

UKIERI Project Review Meeting

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UKIERI Project

- **Title:** Leveraging Knowledge Networks for Enabling Innovations in Higher Education and Research Institutes in India and UK
- IIMA IDEA Telecom Centre of Excellence (IITCOE), IIM Ahmedabad University of Strathclyde, Glasgow
- **Team Members**

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Background of the Project

- ❑ National Knowledge Network (NKN)
 - State-of-the-art multi-gigabit pan-India network (multiples of 10 Gbps).
 - Enables scientists, researchers and students across geographical locations to work closely in critical and emerging areas.
- ❑ Approved at an outlay of Rs. 5900 crore to be implemented by NIC over a period of 10 years.
- ❑ Operationalizing the NKN - High Level Committee (HLC) with support from a Technical Advisory Committee.

Background of the Project

- UK
 - Joint Academic Network (JANET)
 - Joint Information Systems Committee (JISC) - advisory committee
- In India, the NKN organizational mechanisms are limited to the operationalization of the network.
- Appropriate design of organizational mechanisms based on analysis of JISC.

Objectives of the Project

- Study of key higher education and research institutions and the use of networks, the management issues regarding this deployment and innovation within the contextual understanding of the higher education sector in each country
- Identify organizational structures and processes that support innovation in higher education institutes for exploiting public high speed network for HE and FE and research centres in India and UK.

Objectives of the Project

- ❑ Understand the role of JISC and other institutional mechanisms and ecosystem partners at the national and local level that allow JANET and its ecosystem to be leveraged effectively.
- ❑ Suggest possible learning from UK and India for such publicly provided key national infrastructure which both countries could use effectively
- ❑ Implications for other countries planning similar infrastructure.

Methodology

- ❑ To collect detailed information related to NKN in India.
- ❑ To select 5 institutes for conducting detailed interviews, FGDs and Questionnaire survey.
 - ❑ 5 FGDs in these institutes involving HODs, Senior and Junior faculty.
 - ❑ Detailed individual interviews of 3-4 heads of department and a total of 10-12 individuals across each organization/institute.
- ❑ To design questionnaire and conduct questionnaire survey of 15-20 heads of the department and 60-80 individuals for the institutes selected.

Institutes/Organizations visited in India

□ Research Institutes

- Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics, Calcutta
- Tata Institute of Research (TIFR), Mumbai
- Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)

□ Educational Institutes

- Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay
- Indian Institute of Technology, Gandhinagar
- Indian Institute of Management, Calcutta
- Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad

□ NIC-NKN Offices

- NKN PoP, Belapur, Navi Mumbai
- NKN-NIC Office, New Delhi

Institutes/Organizations visited in UK

- University of Strathclyde, Glasgow
- University of Highlands and Islands, Inverness
- ESRC Shared Services Facility, Swindon
- Glasgow School of Art, Glasgow
- Advanced Forming Research Centre, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow
- JANET

Progress of the Project (Contd...)

- ❑ The organizational structure and processes that support innovation in higher education and research institutes have been studied.
- ❑ Analyzed the trends and processes in the organization for better application of the NKN
- ❑ Role of external support/ eco system has been identified and necessary suggestions have been identified for better implementation and usage of NKN
- ❑ Recommendations have been formulated for users required for better usage and application of NKN.

Outcomes of the Project

- ❑ From Infrastructure to Service focus
 - Need for change in the organizational structure
 - Recruit appropriate staff
 - Showcase the value and benefits
 - Need for enhancing the role of nodal officers
 - Organizational mechanisms for involving users

- ❑ Leveraging NKN at organizational level in creating awareness and better usage of the network.

Project Outreach

No. of exchanges under the project (including academic staff and students)	Total 5 2 outgoing visits to UK from India 1*1 (Prof. Rekha Jain) 2*1 (Prof. Rekha Jain and Prof. Manjari Singh) 1 incoming visit to India from UK 2*1 (Prof. Jason Whalley and Prof. Jillian MacBryde)
No. of joint publications / research papers	In progress
Media mention / Press release	-
Workshops organised (please include details like no of participants/key people/Key speakers and way forward from the workshop)	Planned

Future activities planned

- Writing a research paper on “Role of the Public ICT Networks in Facilitating Innovations: Lessons from India and UK”.
- Organizing a workshop
- Writing a report

Success indicator/ Aspects of the project

- ❑ Lot of managerial issues at organizational structure and orientation level came into light which may help in functioning of the NKN smoother.
- ❑ The study aims to bridge the gap between user and NIC-NKN.
- ❑ Future path for NKN.

Best Practices on working on joint bilateral projects

- Prior information about Principal Investigator on the other side.
- Networking and exchange of experience
- Sharing and transfer of knowledge
- Mutual understanding
- Shared results
- Sustainability of the project

Issues and Concerns

- There are no real issues but minor concerns
 - Difficulty in getting relevant target individuals and relevant information during data collection.
 - Very low awareness about NKN among the users and user institutes which resulted in poor response rate.

Thank You