

# CONNECTING THE INDIGENOUS & MOUNTAIN COMMUNITIES TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE & INCLUSIVE DIGITAL SOCIETY



## **CONTENTS**

| 1.   | About The eNorth East   |  |  |  |  |
|------|---|--|--|--|--|
| 2.   | About the 8 <sup>th</sup> eNorth East 2023  |  |  |  |  |
| 2.1. | The 8 <sup>th</sup> eNorth East & the 7 <sup>th</sup> CNX Inaugural Plenary   |  |  |  |  |
| 2.2. | . North East Internet Governance (NEIG)   |  |  |  |  |
|      | 2.2.1. Session 1: Digital Underrepresentation, Internet Shutdowns, Sustainability of Access in North East India   |  |  |  |  |
|      | 2.2.2. Session 2: Gender Digital Inequality, Cyber Crimes & Digital Violence and Digital Marginalisation of Women in North East India   |  |  |  |  |
|      | <ul><li>2.2.3. Session 3: Civil Society Perspective on Digital</li><li>Technology for Organisational &amp; Community Development</li><li>Sector in North East India</li></ul> |  |  |  |  |
| 2.3. | North East Digital Innovation Meet 2023   |  |  |  |  |
| 2.4. | The 8 <sup>th</sup> eNorth East Award 2023  |  |  |  |  |
|      | 2.4.1. The Nominations  |  |  |  |  |
|      | 2.4.2. The Jury   |  |  |  |  |
|      | 2.4.3. The Winners  |  |  |  |  |
|      | 2.4.4. The Special Mentions   |  |  |  |  |
|      | 2.4.5. The Finalists  |  |  |  |  |
|      | Glimpses from the 8 <sup>th</sup> eNorth East 2023  |  |  |  |  |

# 1. ABOUT THE ENORTH EAST

The e-North East platform seeks to engage ICT / digital stakeholders of the indigenous, landlocked North East India Region towards building a safe, secured, innovative digital ecosystem with digital innovations and best practices, policies and programmes towards desirable development and governance outcomes. For details, please visit <a href="http://enortheast.in">http://enortheast.in</a>. The platform has been launched in 2010.

#### **OBJECTIVES OF ENORTH EAST**

- i. To call for innovative practices/case studies/experiences in digital inclusion and innovations, select, recognize and felicitate such digital innovations for sustainable development in North East India;
- ii. To provide a common plan for digital stakeholders in the North East to deliberate, dialogue & network on technology for sustainable development including wider 'North East Internet Governance' issues, including the scope of responsible and sustainable Digital Inclusion, ICT, Internet technology, and access, connectivity, information, services & citizen entitlements.
- iii. Exploring areas of convergence, partnerships and agreements among stakeholders; Emerge with consultation framework with policy and programme inputs and recommendations for sustainable digital approach and strategies for development in North Eastern States.

# 2. ABOUT 8<sup>TH</sup> ENORTH EAST 2023

## 2.1. THE 8<sup>TH</sup> ENORTH EAST & 7<sup>TH</sup> CNX INAUGURAL PLENARY

# 2.1.1. Inaugural Plenary Session - 'Connecting the Indigenous & Mountain Communities'

The inaugural plenary of the 7<sup>th</sup> CNX-Asia Pacific deliberated on critical aspects of connecting the communities, that are unconnected, unreached and inadequately networked, due to social, cultural, economic, institutional and geographical barriers.

#### Panellists:

- Atsuko Okuda, Regional Director, ITU Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
- Sylvia Cadena, Acting Chief Executive Officer, APNIC Foundation [Online]
- Bikram Shrestha, President, Nepal Internet Foundation & Founder / Past President, Internet Society, Nepal Chapter
- Hasina Kharbhih, Founder & Chairperson, Impulse NGO Network, Meghalaya, India
- **Dharmendra Singh**, Vice President New Business, Hughes Communications, India
- Carlos Rey Moreno, Co-lead Local Networks: Policy and Strategy, APC
   [Online]
- Prof. Sasmita Samanta, Founder & Chairperson, Sustainable Outreach and Universal Leadership Limited (SOUL)
- Akanksha Sharma, Program Officer, ITU Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific

The session was moderated by: Osama Manzar, Founder & Director, Digital Empowerment Foundation

#### Discussion summary:

In the inaugural session of CNX, the panel engaged in a comprehensive discussion on the state of access and connectivity in mountainous and hilly regions. The insights provided by the esteemed panellists shed light on the difficulties faced, ongoing initiatives, and the transformative impact of internet access in these challenging terrains.

The session was opened by **Atsuko Okuda**, Regional Director, <u>ITU Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific</u>, who began by delineating the elusive nature of universal and meaningful connectivity even as there is better availability of

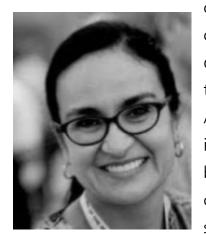
internet services. In consideration of the crucial role it plays in achieving SGD goals, the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and the Office of the United Nations Secretary-General's Envoy on Technology established a new set of aspirational targets for 2030 across internet connectivity. To be able to achieve the targets in a timely manner there is a need to build better and stronger partnerships across stakeholder groups. ITU's Smart Villages and Smart Islands (SVSI) Initiative is one such



collaboration with the involvement of the Ministries, UN agencies private sector, civil society, academia, and implementing partners. The ITU started the ITU Area Office and Innovation Centre in March 2023 in New Delhi, India which will greatly facilitate building new projects and forging partnerships in the region, including North East India.

• Sylvia Cadena reflected on some of the challenges faced by APNIC Foundation, the fundraising arm of the technical organisation APNIC (Asia Pacific Network Information Centre). The maintenance and operations costs of internet and connectivity infrastructure in remote regions often mean that the engineers and personnel required for maintenance are often stationed at places hours or

days away. For network operators- ISPs, community organisations, university



campuses, etc. that deploy networks at the service of communities- the cost of upgrading a network and deploying new networks that are interoperable with the previous infrastructure is hindered by taxation. Additionally, there are market barriers to accessing the internet bandwidth that people will be distributing because even if it is owned and operated by the community, they still need the internet to come from somewhere- at times they are not capable of

establishing links with the industry due to various reasons as the remoteness of the location, market ecosystem, etc. Lastly, some caution needs to be exercised when supporting top-down approaches of companies that claim to be capable of remedying low connectivity in remote locations while also not engaging with the local infrastructure and the local stakeholders.

Sylvia spoke about how there is a need for better documentation and of sharing knowledge and the success stories in the field of community networks. Several communities are facing similar challenges in getting access to digital connectivity and can utilise the cases as inspiration. She also emphasised that organisations working with communities in remote locations should assist the people in articulating their suggestions when comments and submissions are invited for changes in the regulatory framework.

● **Bikram Shreshtha** spoke about the crucial role that civil society organisations and individuals have played in consistently working towards the cause of connecting the remote and hilly regions of Nepal. The government does not have policies addressing last-mile connectivity. With decades of experience in the sector via several organisations, Shreshtha and his collaborators were able to establish a community network for the people of Khunde



and Khamjun, roughly 30 kilometres from Everest base camps. He spoke about the 3Cs that can help address this issue of fast-forward processing of improving meaningful connectivity - coordination, collaboration, and cooperation. In his decades of experience in the sector in Nepal, he has been engaged with working in several places that would otherwise be considered the last mile to come online in Nepal.

• Hasina Kharbih, drawing from her experience working for over three decades in the social development sector foregrounded that often the government policies announced in respect to the North East Indian region are not made actionable.

She spoke about the challenges faced in particular context of two projects the



Impulse Case Management Centre, and as the implementing partner of Meta Small Business Academy in the several of the eight north east Indian states. The Impulse NGO Network became aware of the magnitude of human trafficking in Meghalaya while working in the region. The ICMC is an exemplary project which compiles and records all relevant information on human trafficking cases reported to them. The scalability

and relevance of the project has meant that <u>the Impulse Model</u> has won global recognition for their efforts. Kharbih emphasised on the importance of capacitating all police stations at the last mile with the internet as lack of connectivity also contributes in leaving criminal cases unreported and under-reported. She also spoke about the scale of additional resources her NGO has to deploy to maintain the ICMC database as vast regions where the NGO operates remain outside of network and connectivity considerations.

Similarly, as the implementing partner of the Meta Small Business Academy in the northeast Indian states, a region where establishing and maintaining internet connectivity continues to be a challenge, the NGO has to deploy additional resources. Among other challenges, the organisation often has to collect the particulars of the beneficiaries and manually upload their credentials from their headquarters for certification by Meta, a task which could have been made redundant with better connectivity.

According to Hasina, it is important to co-create when working on a multistakeholder collaboration as it often happens that if organisations do not co-create, they become competitors. Kharbih put forward that the unique location of the northeastern states and the Eastern Himalayan region, much of which shares international borders has room for innovations in network connectivity to assist the people living and working in the region.

• **Dharmendra Singh**, Vice President - New Business at <u>Hughes</u>

<u>Communications India</u> spoke about how even as there are several initiatives underway to connect the unconnected regions to the internet in India there is



still a scope for more. He suggested that the Big 3 of telecommunications company should revisit their policies on how they may contribute to connecting the unconnected. He also emphasised that even if the network is operated in a community set-up, the funding needs to consider the costs of maintaining and operating the networks.

According to Singh, the government is assigning funds for extending internet connectivity, yet, there are still places which remain without 3G or 4G connectivity. Firstly, areas without connectivity need to be mapped. He is of the opinion that it is best if some of the companies/organisations collaborate to work on a POC (proof of concept) to demonstrate the technology models that work for the North east Indian region. The next step would be to approach the government with the POC through the channels made available and the big mobile network operators or providers like his company can join in as an implementing partner. On being asked to elaborate further on how he would like to contribute to the north eastern regional states' issue of poor connectivity,

Singh said that Hughes Communications would be willing to extend support to locations that are completely unconnected in about 2 states. They are willing to support in terms of equipment, and installation so that the local teams may run these networks to be able to present to the government for replication of one of the models that can work for such regions.

• Carlos Rey-Moreno, Co-lead Local Networks: Policy and Strategy

Co-lead Local Networks: Policy and Strategy, Association for Progressive Communications (APC) spoke about the need for alternative network systems which are not driven by the commercial telecom companies. Providing meaningful and local value services require involvement of the community. He finds that there are positive changes supporting the entry of actors other than the commercial telecom companies in providing



reliable connection. This will greatly expedite the process of bridging the digital divide. In its most recent, the Bangladesh government closed its public consultation on the national broadband policy. The government had included community network in its policy. Indonesia has also started consultations regarding the viability of community networks for connecting their last mile. Carlos appreciated that there are some places which were connected as a result of the CNX. He added that there are also some places which have connectivity but it is not utilised for various factors ranging from pricing, to lack of utility to the community. He added that from APC they are open to initiating collaborations and finding common agendas.

• Sasmita Samanta spoke about her experience in working as an academic and then in education, healthcare and livelihoods as an organisation. She feels that community learning will prove important in improving access and meaningful connectivity. Her organisation



recently developed a product for virtual ICUs for patients who meet with an accident in remote locations. She said that in the age of rapidly advancing AI, we should be more considerate towards giving value to human emotions and willpower. We also need network connectivity to connect people across the globe. She appreciated the panel for starting a discussion on how technology and internet support can be extended to people left unconnected.

Akanksha Sharma, Program Officer, International Telecommunication

Union (ITU), fast-forwarding regarding meaningful connectivity, said one of the first things that ITU does is mapping all the pain points, learning about the issues faced on the ground in connecting a people to the internet. As had been mentioned by Ms. Atsuko Okada in her address, the SVSI initiative is one such endeavour. Recently ITU had extended operations in Mongolia, a country which has a sizeable peripatetic population. They are



working with companies such as CISCO and other companies who may have the relevant solutions for the community. She believes that connectivity is not the only issue, but should be backed with security, skills, devices, etc.

• Osama Manzar closed the session by focussing on a few positive

developments in this sector. He appreciated that ITU now had an office in Delhi, that the private sector is now interested in supporting the people to set up community networks. He appreciated the participation of diverse collaborative entities on one platform. He said that the networks must be well capacitated in terms of security and trustworthiness. He



also noted the importance of community in mobilising to raise their issues with connectivity, as also in terms of digital public infrastructure (DPI). He termed this the C3- connectivity, capacity and community.

# 2.2. North East Internet Governance (NEIG)

The goal of the North East Internet Governance (NEIG) is to engage individuals from various stakeholder groups in, of and for North East Region (NER) of India in talks on Internet-related public policy issues in NER on an equal footing. The NEIG seeks to educate and motivate individuals in charge of developing policy in both the public and corporate sectors, even when there is no agreed-upon outcome.

Session 1: Digital Underrepresentation, Internet Shutdowns,
Sustainability of Access & Violation of Digital Rights in North East
India

This session was moderated by Mr. Sanjeev Sarma, Founder Director & CEO, Webx Technologies

#### Presentation 1: Digital Journey in Mizoram

This presentation was made by Vanlal Chhanchhuahi, from Dept of Media Studies, Tezpur University.

The first presentation explored Mizoram's digital

evolution, from dial-up to 4G and FTTH. It highlighted the roles of entities like NIC, BSNL, and the ICT department, along with the emergence of private ISPs. A case study on Mizo app developers showcased challenges and industry leaders' views on the digital divide. Questions were raised about the impact on society and the role of civil society in embracing digital changes.



This presentation was made by L.P. Sharma, Senior Director (IT), from SIO (Sikkim), NIC, Govt. of India.

The second presentation focused on Sikkim's digital transformation, featuring initiatives like ILRMS, financial management systems, and e-office concepts. Positive impacts on employment, transportation, and disaster management were highlighted. Questions addressed the government's digital stage, IT budget allocation, and data release to developers. Community participation's importance and challenges in project ownership were discussed.



#### Presentation 3: E-Services Challenges in North East

This presentation was made by Dr Sarika Dixit from Mahatma Gandhi University, Meghalaya.

The third presentation addressed hurdles in expanding e-services for better governance in the Northeast. It stressed the need for area-specific research due to geographical diversity, emphasizing mobile connectivity, community initiatives, and infrastructure. Questions covered internet blackouts, technology's role in social issues, and the need for localized AI models. The session concluded with a call to redefine India as a creator in the digital world.

# Session 2: Gender Digital Inequality, Cybercrimes, and Digital Violence and Digital Marginalisation of Women in North East India

The second session, moderated by Dr. V Sawmveli, discussed gender digital inequality, cybercrimes, and digital violence in North East India.

#### Speaker 1: Mr. Mridul Chakraborty, CID, Assam Police

The speaker highlighted the victimization of women, citing social and cultural differences, limited digital literacy, and various online crimes like stalking and fraud. He stressed the importance of digital empowerment, awareness, and collaboration between civil society and the government to address online harassment.



#### • Speaker 2: Ninglun Hanghal, Independent Journalist, Manipur



Ms. Ninglun discussed the gender gap in internet usage, specifically among women in rural areas. She presented statistics on digital usage and emphasized the need for digital empowerment through infrastructural development, community participation, and education. The dark side of social media, particularly its limitations for grassroots

mobilization, was also discussed.

#### Speaker 3 - Gayatri Buragohain, Executive Director, Feminist Approach to Technology (FAT)

Ms. Gayatri Buragohain highlighted the pressing issue of women facing systemic shutdowns, devoid of a stable livelihood. She emphasized that Khap panchayats perpetuate restrictive practices, symbolized by bangles, hindering women's access to the internet. Ms. Buragohain contended that achieving equality is paramount for women to



navigate the evolving world successfully. Failure to empower women now may lead to exacerbated challenges.

It is imperative to democratize information access, ensuring that reports on women's concerns are widely known. She lamented the inability of women to confide in their parents about injustices they face. Notably, rural women rely on men to voice their grievances, as societal perceptions hold men accountable, not women. Ms. Buragohain questioned societal influences that steer girls away from analytical decision-making, prompting them to conform to doll-like appearances. She stressed the urgency of swift action, likening it to capturing a lion before it preys on humans. In essence, her message underscored the need for gender equality, accessible information, and prompt interventions to empower women and reshape societal norms.

#### Speaker 4 - Dr. Kaberi Bezbaruah, Gauhati Commerce College, Assam

Dr. Bezbaruah discussed the challenges of digital marginalization, focusing on issues of affordability, ownership, and the virtual maintenance of physical spaces. She highlighted the competition faced by global giants like Amazon, emphasizing the need for technological knowledge and improved connectivity infrastructure. Dr. Bezbaruah proposed the idea of donating unutilized data to a bank, presenting it as a



CSR project for service providers. Cybercrime aspects, especially deepfake technology and the barriers to reporting, were also discussed. The impact of

smart devices on data collection and the connection between loneliness, nuclear families, and cybercrimes were explored.

#### • Speaker - Radhika Jhalani, Volunteer Legal Counsel, SFLC, New Delhi

Radhika Jhalani explored the origins of data for cybercrimes, focusing on scam calls and the lack of security measures on various platforms leading to data leaks. She emphasized the importance of careful data sharing, especially for women, and discussed the significance of privacy-friendly tools and browsers. Jhalani challenged the notion that internet use for entertainment is wrong, advocating for safe



internet use and equal access. She raised concerns about the authorities' stance on cybercrimes, citing the need for a shift in focus from finding murderers to addressing digital harassment. Jhalani referred to legal acts like IT and IPC and shared insights from relevant court cases.

# Speaker - Dr. Meenu Sharma, Associate Professor, Public Administration, Royal Global University (RGU), Guwahati, Assam

Dr. Sharma delved into gender digital inequality, highlighting hurdles like

affordability, lack of education, and socio-cultural biases. She distinguished between traditional and digital violence against women, addressing implications of online activities for teenage girls. Dr. Sharma stressed the need for preventive measures, coordination of policies to tackle cybercrimes, and the importance of empowering women in the digital realm. The session



concluded with a call for gender equality, debunking misconceptions about feminism, and the urgency for societal change to address digital violence and cybercrimes.

# Session 3: Civil Society Organizations and Digital Technology for Organisational and Community Development in North East

This session was moderated by **Dr. M. Amarjeet Singh**, Professor & Honorary Director, Centre for North East Studies & Policy Research, Faculty of Social



Sciences, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi. Prof. Singh discussed the intersection of the public sphere and private citizens' public roles in technology. Online activism, the challenges faced in the North East, and the lack of competitiveness and entrepreneurship were highlighted. The importance of inclusive growth, prioritizing issues, and the need for a vibrant civil

society to carry out roles in the digital space were emphasized. Prof. Singh touched on the challenges and weaknesses faced by civil society.

#### • Enakshi Dutta, Director, IDeA

Enakshi Dutta outlined the benefits and challenges faced by civil society organizations (CSOs) in utilizing digital technology in the North Eastern region. Financial challenges were discussed, and the importance of digital apps for standardizing processes was emphasized. Dutta highlighted the role of early warning systems and



discussed the value-based approach of CSOs, focusing on humanity, diversity, and harmony. The challenges of fake news and the harmonization of technology for the local community were also addressed.

#### Meraj Ahmed, Director, NorthEast Aid

Meraj Ahmed shared observations on digital detoxification in some regions and the ethical responsibilities of individuals and services. He discussed the commodification of users and the need for ethical considerations in digital practices. Cost-effectiveness



for privacy enhancement, ethical responsibilities, and the importance of community networks were explored. Ahmed also presented the "Reach the Unreached Program" and stressed the need for digital initiatives to be meaningful rather than for the sake of digitization.

#### Mr / Ms. SESTA Foundation

Representatives from Sesta Foundation discussed their digital literacy project supported by Reliance, focusing on raising awareness among rural women. They emphasized the need for content in local languages, awareness on cybercrime, and accessibility. The importance of software for storing farmers' ideas, platform development, and the significant role of civil society organizations in the development of digital technology were discussed.

#### • Surajit Saikia, Diya Foundation

Mr. Surajit Saikia shared insights into the use of digital tools for community development and NGOs, linking operations to improve community lifestyles. Connectivity issues, smart classrooms for education, and e-commerce for farmer producer companies were highlighted. Saikia emphasized the need for technology to be a tool for overall development and its linkage to government schemes and financial institutions.

#### **Questions and Discussions**

The audience raised questions related to creating a single platform for civil society organizations, the need for gender education alongside tech education, and challenges in prioritizing issues. The discussion highlighted the importance of sectorial approaches, the role of social institutions, and bridging the intergenerational gap through capacity building.

# 2.3. NORTH EAST DIGITAL INNOVATION MEET

The 8<sup>th</sup> eNorth East 2023 hosted digital innovators and stakeholders meet as a main side event. There were 10 technical sessions held on the following key themes:

#### 1) Digital Tech for Government & Citizen Engagement

This session discussed 14 digital projects, presented by the project innovators and initiators working in North East India. The expert panel included - Sanjeev Sarma, Founder Director & CEO, Webx Technologies; Ms. Ninglun Hanghal, Independent journalist; Sanjib Sarmah, OSD, AMTRON; Anindya Kumar Banerjee, Country Director Business Development, SOUL; Pranjal Konwar, Chief Operating Officer, IIM Calcutta Innovation Park; Dr. Anupam Das, RSIT, RGU; Dr. Rasal Sarkar, RSIT-RGU.

The following projects were discussed during the deliberations.

- ARMS Agriculture Resource
   Management System (Sikkim)
- Meghalaya Resident Safety and Security Act (Meghalaya)
- ePrisons Application (Meghalaya)
- Digital Fish Farmer Identity Card (Meghalaya)
- Online Building Permission System
   [OBPS] (Meghalaya)
- MegPGRAMS (Meghalaya)
- Pensioner's Life Certificate
   Verification Mobile Application
   (Meghalaya)
- e-Measurement Book and e-Bill (Assam)

- SahiBnk (Haryana)
- ASTR: "Al and Facial Recognition powered Solution for Telecom SIM Subscriber VeRification" (Delhi)
- GeoTagging and Monitoring of NEC/MDoNER funded
   Projects/schemes in NE region using Geospatial Technology and Tools (Meghalaya)
- CEIR (Delhi)
- Public distribution Automation project (Telangana)
- yess Meghalaya (Meghalaya

#### **Summary:**

- i) Bridging the Digital Divide:
  - Connectivity: Affordability, access in remote areas, marginalized communities.
  - Digital literacy: Education, user-friendly platforms, overcoming language barriers.
  - Infrastructure: Sustainable fiber networks, community information centers.
- ii) Enhancing Government-Citizen Engagement:
  - Platform design: Accessibility, cultural sensitivity, diverse needs.
  - Transparency and accountability: Digital tools for monitoring, feedback mechanisms.
  - Citizen participation: Online decision-making platforms, local language support.
- iii) Addressing Cultural and Language Barriers:
  - Local language support: Government websites, services, mobile apps.
  - Cultural sensitivity: Respecting traditions, diverse contexts in solutions.
  - Building trust and inclusivity: Reaching marginalized communities, addressing disparities.
- iv) Leveraging Emerging Technologies:
  - Al, IoT, Blockchain: Service delivery, development goals tracking, citizen empowerment.
  - Data privacy and security: Ethical considerations, responsible innovation.
- v) Sustainability and Long-Term Impact:
  - Local capacity building: Skills, resources for managing digital initiatives.
  - Data-driven decision making: Monitoring progress, informing policy.
  - Monitoring and evaluation: Adapting initiatives for long-term impact.

#### 2) Digital Tech for Learning & Education

This session discussed 10 nominated digital projects. The expert panels in these thematic deliberations included - Dr. Y. Jayanta Singh, Executive Director, NIELIT; Gayatri Buragohain, Executive Director, Feminist Approach to Technology (FAT); Jayanta Deka, Journalist, Media Entrepreneur, The News Mill; Dr. Aruna Dev

Rroy, Associate Professor, Royal Global University, Assam; Dr Meenu Sharma, Public Administration- Royal Global university. The following projects were deliberated upon:

- Bioinformatics Education
   Programme (BEP) (Sikkim)
- Meghalaya Signbank (Meghalaya)
- Program Management
   Information System (PMIS)
   (Meghalaya)
- Computer Shiksha (Harayana)
   (Online)
- Routes 2 Roots (Delhi)

- Skill Yatra (Assam)
- Capacity Building in IECT (Assam)
- ProGame (Telangana)
- Manthan Sampoorna Vikas Kendra (Delhi)
- NEEM database (North-East-India Ethnic Medicine database) (Sikkim)

- i) Infrastructure Access: Ensuring affordable and reliable internet connectivity in remote areas and for marginalized communities. Consider innovative solutions like community Wi-Fi hubs, satellite internet, and low-cost data plans.
- ii) Digital Literacy Training: Equipping both educators and learners with the necessary skills to navigate digital platforms and effectively utilize educational technologies is essential.
- iii) Device Availability: Addressing the lack of access to devices like laptops, tablets, and smartphones, especially in rural areas, requires exploring cost-effective options like shared devices, mobile labs, and government subsidy programs.
- iv) Local Languages and Dialects: Developing educational content and interfaces in local languages is vital for inclusivity and fostering deeper understanding.
- v) Integrating Indigenous Knowledge: Weaving traditional knowledge systems and cultural practices into the curriculum can enhance learning experiences and preserve valuable heritage.

- vi) Active and Experiential Learning: Moving beyond rote memorization, digital tools can facilitate interactive learning through simulations, gamified learning, and virtual reality experiences.
- vii) Equipping educators with the skills and confidence to effectively integrate digital technologies into their teaching practices is crucial. This includes training on using learning management systems, creating engaging digital content, and assessing student progress in a blended learning environment.
- viii) Building a supportive network for teachers to share best practices, troubleshoot challenges, and collaborate on developing innovative teaching methods using digital tools.
- ix) Artificial Intelligence (AI): AI-powered tutoring systems can provide personalized learning experiences and address individual student needs.
- x) Augmented Reality (AR) and Virtual Reality (VR): Immersive technologies can bring abstract concepts to life, fostering deeper understanding and engagement in subjects like science, history, and geography.
- xi) Big Data and Analytics: Data collected through digital platforms can be used to track student progress, identify learning gaps, and inform evidence-based decision-making about curriculum and teaching methods.
- xii) Collaborating with local communities, NGOs, and private sector players can address infrastructure limitations, develop culturally relevant content, and mobilize resources for sustainable implementation of digital learning initiatives.
- xiii) Empowering parents and community members to participate in their children's education through digital platforms can foster a supportive learning environment and bridge the gap between school and home.
- xiv) Developing robust evaluation frameworks to assess the effectiveness of digital learning initiatives and measure their impact on student learning outcomes is crucial for ensuring long-term success.
- xv) Building local capacity for managing and maintaining digital infrastructure and educational technology resources is essential for sustainable implementation and ownership beyond external support.

#### 3) Digital Tech in Social and Financial Inclusion

This session discussed 4 nominated digital projects. The expert panels in these thematic deliberations included - Dr M. Amarjeet Singh, Professor & Honorary Director, Centre for North East Studies & Policy Research, Faculty of Social Sciences, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, Delhi, Ms. Rituparna Barua, RSC-RGU, Nitin Singh, Finance Services Specialist, APART, Assam and Dr Jennifer Kipgen, Chairperson Centre for Public Health, School of Social Work - Guwahati Campus, TISS. The following projects were deliberated upon:

- Mein Pragati (Assam and North East)
- PayAid (North East)
- VanitAgrata (Assam)
- Amrapari (Assam)

- North East India, despite its stunning beauty and diverse cultures, grapples
  with persistent social and financial exclusion. Remote locations,
  geographical challenges, and cultural complexities intertwine with limited
  access to financial services and social networks. Here, digital innovations
  become not just a trendy tool, but a crucial pathway towards a more
  equitable future.
- Embracing digital solutions can bridge the gap between geographically isolated communities and essential services like banking, healthcare, and education. Mobile money platforms can empower communities with financial independence, while e-commerce marketplaces can showcase indigenous crafts and connect artisans to wider markets. Digital literacy campaigns can bridge the information gap, fostering social inclusivity.
- However, challenges remain, including bridging the digital divide and ensuring culturally sensitive applications that resonate with local needs. Yet, the potential is immense. By investing in accessible infrastructure, promoting digital literacy, and co-creating solutions with communities, North East India can harness the power of digital innovation to unlock a more inclusive and prosperous future for all

#### 4) Digital Tech in Health & Well Being

This session discussed 4 nominated digital projects based around Health and Well being. The expert panels in these thematic deliberations included - Dr. M. Amarjeet Singh, Professor & Honorary Director, Centre for North East Studies & Policy Research, Faculty of Social Sciences, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, Delhi, Ms. Rituparna Barua, RSC-RGU, Nitin Singh, Finance Services Specialist, APART, Assam and Dr Jennifer Kipgen, Chairperson Centre for Public Health, School of Social Work - Guwahati Campus, TISS. The following projects were deliberated upon:

- DVDMS (Assam)
- DNA Analyzer (Assam)
- Meghalaya Digital Dispensaries Project (Meghalaya)
- First Cancer Care Project (Meghalaya)

- North East India's mountainous terrain and diverse communities present a formidable challenge for delivering last-mile healthcare services. Traditional methods often lag, leaving citizens in remote villages underserved and grappling with preventable illnesses.
- Digital innovations emerge as a beacon of hope, promising a revolution in access and effectiveness. Telemedicine platforms can connect patients with specialized medical expertise, bridging physical distances and overcoming limited infrastructure. Al-powered diagnostic tools can provide remote assessments and early detection of diseases.
- Mobile health apps can empower individuals to track their health, access vital
  information, and receive personalized care. Yet, challenges remain. Reliable
  internet connectivity across the region is crucial, and digital literacy among local
  communities needs to be fostered. Cultural sensitivity is paramount, ensuring
  technology seamlessly integrates with existing practices and beliefs.
- However, the potential is undeniable. By prioritizing infrastructure development, fostering digital literacy training, and co-creating culturally appropriate solutions with communities, North East India can leverage digital innovation to bridge the healthcare gap and deliver effective, sustainable care to all its citizens, no matter how remote their location.

#### 5) Digital Tech in Culture, Heritage and Tourism:

This session discussed 2 nominated digital projects. The expert panels in these thematic deliberations included Dr Y. Jayanta Singh, Executive Director, NIELIT, Gayatri Buragohain, Executive Director, Feminist Approach to Technology (FAT), Dr Sriparna B Baruah, Advisor, NEHHDC, Jayanta Deka, Journalist, Media Entrepreneur, The News Mill; and Dr Meenu Sharma, Public Administration- RGU.

The following projects were deliberated upon:

- NEEM database (North-East-India Ethnic Medicine database) (Sikkim)
- GuidePe (Assam)

#### **Summary:**

- Digital tech can become a cultural guardian angel for North East India.
   Imagine virtual tours showcasing Assam's vibrant Bihu festival, Al-powered apps translating ancient Sikkimese scripts, and online marketplaces buzzing with Mizoram's exquisite handlooms.
- By weaving technology into heritage preservation, cultural promotion, and immersive tourism experiences, North East India can captivate a global audience and unlock sustainable development for its diverse communities.

#### 6) Digital Tech for Agriculture & Rural Development

This session discussed 4 nominated digital projects. The expert panels in these thematic deliberations included- Dr Rajdeep Singha, Associate Professor, Omeo Kumar Das Institute of Social Change & Development (OKDISCD), Dr. Kaberi Bezbaruah, Department of Accountancy, Gauhati Commerce College, Dr. Amlan Das, Bio-Chemistry, RGU and Dr Shivani Chauhan Barooah is an Assistant Professor, Centre for Community Organisation and Development Practice, School of Social work, TISS- Guwahati off campus. The following projects were deliberated upon:

- Fishwaale (Assam)
- Crop Pest & Disease Surveillance and Advisory PORTAL (CROPSAP)
   (Meghalaya)
- FMS (Telangana)
- AgSpeak

#### **Summary:**

- From fertile tea gardens to mountainside terraces, digital tech can nurture well a new harvest in North East India. Precision farming apps can whisper to crops, optimizing water and nutrients across fields in Assam and Meghalaya.
- Smart sensors in Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh can become soil whisperers, predicting weather and boosting yields. In Nagaland and Mizoram, e-commerce platforms can blossom, connecting rural producers directly to city markets, while Manipur's silk threads can find a wider loom online.
- This digital ecosystem can empower farmers, sustain landscapes, and weaves a tapestry of rural development, ensuring both bountiful harvests and thriving communities.

#### 7) Digital Tech for Environment & Climate Change

This session discussed 1 nominated digital project. The expert panels in these thematic deliberations included Dr Y. Jayanta Singh, Executive Director, NIELIT, Gayatri Buragohain, Executive Director, Feminist Approach to Technology (FAT), Dr Sriparna B Baruah, Advisor, NEHHDC, Jayanta Deka, Journalist, Media Entrepreneur, The News Mill and Dr Meenu Sharma, Public Administration- RGU.

#### **Summary:**

The North East of India faces pressing climate and environmental challenges: glacial retreat, deforestation, shifting rainfall patterns, and biodiversity loss. However, this region also holds immense potential for smart, sustainable, and cost-effective digital solutions:

- Climate Resilience and Early Warning: Al-powered early warning systems
  can analyze weather data and predict floods, landslides, and extreme
  weather events, sending real-time alerts to vulnerable communities;
  Sensor networks can monitor changes in air quality, water quality, and
  deforestation in real-time, informing proactive environmental
  management. SMS-based communication can disseminate climate
  advisories and disaster preparedness information directly to mobile phones
  in local languages.
- Sustainable Resource Management: Precision agriculture apps can help to optimize water and fertilizer use, reducing agricultural runoff and environmental impact. Community forestry platforms can connect local communities with resources and expertise to manage forests sustainably, combating deforestation and promoting biodiversity. Solar microgrids can provide clean energy solutions to remote villages, reducing reliance on fossil fuels and mitigating carbon emissions.
- Adaptive Technologies and Community Engagement: Open-source platforms can help to share data and best practices between communities and researchers, ensuring wider adoption of effective solutions. Indigenous knowledge integration can help to combine traditional ecological knowledge with digital tools for more effective resource management and climate adaptation. Local language interfaces that are user-friendly and training programs in local languages can help for maximum community engagement and impact.
- Cost-Effectiveness and Sustainability: Leveraging existing infrastructure including utilize mobile phone networks, community centers, and local radio for disseminating information and connecting communities. Low-cost sensor networks can be implemented for environment monitoring. Capacity building and local ownership by training local

communities to operate and maintain digital solutions, can lead to ensuring long-term sustainability.

#### 8) Digital Tech for Livelihood & Enterprise Development

This session discussed 1 nominated digital project. The expert panels in these thematic deliberations included Dr Y. Jayanta Singh, Executive Director, NIELIT, Gayatri Buragohain, Executive Director, Feminist Approach to Technology (FAT), Dr Sriparna B Baruah, Advisor, NEHHDC, Jayanta Deka, Journalist, Media Entrepreneur, The News Mill and Dr Meenu Sharma, Public Administration- RGU.

#### Summary:

In the verdant valleys and vibrant markets of the North East, digital tech promises a fertile ground for livelihood and enterprise, yet both challenges and opportunities sprout alongside. The digital divide casts a long shadow, its limited connectivity and low literacy hindering access for communities nestled in remote hills. Language barriers stand tall, isolating some from platforms built in alien tongues. Costly devices and unreliable electricity act like thorns, pricking entrepreneurial dreams. Yet, amidst these hurdles, hope blossoms.

Tech's nimble tendrils can reach across vast distances, connecting artisans in Nagaland and farmers in Arunachal Pradesh to global markets. Mobile wallets can become seeds of financial inclusion, empowering the unbanked in Meghalaya and Manipur. Precision agriculture apps with local content can meet needs of crops in Assam, boosting yields and sustainability. Telemedicine can bloom in the remotest reaches of Sikkim and Mizoram, bridging the gap between patients and doctors.

Collaborative networks can bloom online, weaving threads of knowledge and support between entrepreneurs across the eight sisters. The key lies in nurturing these opportunities, building robust infrastructure, cultivating digital literacy, and ensuring solutions are culturally sensitive and affordable.

#### 9) Digital Tech for Business & Commerce

This session discussed 1 nominated digital project. The expert panels in these thematic deliberations included Dr Y. Jayanta Singh, Executive Director, NIELIT, Gayatri Buragohain, Executive Director, Feminist Approach to Technology (FAT), Dr Sriparna B Baruah, Advisor, NEHHDC, Jayanta Deka, Journalist, Media Entrepreneur, The News Mill and Dr Meenu Sharma, Public Administration- RGU.

- Market Access: E-commerce platforms are and can connect artisans and producers better in Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Nagaland, Sikkim, and Arunachal Pradesh to national and global markets, eliminating geographical barriers.
- Information Flow: Digital tools can provide real-time market data, pricing trends, and competitor analysis, empowering businesses to make informed decisions and adapt to changing market dynamics.
- Client Reach: Social media marketing and online advertising can boost and expand customer reach beyond local borders, enabling businesses to target specific demographics and attract new clients.
- Idea Exchange: Building Online communities and collaborative platforms can foster knowledge sharing and innovation, allowing businesses to learn from each other, experiment with new ideas, and stay ahead of the curve.
- Networking Strength: Digital platforms can facilitate connections between businesses, suppliers, and investors, creating a thriving ecosystem for collaboration and resource sharing.
- Aggregation Power: Online platforms can aggregate products and services from various local businesses, offering broader variety and convenience to customers, and boosting collective bargaining power for producers.
- Building Digital Enterprises: Access to online tools and resources like CRM systems, e-commerce platforms, and digital marketing expertise allows businesses to professionalize their operations, scale their activities, and compete effectively in the digital marketplace.

#### 10) Digital Tech for Smart Settlements & Urbanisation

This session discussed 2 nominated digital projects. The expert panels in these thematic deliberations included - Dr M. Amarjeet Singh, Professor & Honorary Director, Centre for North East Studies & Policy Research, Faculty of Social Sciences, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, Delhi, Ms Rituparna Barua, RSC-RGU, Nitin Singh, Finance Services Specialist, APART, Assam and Dr Jennifer Kipgen, Chairperson Centre for Public Health, School of Social Work - Guwahati Campus, TISS. The following projects were deliberated upon:

- STEMS (Meghalaya)
- Aerial Solution for Smart Settlement (Assam)

- Across the eight sisters of North East India, nestled amidst breathtaking landscapes and diverse cultures, lie urban areas brimming with potential.
   Yet, challenging terrain, limited landmass, and seismic zones pose unique hurdles to their growth. But digital tech emerges as a potent ally, capable of transforming these very constraints into stepping stones for robust urban development.
- The scope lies in whether smart city initiatives in Guwahati and Imphal can leverage AI to optimize traffic flow, waste management, and resource allocation, making cities safer and more efficient. Whether telemedicine networks spanning Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim, can ensure quality healthcare directly to remote villages, reducing the need for migration to urban centers for medical needs. Whether Sikkim's sloping hillsides can adopt vertical farming practices, maximizing limited land with the help of digital sensors and automation, enhancing food security and sustainability.
- This digital transformation goes beyond infrastructure. Digital literacy programs can empower communities in Meghalaya and Nagaland to access online education and skill development, enhancing employability

and fostering knowledge-based economies. E-commerce platforms can connect artisans in Manipur and Mizoram directly to urban markets, boosting local businesses and reducing the need for physical migration to sell their goods. Collaborative data platforms can bridge the gap between government agencies and citizens in Tripura and Assam, enabling transparent governance and responsive service delivery.

• The challenges remain significant, from bridging the digital divide and ensuring inclusivity to building robust cyber security measures. But by prioritizing local needs, fostering community participation, and investing in sustainable infrastructure, the North East can leverage digital tech to build strong, resilient, and vibrant urban centres that respect their unique landscapes and empower their diverse communities. The key lies in innovation, collaboration, and a deep understanding of the region's strengths and challenges.

# 2.4. THE 8<sup>TH</sup> ENORTH EAST AWARD 2023

**eNorth East Award**: The eNorth East Award seeks to identify, recognize, document, publish and promote ICT solutions / digital innovations addressing key sustainable development and governance challenges in North East India. About North East Digital Festival

The focus of the annual digital festival is on best ICT and digital practices for development including innovations and solutions that has been implemented in the region or has potential to be implemented with desired results. The festival is an exhibition of such solutions that can facilitate overcome existing challenges in service delivery, e-infrastructure, content and services and networking with security. Finalists from the public, private, civil society and academic sector demonstrate their innovative deployment of solutions and practices.

#### 2.4.1. The Nominations

The 8<sup>th</sup> eNorth East Award 2023 received 89 Nominations across 10 categories.



#### 2.4.2. The Jury

#### 2.4.2.1. STAGES OF THE JURY

There were a total of 2 stages in the jury process

- Internal screening of the nominated project applications;
- Individual evaluations of the applications during expert panel presentations (November 24, 2023, during the 8<sup>th</sup> eNorth East 2023 during the Jury Sessions 1- 12 (3 parallels each)

#### 2.4.2.2. The Distinguished Jury Panel

The 8<sup>th</sup> eNorth East Award 2023 Jury comprised of experts from the social, digital, academia and public backgrounds.

## Dr. Abhinandan Saikia,

Associate Dean, School of Social Sciences and Humanities, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Guwahati, Assam





Dr M. Amarjeet Singh

Professor & Honorary Director, Centre for North East Studies & Policy Research, Faculty of Social Sciences, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, Delhi

**Amlan Das** 

Associate Professor

Department of Biochemistry,

Royal Global University, Assam





Dr Anupam Das

Associate Professor and Coordinator,
Royal School of Information Technology (RSIT)
Royal Global University, Assam

**Dr. Aruna Dev Rroy**Associate Professor,
Royal Global University, Assam





Anindya Kumar Banerjee

Country Director Business Development,
Sustainable Outreach and Universal
Leadership Limited

Gayatri Buragohain

Executive Director, Feminist Approach to Technology (FAT)





**Dr Y. Jayanta Singh**Executive Director, National Institute Of Electronics & Information Technology (Nielit)

\

Jayanta Deka

Journalist, Media Entrepreneur, The News Mill





Dr Jennifer Kipgen

Assistant Professor Guwahati Campus, Chairperson Centre for Public Health, School of Social Work - Guwahati Campus, TISS

Dr Kaberi Bezbaruah

Assistant Professor, Department of Accountancy, Gauhati Commerce College





Dr Meenu Sharma

Associate Professor & HoD- Public Administration Royal Global University

Ninglun Hanghal

Independent journalist





Prof. B. Panda

Head, Department of Sociology, North Eastern Hill University (NEHU), Shillong, Meghalaya

## Dr. Pradeep Ramavath J,

Chairperson, Centre for Livelihood and Social Entrepreneurship, School of Social Work, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Guwahati





**Pranjal Konwar**Chief Operating Officer, IIM Calcutta Innovation
Park

**Dr. Rashel Sarkar**Assistant Professor
Royal Global University





**Rituparna Baruah**Assistant Professor
Royal Global University for B.COM HONS(ICA) course

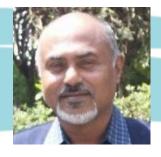
Prof. (Dr.) Rohit Singh
Pro - Vice Chancellor
Royal Global University





**Sanjeev Sarma**Founder Director & CEO,
Webx Technologies

Sanjib Sarmah OSD, AMTRON





**Dr. Sriparna Bhuyan Baruah**Advisor, North East Handloom & Handicraft
Development Corporation (NEHHDC)

Dr V Sawmveli

Assistant Professor Guwahati Campus, North Eastern Regional Centre, Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies, School of Social Sciences and Humanities, TISS



## 2.4.3. The Winners

The 8<sup>th</sup> eNorth East Award 2023 comprised 15 winners across 10 categories.

| CATEGORY                                | PROJECT NAME   | ORGANISATION   |
|---|--|--|
| Government & Citizen<br>Engagement      | ePrisons Application   | Department of Prisons and Correctional Services, Government of Meghalaya |
| Government & Citizen<br>Engagement      | Pensioner's Life Certificate Verification Mobile Application   | Directorate of Accounts and Treasuries, Government of<br>Meghalaya       |
| Government & Citizen<br>Engagement      | e-Measurement Book and e-Bill  | Jal Jeevan Mission Assam   |
| Government & Citizen<br>Engagement      | ASTR: "Al and Facial Recognition powered Solution for Telecom SIM Subscriber VeRification                                | Centre for Development of Telematics                                     |
| Government & Citizen<br>Engagement      | GeoTagging and Monitoring of NEC/MDoNER funded<br>Projects/schemes in NE region using Geospatial Technology and<br>Tools | North Eastern Space Applications Centre (NESAC)                          |
| Learning & Education                    | Meghalaya Signbank   | Office of the Commissioner for persons with disabilities                 |
| Learning & Education                    | ProGame  | Next Skills 360 EdTech Private Limited                                   |
| Culture, Heritage &<br>Tourism          | GuidePe  | Oddessemania Private Limited   |
| Livelihood & Enterprise<br>Development; | SwarajAbility  | Youth 4 Jobs Foundation  |
| Social & Financial<br>Inclusion         | VanitAgrata  | Assam Don Bosco University   |
| Health & Well Being                     | DVDMS  | C-DAC Centre in North East (CINE)  |
| Health & Well Being                     | DNA Analyzer   | Assam Don Bosco University   |
| Health & Well Being                     | First Cancer Care  | National Health Mission Meghalaya  |
| Smart Settlements &<br>Urbanisation     | Aerial Solution for Smart settlement   | CESTA Enterprise   |
| Agriculture & Rural<br>Development      | AgSpeak  | AgSpert Technologies Pvt Ltd   |

## 2.4.3. The Special Mentions

The  $8^{th}$  eNorth East Award 2023 comprised of 11special mentions across 10 categories.

| CATEGORY                           | PROJECT NAME   | ORGANISATION                                     |
|------------------------------------|--|--|
|                                    |  |  |
| Government & Citizen<br>Engagement | Digital Fish Farmer Identity Card                    | DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES, GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA |
| Government & Citizen SahiBnk       |  | Manipal Business Solutions Private Limited       |
| Government & Citizen<br>Engagement | CEIR   | Centre for Development of Telematics             |
| Learning & Education               | Bioinformatics Education Programme                   | Sikkim State Council of Science & Technology     |
| Learning & Education               | Capacity Building in IECT                            | NIELIT Guwahati                                  |
| Social & Financial Inclusion       | VanitAgrata  | Assam Don Bosco University                       |
| Social & Financial Inclusion       | GramShakti   | CRISIL Foundation                                |
| Health & Well Being                | Meghalaya Digital Dispensaries Project               | Apollo Telehealth                                |
| Agriculture & Rural<br>Development | Fishwaale  |  |
| Agriculture & Rural<br>Development | Crop Pest & Disease Surveillance and Advisory PORTAL |  |
| Environment & Climate<br>Change    | SankalpTaru Foundation                               | SankalpTaru Foundation                           |

## 2.4.4. The Finalists

The  $8^{th}$  eNorth East Award 2023 comprised of 11special mentions across 10 categories.

| Implemented   | URL (Website)   |
|---------------|---|
|               | ONE (Website)   |
| Sikkim        | https://kisanparichay.com/  |
| Medhalaya     | https://megrssa.nic.in  |
| Meghalaya     | https://www.megprisons.gov.in   |
| ENT Meghalaya | fisheries.meghalaya.gov.in  |
| Meghalaya     | https://obps.sk.nic.in  |
| Meghalaya     | http://megpgrams.gov.in/  |
| Meghalaya     | https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?<br>id=com.plc.meg https://apps.apple.com/in/app/govt-of-meghalaya-pension-app/id1578867309).                                  |
| Meghalaya     | https://yessmeghalaya.in/   |
| sam Assam     | https://jjmassam.in/ebill/_&_<br>https://jjmassam.in/ebill/contractors  |
| ed Assam      | https://manipalbusinesssolutions.com/   |
| t of Delhi    | www.cdot.in   |
| Meghalaya     | https://nec.nesdr.gov.in/   |
| t of Assam    | www.cdot.in   |
| Assam         | www.visiontek.co.in   |
| il to il il   | ent, laya Meghalaya Assam Assam Assam Delhi Meghalaya Meghalaya Meghalaya Assam |

|   | LaunchPad  | ZENG DESIGN STUDIO PVT<br>LTD   | Assam   | https://studiozeng.editorx.io/mysite  |
|---|--|---|---|---|
|   | Bioinformatics Education<br>Programme (BEP)  | Sikkim State Council of<br>Science & Technology   | Sikkim  | www.bioinformaticssikkim.gov.in   |
|   | Meghalaya Signbank   | Office of the<br>Commissioner for persons<br>with disabilities  | Meghalaya   | https://megscpwd.gov.in/contact-information.html  |
| Learning &                                | Program Management<br>Information System<br>(PMIS)   | NERIE NCERT   | Meghalaya   | http://pmis.nerie.nic.in:8080/  |
| Education                                 | Computer Shiksha   | Computer Shiksha  | Haryana   | www.computershiksha.org   |
|   | Routes 2 Roots   | Routes 2 Roots  | Delhi   | www.routes2roots.com  |
|   | Skill Yatra  | Unifiers Social Ventures<br>Private Limited   | Assam   | asdm.skillstrainer.in   |
|   | Capacity Building in IECT  | NIELIT Guwahati   | Assam   | https://nielit.gov.in/guwahati/index.php  |
|   | ProGame  | Next Skills 360 EdTech<br>Private Limited   | Assam   | https://www.nextskills360.in/progame-for-government-school/   |
|   | Manthan Sampoorna<br>Vikas Kendra  | Divya Jyoti Jagrati<br>Sansthan- Manthan SVK  | Delhi- 110034   | www.djjs.org/manthan  |
|   |  |   |   |   |
| Culture, Heritage<br>& Tourism            | NEEM database (North-<br>East-India Ethnic<br>Medicine database)   | Institute of Bioresources<br>and Sustainable<br>Development (IBSD)-<br>Regional Centre, Gangtok,<br>Sikkim, (Department of<br>Biotechnology, Ministry of<br>Science and Technology,<br>Government of India)   | Sikkim  | https://ibsd.gov.in/ibsd/home/index.php/people/profile/15   |
|   | GuidePe  | Oddessemania Private<br>Limited   | Assam   | www.oddessemania.in , www.guidepe.com   |
| Environment &<br>Climate Change           | SankalpTaru Foundation   | SankalpTaru Foundation  | Arunachal Pradesh,<br>Assam &<br>Meghalaya  | <u>sankalptaru.org</u>  |
| Livelihood &<br>Enterprise<br>Development | SwarajAbility  | Youth 4 Jobs Foundation   | Hyderabad,<br>Telangana   | www.youth4jobs.org  |
| Business &<br>Commerce                    | Stratemis  | Stratemis HR Technologies<br>Pvt Ltd  | Meghalaya   | www.stratemis.com   |
|   | Mein Pragati   | CRISIL Foundation   | Assam   |   |
|   | Amrapari   | Amrapari  | Assam   | https://www.linkedin.com/in/manjuwara-mullah-<br>5475ba219  |
| Social & Financial<br>Inclusion           | PayAid   | PayAid Payments Private<br>Limited  | Hyderabad,<br>Telangana   | https://www.payaidpayments.com  |
|   | VanitAgrata  | Assam Don Bosco<br>University   | Assam   | https://erp.dbuniversity.ac.in/emplist/viewprofile.php?<br>id=27  |
|   | Akashganga   | Shree Kamdhenu<br>Electronics Private Limited   | Gujarat   | www.akashganga.in   |
|   | Education  Culture, Heritage & Tourism  Environment & Climate Change  Livelihood & Enterprise Development  Business & Commerce  Social & Financial | Hearing & Education Programme (BEP)  Hearing & Education Programme (BEP)  Horgram Management Information System (PMIS)  Computer Shiksha Routes 2 Roots Skill Yatra Capacity Building in IECT ProGame Manthan Sampoorna Vikas Kendra   NEEM database (North-East-India Ethnic Medicine database)  GuidePe  Environment & Climate Change Livelihood & Enterprise Development  Business & Commerce  Social & Financial Inclusion  Social & Financial Inclusion  Program Management Informatics Education Programme (BEP)  Meghalaya Signbank  Program Management Information System (PMIS)  Computer Shiksha Routes 2 Roots  Skill Yatra  Capacity Building in IECT  ProGame  Manthan Sampoorna Vikas Kendra  Sast-India Ethnic Medicine database)  SankalpTaru Foundation  SwarajAbility  Program Management Information System (PMIS)  Amrapari  Program Management Information System (PMIS)  Amrapari | Learning & Bioinformatics Education Programme (BEP)  Meghalaya Signbank Office of the Commissioner for persons with disabilities  Program Management Information System (PMIS)  Education  Program Management Information System (PMIS)  Computer Shiksha Computer Shiksha Routes 2 Roots  Skill Yatra Unifiers Social Ventures Private Limited  Capacity Building in IECT NIELIT Guwahati  ProGame Next Skills 360 EdTech Private Limited  Manthan Sampoorna Vikas Kendra  NEEM database (North-East-India Ethnic Medicine database)  Routes 2 Roots  NEEM database (North-East-India Ethnic Medicine database)  Routes 2 Roots  Institute of Bioresources and Sustainable Development (IBSD)-Regional Centre, Gangtok, Sikkim, (Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India)  GuidePe Oddessemania Private Limited  Environment & Climate Change  Environment & SankalpTaru Foundation SankalpTaru Foundation  Livelihood & Enterprise Development  Business & Stratemis Stratemis HR Technologies Pvt Ltd  Amapari Amrapari  PayAid Payaid Payments Private Limited  VanitAgrata Assam Don Bosco University  Shree Kamdhenu | Learning &   EdunchPad   LTD   Assam   Sickim   Sickim |

|    |  | Marchalous Biotest  |   |                         | <del>                                     </del> |
|----|--|---|---|-------------------------|--|
| 35 |  | Meghalaya Digital<br>Dispensaries Project                               | Apollo Telehealth   | Meghalaya               | https://www.apollotelehealth.com/                |
| 36 |  | First Cancer Care   | National Health Mission<br>Meghalaya                                | Meghalaya               | http://www.nhmmeghalaya.nic.in/                  |
| 37 | Health & Well-<br>Being                | doctor appointment App<br>as " PDOC"                                    | PDOC INFOSERVICES<br>PRIVATE LIMITED                                | Assam                   | www.pdoc.in                                      |
| 38 |  | DVDMS   | C-DAC Centre in North East<br>(CINE)                                | Assam                   | http://dvdmsnagaland.in/                         |
| 39 |  | DNA Analyzer  | Assam Don Bosco<br>University                                       | Assam                   | www.dbuniversity.ac.in                           |
| 40 |  | Crop Pest & Disease<br>Surveillance and<br>Advisory PORTAL<br>(CROPSAP) | DIRECTORATE OF<br>AGRICULTURE,<br>GOVERNMENT OF<br>MEGHALAYA        | Meghalaya               | www.megagriculture.gov.in                        |
| 41 | Agriculture &<br>Rural<br>Development  | Fishwaale   | Aqua Blue Global Global<br>Aquaculture Solutions<br>Private Limited | Assam                   | www.aquabluegroup.in                             |
| 42 |  | AgSpeak   | AgSpert Technologies Pvt<br>Ltd                                     | Assam                   | https://www.agspert.com                          |
| 43 |  | FCM   | Linkwell Telesystems<br>Private Limited                             | Hyderabad,<br>Telangana | www.visiontek.co.in                              |
| 44 | Smart<br>Settlements &<br>Urbanisation | STEMS   | Sustainable Transport and Efficient Mobility Society (STEMS)        | Meghalaya               | https://www.stems-meghalaya.nic.in/              |
| 45 |  | Aerial Solution for<br>Disaster Risk Reduction                          | CESTA Enterprise  | Assam                   | https://cesta-enterprise.business.site/          |

#### **GLIMPSES OF 8TH ENORTH EAST 2023**





# 8TH ENORTH EAST

















## JURY ROUND

8TH ENORTH EAST AWARD

















Knowledge Partner

Royal Global University

ROYAL GLOBAL UNIVERSITY























#### **ORGANISERS**







#### **CO-ORGANISERS**









#### **Institutional Partners**







