart Cities Lab, organized a follow up session to their C2C on **Bringing FIWARE to India in the setting of Smart Villages/Cities.**

The networking sessions was co-located with the **2nd Smart Cities India 2016 Expo** being held 11-13th May, 2016 in New Delhi, in which **FIWARE,** the EU's Open Technology Platform, was being presented.

The purpose of the networking meeting was to identify interested business partners in India and to explain the FIWARE technologies involved and benefits in more detail and talk about the establishment of real business opportunities in areas related to Smart cities and FIWARE, and to explain a strategy for a follow-up consisting of a larger group coming to India in the autumn (1.-7. November, 2016) showcasing the potential of Smart Cities solutions with FIWARE.

India is on the way to speed up the process of becoming a smart country. The actual ambitious Smart Cities program paves the way towards a better quality of life for 100+ Million Indians in the next three years. Starting with 20 cities in 2016, the next wave of 45 cities will join the program in 2017. The preconditions are tremendous: India is the world's largest democratic country and have proven its capability towards innovation and flexibilty. The momentum today is coasting towards fast implementation, and initiatives like these will raise awareness and act as role model for the cities. International experts have co-designed the programs with various ministries in India working in close cooperation, as the local adoption is crucial for ultimate success. FIWARE have proven to be the platform of choice for Smart Cities, not only in Europe, but in other countries like Brazil.

OASC City Map: India is the next step

The OASC (Open & Agile Smart Cities Initiative) is bringing together various city clusters aiming to collaborate in the the deployment and smart usage of the FIWARE platform for smart cities. See actual video -> https://youtu.be/p0dSlzhZZow

The participants on behalf of the FI Media project included Cluster to Cluster (C2C) representatives from IIT Delhi (FI-MEDIA partner), Beyond Evolution Tech. Solutions (Gurgaon, FI-MEDIA partner), Orange Labs (New Delhi), Forthcode Technologies (Bangalore), Voxomos Technologies (Noida). The EU team was comprised of representation from the Steering board of the Future Internet PPP, co-founder of Smart Cities Lab, Olaf-Gerd Gemein, who opened the session with, „*Let´s take advantage from global democratization of expertise in the FIWARE eco-system. The process is of collecting knowledge from all societal stakeholders to put it to the test in solving contemporary challenges, in order to customize local solution*."

Smart Cities Lab India combines global expertise, specific know-how and technical implementation of a service-, product-, and application portfolio, based on generic open source components to avoid vendor-lock-in. The Lab integrates all stakeholders along the value chain powered by FIWARE, integrating "us" technically and operationally in the existing technical structures (agnosticism) and provision of smart solutions for the requirements of today and tomorrow.

The FIWARE team from Europe was also represented by Rahul Tomar (right), CTO of a developer team in Germany for smart urban logistics solutions, co-funded in the acceleration phase 2015.

Also, Dr. Faizan Mohhamad (left), founder of comfnet, an SME acting to matchmake potential interests from Europe with India in the FIWARE Eco-System, and leading the scientific collaboration task.

Furthermore, Dr. Giuseppina Pavesi (right) joined the delegation as expert for Public Private Partnerships, frequently involved in European Commission public grants as reviewer and evaluator and former CEO of an industry partner in India.

Mr. Abhishek Sharma of Beyond Evolution Tech. Solutions (left) gave an explanation of the FI-MEDIA project, including its objective, deliverables and the present status, emphasizing upon the approach to the desired cluster 2 cluster (C2C) partnerships including research and industry, which brings a strong synergy to work together with the FI PPP framework. This talk led to a good degree of appreciation of the project's goals amongst the participants present there. There were also exchanges on the utilization of FIWARE and they too were well appreciated. This led to general consensus on supporting the FI Media objectives of creating a C2C cluster on Bringing FIWARE to India in an Smart Cities / Smart Villages setting, along with the business interests of the FI PPP team.

The Orange Labs India representatives also presented their support of carrying forward the FIWARE awareness and utilization campaign in India with the support of FI Media and FI PPP partners.

Prof MP Gupta's (left) proposal of organising an awareness raising / education based event at IIT Delhi, in the timeframe of September-

October 2016, was also shared and it was well taken as a good prelude to the larger showcasing roadshow event during 1.-7. November, 2016.

On 12th May 2016, Prof MP Gupta and Mr Abhishek Sharma, took part in the Smart Cities India 2016 Expo (right), which included a dedicated Future Internet session, in which Mr. Olaf-Gerd Gemein was one of the speakers (below). This participation enabled the further spreading of the message of C2C clustering within FI Media with the delegates of the Conference.

Mr. James Clarke, of Waterford Institute of Technology, coordinator of the FI-MEDIA project, concluded that the coming together of participants from FI-MEDIA project, FIWARE Mundus, the Future Internet PPP and Smart Cities Labs will enable greater momentum of the take-off of FIWARE in India, in particular, within the important business setting of Smart Cities, including Smart Villages.