

Wireless for Communities (W4C) Consultation Details

1st Wireless for Communities (W4c) Summit

Date: 2 December 2011

Organised by: Digital Empowerment Foundation & Internet Society (ISOC)

Organised during: Manthan Awards Asia Pacific 2011

Introduction

DEF and ISOC have organized the 2nd Wireless for Communities (W4C) summit on the occasion of Manthan Awards Asia Pacific 2011 aiming to create a common platform involving different stakeholders for the purpose of discussion on how to utilize low-cost Wi-Fi based mesh equipment to connect and empower rural and underserved communities.

2nd Wireless for Communities & Open Spectrum Summit

Focus: “EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES THROUGH OPEN MEDIA ACCESS”

Date: 1 December, 2012

Organised by: Digital Empowerment Foundation & Internet Society (ISOC); Ford Foundation

Organised during: Manthan Awards Asia Pacific 2012

Introduction

DEF and ISOC have the national consultation on the occasion of Manthan Awards Asia Pacific 2011 to bring all stakeholders, stakeholders to deliberate, discuss, share, experience and emerge with a concrete set of recommendations as how unlicensed spectrum in India can be used to serving the last mile connectivity. The consultation saw stakeholders from the government departments, agencies, industry, civil society, academia, network implementers, policy advocates, wireless practitioners, and others to air views, opinions, inputs, concerns and suggestions on a wide area of topics. One unique approach was to present and share good practices and challenges in wireless network deployment and operations in India and other developing countries.

3rd Wireless for Communities & Open Spectrum Summit

Focus: ‘W4C: Connecting rural communities of India through Unlicensed spectrum’

Date: 5 December 2013

Organised by: Digital Empowerment Foundation & Internet Society (ISOC); Ford Foundation

Organised during: Manthan Awards Asia Pacific 2013

Introduction

DEF along with a support from its partners, Ford Foundation and the Internet Society (ISOC) organized the 3rd Wireless for Communities & Open Spectrum Summit focusing on ‘*Connecting Rural Communities of India through Unlicensed Spectrum*’ on the occasion of Manthan Awards Asia Pacific 2013. The Summit was an effort to advocate towards ‘how to become community-based rural ISP’ and to promote such several community based wireless networks to work on a sustainable basis which could be implemented, run and managed by the communities in different parts of country using open spectrum. The Summit not only represented government stakeholders, policy advocates, private and civil stakeholders, but ground practitioners and network implementers also participated and shared their ground experiences and challenges.

