

**2023** with the support from Assam Gov. and World Bank DEF started "Krisarhik" Program to do financial counselling of 250,000 farmers of Assam through a cadre of Bitha Sahayaks (Sochnapreneur) across 24 districts of Assam.

**2022-2025** with the support from Internet Society Foundation, DEF launched Internet Roshni Program to establish digital library centers across 100 Tea Gardens of Assam including last mile wireless network. Sochnapreneurs selected from the Indigenous Community of Tea Gardens entrepreneurially run the centers and manage network and serve the tribal communities who work in the gardens.

**2023-27** women 200 Business Mitras (Sochnapreneurs) Planned to be created across West Bengal and Assam to create a business ecosystem among micro entrepreneurs and nano biz by women, supported by oak Foundation

**2023-2024** with the help of HP and Aspen 130 Sochnapreneurs were empowered and trained to become fact checkers and to fight misinformation.

**2024** with the support from USAID and Reliance Foundation, DEF is establishing a network of 480 nano women entrepreneurs to serve communities, fight misinformation and become expert on critical thinking with digital skills

**2021** with support from USAID and DAE, DEF trained 15000 digital women entrepreneurs called Digital Sakshik across 7 states of India.

**2019 GOAL** with the support from Facebook DEF launched "Going Online As Leaders" an initiative to digitally train & empower tribal girls through video call by women mentors. In the long term most of those tribal girls turned out to become entrepreneurs. It was first 100 girls & then GOAL got adopted by Ministry of Tribal Affairs for 5000 tribal girls.

**2019** with the support from EquallyAble Samarth Sochnapreneur program was launched in 2019 to enable 100 PWDs to become digital entrepreneur and run a digital center as a social enterprise at the village level.

**2016** with the grant support of Qualcomm under their "wireless Reach" program, Sochnapreneur Program was initiated with 100 locations and by identifying 100 women entrepreneurs. This program gradually got doubled to 200 in the next 2-3 years.

**2020** DEF won Global Tech Challenge 2020 by world Bank for Sochnapreneur.

**2015** Internet Saathi Program started to train young village girls in mobile digital literacy. DEF Partnered with Google India and Tata Trusts to create a cadre of 10,000 Internet Saathis who trained close to 20 lakh girls.

**2020 CDERP** COVID-19 Digital Emergency Relief Program CDERP was launched mid 2020 with ~900 Sochnapreneurs to work on Frontline digital health workers to prevent and safeguard people from COVID-19.

**2014** Sochna Seva program started with the support from European Union along with a Consortium of 12 more organisations working collectively to strategically work to enable access to information and entitlements for the people below/above Poverty line.

**2017** In 2017, in partnership with NOKIA, DEF conceived and launched SmartPur Project across 100 locations in a Hub and spoke model with a focus on each center to run as a digital social enterprise center by an identified Sochnapreneur.

**2020 CDERP**

**2009** Digital Panchayat Program was launched to strengthen Panchayati Raj system through digital training of Panchayat bodies and women of Panchayat.

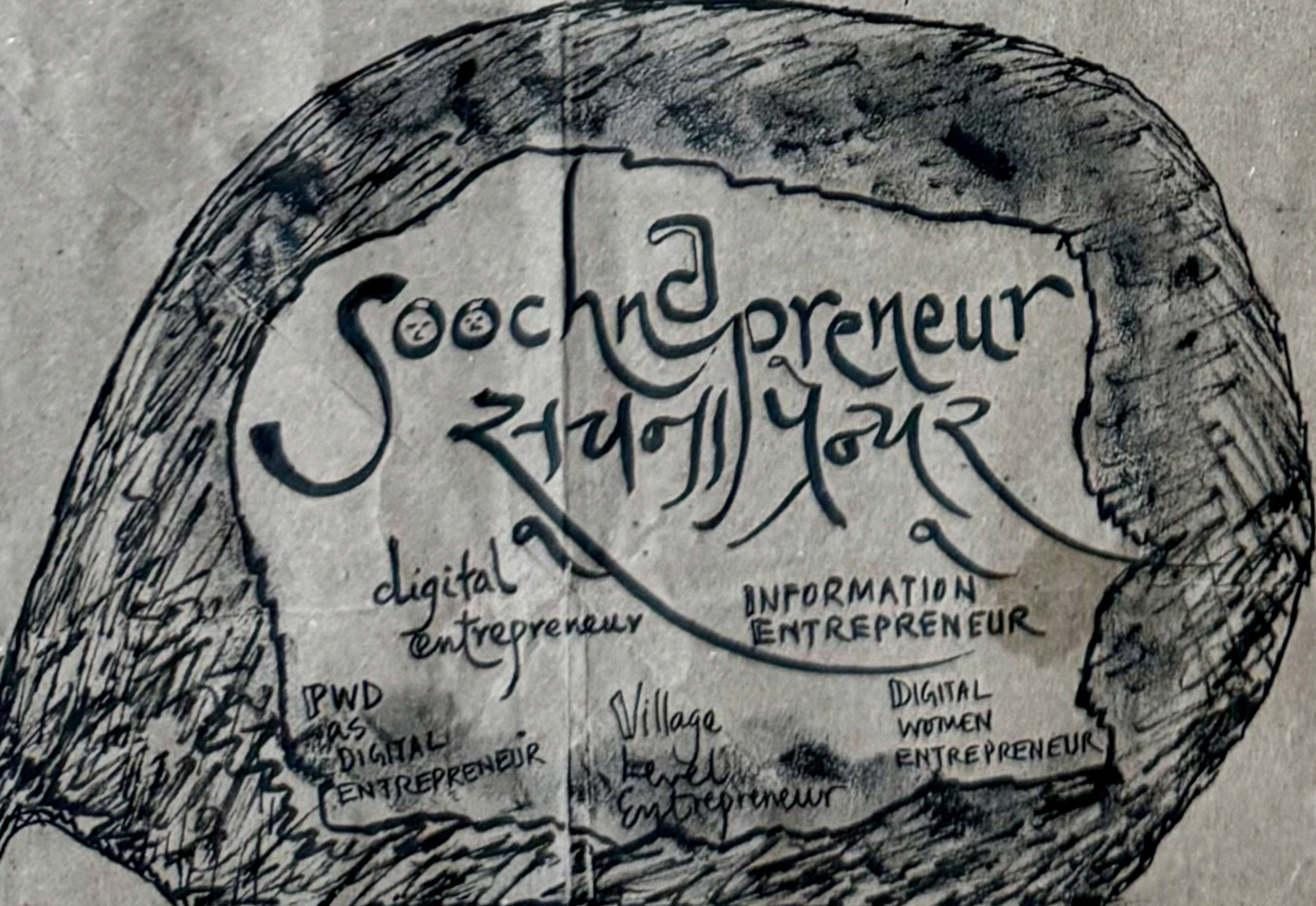
**2013** with the support from Vodafone foundation DEF started establishing 50 CIRC across India, to enable community space as public access point where people could come anytime to access their rights.

**2009-10** with the support from Ministry of IT and Media Lab Asia, DEF established an integrated Digital Center in Chandernagore among a big group of artists & weavers

**2007-8** DEF got its grant from Intel Foundation to establish 1st CIRC. DEF went ahead & established 3 CIRC in Ranchi and Baran.

**2007** DEF was invited by ministry of IT and IIFS to co-draft CSC theme specially the content and services delivery Part of Common Service Center.

**2004** founder of @defindia travelled across India researching on Akshaya in Kerala, Bhooni in Karnataka, e-seva in Andhra Pradesh, etc.



I want to learn computer      I want to search google      I want to explore internet

These whole village husband & call me laptop didi  
 I have earned respect of the community in my village  
 I can find any opportunity for anyone through this laptop & internet  
 I can leave my husband but not this smartphone  
 Every one trusts me  
 I am a Soochrapreya  
 I am an information trustee

I serve my entire village through this digital center  
 I earn 5000 every month through these digital infra

Travel, Research, Experiential learning through on-ground interactional observations and documentation of Akshaya, FREEDS, Bhooni, e-Choupal, e-seva, Drishti, Gyandoot, and so on. These projects in 2004 provided how ICT interventions interacted with communities and challenge each other's being and existence.

I have empowered at least 5000 people around my Panchayat  
 introduction of Manthan Awards in 2005 brought hundreds of ICT for development projects, pilots and government initiatives on a platter to learn and with the help of experts and jurors helped form digital models for communities

I explore the world through this mobile & youtube  
 This mobile give me confidence

2013-14 we learnt that digital tools and its tolerance to villagers and rural population require local communities to be trusted and inspired to learn among themselves and find their own solutions.

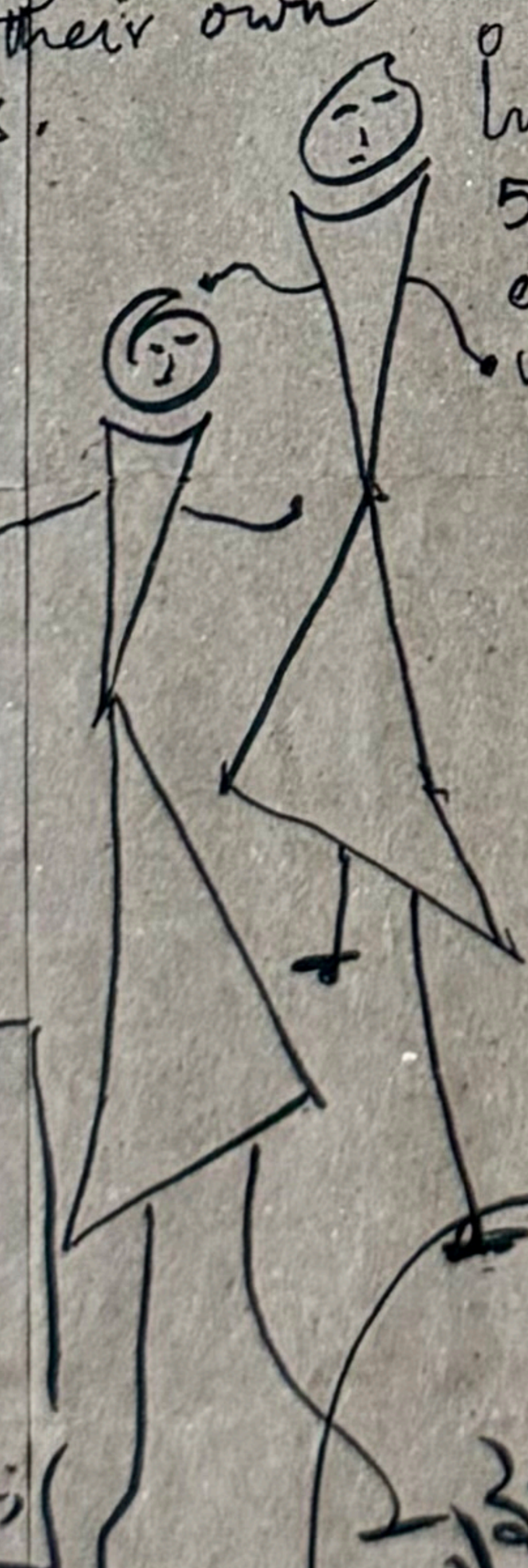
Gyandoot project with Media Lab Asia helped in understanding that the digital content created by school children are important and must be shared on an open platform. 2005

Digital Services in Rural India must be taught learnt and provided by the local digital expert, herself  
 In 2007-2008 DEF got its first grant to open digital centre in a village which provided chances to experiment with different CSC - meaning focus on digital literacy and skilling rather than digital services. Besides, VLE must have passion.

In 2007 DEF's deep learning and ICTD database of best practices provided onus to draft content and services Policy and pillars of Common Service Center scheme that Department of Electronics and IT launched handing over the management in the hands of IL&FS.

I use only green & red button

Digital Learning in rural India is learnt among peers through peer learning, through collectives, through shared devices, and shared knowledge and experience.



In 2013 establishment of 50 CIRC, taught us the entire ecosystem of rural village based lack of access to information and how different pillars of village ecosystem require deeper local contextual linkages of ICT and digital media

In the same year of 2007 and in 2008 DEF also tied up with IIM Ahmedabad along with IL&FS to develop a professional training program of 12-days for Village Level Entrepreneurs (VLEs) who were supposed to run CSCs

I use my brother's mobile secretly

I use my brother's mobile secretly

I learn & experience through...

- A research found through data that women led digital centers are:
- better performing
  - time efficient
  - socially conscious
  - better serving
  - attract more foot fall
  - highly impactful
  - highly trusted
  - very well respected
  - better use of earnings
  - lesser attrition rate
  - wider social reach

I hope it won't pass current

will I get a shock

what if I break the keyboard if I press hard

etymology  
 Soochrapreya