



DAKSHIN Workshop Telehealth – Transformative Digital Health Solution

Thursday, 8 August 2024 | 5.30 PM - 7.00 PM (IST)

(Online)

Concept Note

Telehealth, the provision of healthcare services remotely through telecommunications technology, has revolutionized the medical field by increasing access to care, especially in underserved and rural areas. By enabling virtual consultations, remote monitoring, and digital health records, telehealth has addressed various challenges related to healthcare delivery, such as geographic barriers and provider shortages. This innovative approach not only enhances patient convenience and reduces travel time but also ensures continuity of care during emergencies and pandemics. As telehealth continues to evolve, its potential to transform global healthcare systems, particularly in regions with limited resources, becomes increasingly evident.

DAKSHIN is an initiative dedicated to sharing best practices in various fields, including healthcare, technology, and agriculture across all countries of the Global South. Its mandate is to create a collaborative platform where innovative solutions and successful programs can be showcased, allowing countries to learn from each other's experiences and implement effective strategies tailored to their unique contexts. By fostering cross-border knowledge exchange and cooperation, DAKSHIN aims to drive sustainable development and improve the quality of life across the Global South.

The workshop on Telehealth aims to explore opportunities for the customisation and replication and adaptation of successful telehealth initiatives across the Global South. This workshop will bring together esteemed think tanks, experts, and representatives from various countries to share the learning from telehealth, discuss the challenges faced during its implementation, and chart a course for its wider adoption.

Recognizing the transformative impact of telehealth, several organizations across the Global South have shown a strong interest in collaborating on telehealth innovations. Their participation highlights their desire to explore similar initiatives in their respective countries and regions. This workshop will provide a platform to understand and address national and regional health challenges, which are often exacerbated by factors such as limited access to healthcare, geographic barriers, and resource constraints. The goal is to demonstrate how telehealth can serve as a viable solution to enhance affordable healthcare access and delivery.

The key focus areas of the workshop include:

• Showcasing Success Stories:

Keynote speakers will share the success story of eSanjeevani and other telehealth solutions, highlighting their impact on healthcare access and delivery. These insights will serve as inspiration for participants seeking to replicate similar telehealth models in their respective countries.

• Addressing Implementation Challenges:

Representatives from participating countries will discuss the challenges they face in implementing telehealth programs. Through interactive sessions and peer-to-peer learning, participants will brainstorm strategies to overcome barriers and optimize telehealth implementation.

• Exploring Adaptation Opportunities:

The workshop will provide a forum for exploring the adaptation and customization of the telehealth models to suit diverse healthcare contexts. Participants will have the opportunity to exchange ideas, share best practices, and identify opportunities for collaboration and technical assistance.

Hence, the workshop aims to answer key questions like:

- How does telehealth improve access to healthcare for patients in remote and rural areas?
- What technological features does telehealth employ to ensure efficient and confidential healthcare delivery?
- In what ways does telehealth enhance the overall quality and efficiency of healthcare services?
- How can advanced technologies like AI and wearable devices enhance the effectiveness of telehealth?
- What policy and infrastructure developments are necessary for the sustainable growth of telehealth?

The anticipated impact of the workshop includes increased awareness and understanding of the telehealth models, enhanced collaboration among stakeholders, empowerment of participating countries to implement effective telehealth programs, and long-term improvements in healthcare access, quality, and outcomes in the Global South through telehealth innovation.