Concept Note 2020
INTRODUCTION

There are millions of not-for-profit and civil society organizations in the world playing a vital role in the socio-economic development of diverse communities living in difficult conditions.

With the ongoing health crisis, local NGOs have played a huge role in helping the marginalized and the vulnerable communities cope with Covid-19. From raising awareness about the virus, providing aid and relief package to working relentlessly to connect, empower and enhance lives, NGOs have had to resort to use of digital tools amid the pandemic.

However, various studies and reports have time and again indicated that most of the grassroots organizations struggle due to lack of funds, human resources, and perseverance.

The eNGO Challenge under the umbrella of Digital Empowerment Foundation’s eNGO Programme was put into conception with an objective to recognize and facilitate the grassroots organizations doing exceptional work using Digital Tools. The eNGO Challenge is now seven years old and recognises best practices across South Asia.

Today, it strives to build and strengthen grassroots not-for-profit organizations and help them to become a mainstream sustainable entity with the help of new age tools like digital, good governance, transparent management and affective outreach.

This year, rising to the challenge of the Covid-19 healthcare crisis, the 7th edition of the eNGO Challenge will be held online.

It aims to recognize, facilitate and award organizations that have done some exceptional work with communities and subjects using any kind of new age tools.
Objectives

Recognize, Encourage & Promote grassroots organizations and initiatives working for the holistic development of the people and community at community levels;

Create an ecosystem of stakeholders including government, industry, academia, civil society and others to create wider networking, engagement, partnership and collaboration opportunities;

Promote and create bottom-up information and knowledge repository of best practices, case studies, and project replication, sustainability and advocacy studies.

Why should you participate in the 7th eNGO Challenge Awards?

» **Networking opportunity**: Interact with NGO representatives from across South Asia congregated under one roof.

» **Position yourself as an expert**: Speak with experts from various streams of development sector, discussing various approaches to make an impact.

» **Learning in a new space**: Get a chance to witness best of innovative practices from grassroots organisations across eight South Asian countries namely; India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Maldives, Myanmar, Afghanistan and Sri Lanka.

» **Redesign** your thinking of the impact enterprise.

» **Be inspired** by personal stories of change.

» **Networking with peers**: Harness the energy of like-minded people.

» **Get involved** with the leaders through some of the most exciting, brainstorming and entertaining online activities.
IMPACT

Over the last seven years, the eNGO Challenge Award platform has created a repository of over 2,000 innovations and gave an opportunity to interact with innovators, entrepreneurs and government officials at a personal level. The 7th eNGO Challenge Award Gala was witnessed by more than 250 delegates from eight South Asian countries. Over the year, many partnerships have been formed, and government and corporate organisations have come on-board to support the Award, thereby improving its credibility. The new partnerships brought in access to a wide range of audience such as decision makers in the business sector, government entities and, of course, a lot of relevant participants which resulted in exclusive networking opportunities and consolidated future business associations.
Award Categories

The eNGO Challenge Award 2020 facilitates organizations for best use of new age tools like ICT, Digital, Management, Governance, Outreach and Engagements under 8 categories.

Innovation@Covid-19

*Communities | Covid-19 | Technology | Health | Finance*

A new category introduced for the year 2020, Innovation@Covid-19 recognises initiatives helping communities cope with the health crisis. Any solution-based program working to ease issues born out of or during the pandemic may apply under this category. The eNGO Challenge would like to reward newly launched digital interventions with great potential, but who may still be in their early stage.

Governance & Livelihood

*Public Administration | Entitlements | Employment*

This category recognises initiatives that facilitate information flow and management of public schemes for citizen empowerment and good governance. The category also includes initiatives that generate employment and livelihood opportunities at all levels.

Digital Empowerment & Tools

*ICT | Social Media | Web & Internet | Crowdsourcing*

This category invites all grassroots organisations that are doing exceptional work using ICT tools, including social media platforms, e-commerce initiatives, media & apps, crowd funding & crowdsourcing platforms. The category also includes initiatives that are empowering communities by generating e-content in various formats to spread information.
Education & Learning

*Life Sciences | Capacity Building | Skill Development*

This category calls out to all the initiatives that are working towards making learning and education, innovative and accessible for everybody. The category also supports the initiatives that foster global collaboration in science, provide measures to promote science and demonstrate results and value to society.

Heritage & Culture

*Civilisation | Art | Tourism | Culture | Heritage | Language | Folk | Music Practices*

This category welcomes the initiatives that are working towards preservation and promotion of all forms of art and culture. It also invites initiatives that assist development of diverse repositories of knowledge of historical and cultural value.

Entrepreneurship & Outreach

*Start-ups | Promotion | Marketing*

This category honours the initiatives that promotes innovation and infrastructure development and supports creating entrepreneurship opportunities. It also invites initiatives that develop and promote business and promotional activities, marketing and awareness programs.

Healthcare & Wellness

*Medicine | Lifestyle | Sports*

This category welcomes projects/ initiatives that aim at resolving individuals and public health issues thereby creating an established health care system. Nominations may include applications that enable delivery of health care and health services, reduces child mortality rate and promotes general well-being of the people.
Enablement & Empowerment

*Gender equality | Senior Citizens | Women Empowerment | Differently Abled | Inclusion*

This category encourages initiatives towards women empowerment, child labour and trafficking, address gender biasedness and disability issues. Also initiatives supporting experiential learning and development for senior citizens are encouraged.

Environment & Sustainability

*Agriculture | Green Technologies | Sustainable Solutions*

This category welcomes initiatives that help farmers improve agricultural productivity, access to information on new technologies and best practices, basic financial services, new markets & market price. Moreover, nominations will also be accepted for those applications that seek to promote environmental awareness, support sustainable development, help counter natural disasters and work towards water and soil conservation.
Scope of Technology Usage for The eNGO Award

The eNGO Challenge Award is open to any registered NGO from the SAARC countries namely India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Nepal, Bhutan, Maldives, Myanmar, Afghanistan and Bangladesh.

» Web technology and platform
» Mobile / App and Wireless technology
» Internet of Things (IoT)
» Artificial Intelligence
» Social Media platforms and solutions information must be in English

Past Award Winners
Award Guidelines

» There are no charges applicable for nominating any project under The eNGO Challenge.

» Your NGO should fulfill the conditions of being active and working towards socio-economic development of the communities and societies. Exceptions only for those initiatives applying under Innovation@Covid-19 category.

» Any applicant may edit/modify the details in the nomination form till the last date of accepting the nomination form using their credentials. But no modification can be done once the deadline is over.

» The fields marked mandatory in nomination forms are necessary to be filled by the nominee.

» Any false or misleading information submitted about the project will immediately lead to permanent disqualification of the nominee.

» Any partner to eNGO Challenge is eligible to apply for the nomination process of any of their projects as Jury is a completely independent process, irrespective of eNGO Challenge programme stakeholders.

» There is no limitation regarding the platforms, cost or channels the projects work with.

» One product/project can only be submitted for one category. In the case of multiple submissions by the same organisation, each product/project requires a separate registration.

» The same project cannot be submitted twice (i.e. submitted again).

» Any project who has won previously will not be considered.

» Any partially filled/not filled nomination form will be rejected.

» Interested entities can take part in eNGO Challenge Award by either applying online or contacting expert panel for the nomination
process through engochallengeaward@defindia.org

» Irrespective of the product/project language, all producer and project information must be in English.

» Applicant shall receive an acknowledgement mail to their email address after submitting the nomination form successfully.

Eligibility Criteria

The eNGO Challenge Award is open to any registered NGO from the SAARC countries namely India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Nepal, Bhutan, Maldives, Myanmar, Afghanistan and Bangladesh.

» NGO should fulfill the conditions of being active and working towards socio-economic development of the communities and societies.

» Award nominations should come only from South Asia. Nominations from other countries will not be considered.

» Award nominations from past years’ winners for the same project will not be considered.

» Award nominations must provide clear and concrete information about the initiative and the organisation.

» Any single project entry of nomination will not be considered under multiple categories.

» Irrespective of the project language, all producer and project information must be in English.
Evaluation Criteria

» The evaluation will be based on **Impact, Innovation, Replicability, Sustainability, Scalability and Participation**. To bring transparency in the assessment process, there will be three tier assessment processes.

» **Content & Services**: Quantify the quality of content and services delivery, relevance of content and its utility value.

» **Impact, accessibility & Sustainability**: Quantify and qualify the social impact & sustainability of your initiative.

» **USP & Strategic Value**: Please focus on the uniqueness of the idea & easiness of strategy replication.

» **Benefit & Utility**: Please describe the real benefit to the last mile users and society.

eNGO Challenge Award Opportunities

**Participation**

Create an ecosystem of stakeholders including government, industry, academia, civil society & others to create wider networking, engagement, partnership and collaboration opportunities.

**Nomination**

The best platform to shine across South Asian countries and get recognition from bureaucrats, ministers, politicians, diplomats, filmmakers, artists, academicians, corporates who are looking to explore pioneering business initiatives and networking opportunities.
Sponsor
Promotion of your brand being a sponsor, especially addressing the specific needs of emerging markets in South Asian countries.

Digital Showcase
A platform to showcase the best initiatives in any kind of new age tools and technologies across South Asian countries, including a wider target audience during the Award.

Partner
Talk about the association of ENGO Challenge Awards with your brand to identify and explore the most innovative, challenging ICT innovations in the smallest regions of the world.

Speaker
Get an opportunity to speak about your initiative and experience about the role of ICT in the empowerment and development of the country.

Jury Process
The eNGO Challenge Award brings together the best of development sector experts in South Asia as jurors to deliberate and decide upon the award-winning initiatives in the specific category. The jury process is transparent and fair, and has drawn support from leading corporate and government players in the region over the years.

Each award category is judged by a panel of Jurors. The panel comprises of eminent personalities from the private and public sectors, industry and academia.
eNGO Challenge 2019 Timeline

- **Nominations Open**: September 7, 2020
- **Nominations Close**: October 10, 2020
- **Grand Jury**: November 2020
- **Awards Gala**: December 2020
Glimpses of Past Awards
FOR MORE INFORMATION OR QUERIES

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