Sunil Abraham

Sunil is the Executive Director of Centre for Internet and Society, a Bangalore-based non-profit organization. He is also a social entrepreneur and Free Software advocate. He founded Mahiti in 1998 which aims to reduce the cost and complexity of Information and Communication Technology for the Voluntary Sector by using Free Software. Today, Mahiti employs more than 50 engineers and Sunil continues to serve on the board as a board member. Sunil was elected an Ashoka fellow in 1999 to 'explore the democratic potential of the Internet' and was granted a Sarai FLOSS fellowship in 2003. Between June 2004 and June 2007, he managed the International Open Source Network, a project of the United Nations Development Programme's Asia-Pacific Development Information Programme serving 42 countries in the Asia-Pacific region. Between September 2007 and June 2008, he also managed ENRAP, an electronic network of International Fund for Agricultural Development projects in the Asia-Pacific facilitated and co-funded by International Development Research Centre, Canada.

As a social entrepreneur and activist working in the field of ICT4D for the last 10 years, he has extensive experience working with many small and large organisations at the local, regional, national and international levels. He contributed to the launch and maintenance of many thematic and regional networks and his activism has always focused on the limitations of the present Intellectual Property Rights [IPR] regime and emerging alternatives such as Free/Open Source Software [FOSS], Open Standards, Open Access and Piracy.

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Engagements and Experiences

As Employee

1. Founder and Executive Director, Centre for Internet and Society from July 2008 to date.

The Centre for Internet and Society (CIS) was founded and registered as a society in Bangalore in August 2008. As an independent, non-profit, research organisation which is involved in research on the field of the Internet and its relationship to the society, CIS brings together scholars, academics, students, programmers and scientists to engage in a large variety of Internet issues like governance, privacy and freedom of expression, etc. CIS works in the areas of histories of the Internet, Digital Natives, and a reader on the Wikipedia, enhancing higher education for the downtrodden, and accessibility for the disabled, openness, telecom, Internet governance, privacy, etc. CIS also runs different academic and research programmes and is receptive to new ideas and collaborations, projects and campaigns for the public.

2. Founder and Director of International Relations, Mahiti Infotech Pvt. Ltd. from June 1998 to date.

Mahiti is a 40-person strong, Bangalore based voluntary sector support organisation that aims to reduce the cost and complexity of Information Technology, through the strategic use of Free/Open Source Software [FOSS]. Mahiti has served over 500 organisations directly by building multi-platform and multi-lingual web / Intranet / kiosk & multimedia applications over the last nine years. Mahiti has conducted many local, regional, national and international trainings and workshops. It has also designed and executed projects in the areas of resource mobilisation, collaboration, documentation, advocacy, e-governance and rural ICT.

3. Acting Project Coordinator, ENRAP Phase III at the International Development Research Centre from September 2007 to June 2008.

ENRAP (Knowledge Networking for Rural Development in Asia/Pacific Region), is an IFAD-IDRC supported electronic network, that aims to leverage the growing body of useful information generated by development projects concerned with agriculture and rural development. The program, now in its third phase, is designed to bring the benefits of accessing and sharing global information resources to IFAD-supported by rural development projects in the Asia/Pacific region.

4. Special Service Agreement, UNDP-Moldova, September 2007. After his visit to Moldova, Sunil secured a Short Service Agreement with Moldova UNDP to help the Government of Moldova articulate its policy on Open Standards and FOSS. His TOR included the following activities: visit to Moldova and discussions with all key ministries and other stakeholders on Information Technology and e-governance; preparation of two documents for the Ministry of Information Development, Government of Moldova – one, global and regional best practise analysis in Open Standards and FOSS use for e-governance applications and two, a policy paper on Open Standards and FOSS use in Moldova; convene a workshop with all key stakeholders and solicit feedback on both the documents; and lastly finalize both documents after taking feedbacks into consideration.

5. Manager, International Open Source Network from June 2004 to June 2007.

The International Open Source Network is an initiative of the United Nations Development Programme's Asia Pacific Development Information Programme and supported by the International Development Research Centre of Canada. It is a Centre of Excellence for FOSS in the Asia-Pacific Region, managed by a small secretariat based at the UNDP Regional Centre in Bangkok, Bangalore and Kuala Lumpur and three centres of excellence – IOSN ASEAN+3, IOSN Pacific Island Countries, and IOSN South Asia, based in Manila, Suva and Chennai respectively. The IOSN is tasked specifically to facilitate and network FOSS advocates and human resources in the region. Sunil's tasks included advocacy and lobbying; research and publications; and organising awareness-raising and community-building events in the region.

As a Board Member

1. Sub-board member, Open Society Institute's Information Programme from July 2005 to July 2009.

   OSI's Information Program supports projects in three focal areas:

   - Access to Knowledge - Intellectual Property Reform & Open Knowledge; EIFL Consortium; Open Access Initiative; East-East/South-South Translation Support.

   - Civil Society Communication - Capacity for Civil Society Communication; Software Tools for Open Society

   - Open Information Policy - Affordable Communications Access; Free Expression on the Internet.

The Information Program makes grants of five million USD annually. As a sub-board member, Sunil provided strategic and substantive direction to the programme, reviewed grant proposals and provided support on a regular basis to Vera Franz, who handled the Access to Knowledge portfolio.

2.   Board member of HIV and Human Development Resource Network from September 2005 to June 2007.

HIV and Human Development Resource Network (HDRN) is a non-profit organisation that offers a bouquet of state-of-the-art professional and technical services at competitive rates to organisations working on HIV and human development issues. HDRN is run by a team of new age social entrepreneurs with strong social values, and is geared towards providing support and capacity building services to organisations working with marginalized communities.

Fellowships
 1.   Elected Ashoka fellow in 1999 for exploring the democratic potential of the Internet
 2.   Granted Sarai fellowship in 2003 for FOSS advocacy within the Indian voluntary sector.

Papers and Publications

As Author

1.   Report on Open Government Data in India, co-authored with Nishant Shah, Pranesh Prakash and Glover Wright. The findings from the report were presented at the TAI donors' conclave in San Francisco.
2.   Digital Natives with a Cause? A Knowledge Survey and Framework, co-authored with Nishant Shah, published by CIS and Hivos in 2009.
3.   IOSN: Building a global resource, Information for Development, CSDMS, October 2005.
4.   Agency and Enterprise Handbook for ICT in the Indian Small Scale Sector along with Dr. Richard Heeks and Dr. Richard Duncombe of Institute for Development Policy and Management, University of Manchester. May 2004.
5.   Who's afraid of the Old Fox, Information for Development, CSDMS, May 2003.

As Editor

 1.   FOSS: Education by Tan Wooi Tong. © APDIP-UNDP published by Elsevier. ISBN: 81-8147-565-8.

 2.   FOSS: Government Policy by Kenneth Wong. © APDIP-UNDP published by Elsevier. ISBN: 81-8147-755-3.

3. FOSS: Localization by Anousak Souphavanh and Theppitak Karoonboonyanan. ©
   APDIP-UNDP published by Elsevier. ISBN: 81-8147-7545.

4. FOSS: Open Standards by Nah Soo Hoe. © APDIP-UNDP published by Elsevier.
   ISBN-13: 978-81-312-0538-9 & ISBN-10: 81-312-0538-X.

5. FOSS: Licensing by Shun Ling Chen. © APDIP-UNDP published by Elsevier. ISBN-
   13: 978-81-312-0422-1 & ISBN-10: 81-312-0422-7.

6. FOSS Network Infrastructure and Security by Gaurab Raj Upadhaya © APDIP-UNDP.
   ISBN-13: 978-81-312-0421-4 & ISBN-10: 81-312-0421-9.

7. FOSS: Open Content by Lawrence Liang © APDIP-UNDP. ISBN-13: 978-974-7170-
   40-5 & ISBN-10: 974-7170-40-X.

As a Lecturer

1. Lecture at the University of Hyderabad. Taught English lecturers on February 28 and
   March 1, 2011.

2. Lecture on Open Source Software to CATFOSS students on 13 August 2009 at the
   Centre for Advanced Training in Free and Open Source Software (CATFOSS),
   Ernakulam.

3. Lecture on 'Introduction to Cybercultures: An Internet and Society Perspective' to
   the final year students at the Centre for Media and Culture Studies, Tata Institute of
   Social Sciences, Mumbai.

4. Lecture on 'Legal and Technical Control and Resistance on the Internet' at the
   International School on Digital Transformation in Porto (Portugal), organised by the
   University of Texas on 24 July 2009.

Blog Post

1. When Whistle Blowers Unite: Sunil wrote an article in which he points out that
   leaking corporate or government information in public interest through popular Web
   service providers is risky but Wikileaks.org is one option that can be tried out.

Events – Organised and Participated

Sunil played a lead role in designing, directing and executing the following events:

1. Open Access to Scientific Information Indian International Centre, New Delhi, India,
   16 March 2011

2. South Asia Expert Meeting on Internet and Freedom of Expression, Hyatt Hotel, New Delhi, 2-3 March, 2011.

3. Digital Natives with a Cause? Thinkathon, Hague, 6 to 8 December 2010.

4. Enabling Access to Education through ICT, New Delhi, 27 to 29 October 2010. Sunil spoke on Open Educational Resources.

5. Technical Aspects of UID: A Public Talk, Bangalore, 20 October 2010. Sunil gave a lecture on the technical aspects of UID along with Prof. K. Gopinath from the Indian Institute of Science.

6. Tajik Study Tour of India, 14 to 19 June 2010, attended a series of meetings with Zafarjon Shafiev, Director, Centre of Information Technologies KOVA, Talat Numanov, Director, Centre ICT, Rustam Kosimov, Director, Internet Fund of Tajikistan, Zafar Alizoda, Director, Information-Analytical and Educational Centre "MATHEMA", Muhammadi Ibodulloev, Director, Public Fund Civil Internet Policy Initiative, Parvina Ibodova, Association of the Internet Providers of the Tajikistan, Irkaev Gafur, Director, Association of the Mobile providers of the Tajikistan and Mavzuna Abdurakhmanova, Coordinator of the Information Program, OSI AF-Tajikistan, Kamolitdinov Manuchehr and Talat Numonov.

7. National Policy for Electronic Accessibility on November 11, 2009 in New Delhi. It was co-organised by CIS along with the National Institute for the Visually Handicapped and Daisy Forum of India in honour of the visit of the Director General, WIPO.

8. Internet Governance Forum - Panellist in the main session on 'Emerging Issues: Impact of Social Networks', along with Rachel O' Connell (Chief Security Officer, Bebo), Grace Bomu (Manager, Actor and Policy Advocate, Kenya), Rebecca MacKinnon (Open Society Institute Fellow) and Sergio Suima (Prosecutor from Brazil).

9. Spoke at the workshop on 'Open Standards – A Rights-based Approach', which CIS co-organised with Knowledge Ecology International. Other panelists included Sir Tim Berners-Lee (W3C), Renu Budhiraja (India's DIT), Steve Mutkoski (Microsoft), and Rishab Ghosh (UNU-MERIT) while Aslam Raffee was the moderator.

10. Moderated the meeting of the Dynamic Coalition on Open Standards (DCOSS). CIS is now also part of the DCOS secretariat.

11. Asia Source II. 22nd to 30th January 2007, Sukabumi, Indonesia. Organisers: International Open Source Network, Tactical Technology Collective, InWEnt, ICTWatch. Donors: Hivos, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development of Germany and APDIP.

12. Asia Commons. 6th – 8th June 2006, Bangkok, Thailand. Organisers: Bellanet, SAP International, Centre for Science, Development and Media Studies and International Open Source Network. Donor: IDRC.

13. Regional Policy Dialogue on Open Standards. 2nd and 4th May 2006. Bangkok, Thailand. Organisers: Asia-Pacific Development Information Programme and National Electronics and Computer Technology Development Agency, Thailand.

14. Panel discussion on FOSS at World Summit for the Information Society. 18th November 2005, Tunis. Organisers International Open Source Network. Partners: UNITAR, UNCTAD, UNESCO. Donor: IDRC.

15. World Information City – Bangalore. 14th to 20th November 2005. Organisers: Sarai-CSDS, Waag Society, Alternative Law Forum, Mahiti, Srishti School of Art, Public Netbase and Goethe Institute. Donor: European Union.

16. Free/Open Source Software – Asia Pacific II. 1st to 4th September 2005. Organisers: International Open Source Network, National ICT Development Agency, Cambodia and Open Forum Cambodia. Donors: Intel

17. Asia Source I, 28th January to 5th February 2005. Bangalore India. Organisers: Mahiti, Tactical Technology Collective and Aspiration Technology. Donors: Hivos, Open Society Institute and United Nations Development Programme.

18. Workshop for Asian women journalists. 2nd to 8th November 2003. Bangalore, India. Organisers: GKP and One World South Asia. Local Organisers: Mahiti and Voices.

19. Use of Information and Communications Technologies for Social Empowerment and Economic Development. 10th- 11th July 2001. Bangalore, India. Organisers: Voices, Mahiti, Madhyam and the Center for Knowledge Societies.

20. Advocacy in the Internet Age: Way Forward for Civil Society from South Asia. 27th to 30th January, 2001. Bangalore, India. Organised by: Public Affairs Centre, MAHITI and IT for Change.

Sunil was a speaker, conducted trainings or made presentations at the following events:

1. Participated in a series of meeting in Iraq to advice on the Government Interoparability Framework, January 24 to January 28, 2011.
2. Comparative Perspectives on Media Regulation and Society, New Delhi, 14-15 December 2010. Sunil was a speaker in the session on New Technologies, Sovereignty, and Concepts of Freedom.
3. DSCI Information Security Summit 2010, Chennai, 2 and 3 December 2010.
4. Unlimited India's Social Mashup, Hyderabad, 2 December 2010.
5. Digitally Open: Innovation and Open Access Forum (23 October 2010)
6. Open World Forum, Paris, September 30 to October 1, 2010. Sunil was a speaker at the event (Open Is the Future).
7. Workshop on Legal Framework for Privacy, Data Protection and Security, Civil Services Officers Institute, KG Marg, New Delhi, 21 July 2010.
8. Mekong ICT Camp 7 June 2010, BarCamp, Chiang Mai, Mekong. Was the keynote speaker and spoke on 'Public Policy Related to the Internet: Net Neutrality, Piracy, Personal Data, etc'.
9. Consilience 2010 – A conference on Internet intermediary liability in India, Taj Residency, Bangalore, 29 and 30 May 2010.
10. The Potential of Open Development for Canada and Abroad, 5 May 2010. Sunil was a panelist along with Michael Geist (University of Ottawa), Anita Gurumurthy (IT for Change, India), Ron Deibert (Citizen Lab, University of Toronto), and Yochai Benkler (Berkman Center, Harvard University).
11. Civil Society Summit, 2010 on January 26, 2010 in Bangalore. Sunil made a presentation.
12. Democracy Biennial (Turin, Italy, 22 – 26 April 2009). Sunil participated in the discussions and expressed previously unpublished views on piracy, attribution and the IP regime in a panel discussion on Internet and Deliberative Democracy with Philippe Aigrain (Sopinspace), and Prof. Mario Losano (Jurist, Univ. Piemonte Orientale) moderated by J.C. De Martin (NEXA Centre for Internet and Society) at the Democracy Biennial, Torino 25 May 2009.

13. <u>Democracy Biennial</u> (Turin, Italy, 22 – 26 April 2009). Sunil participated in the discussions and expressed previously unpublished views on piracy, attribution and the IP regime in a panel discussion on Internet and Deliberative Democracy with Philippe Aigrain (Sopinspace), and Prof. Mario Losano (Jurist, Univ. Piemonte Orientale) moderated by J.C. De Martin (NEXA Centre for Internet and Society) at the Democracy Biennial, Torino 25 May 2009.

14. <u>Annual Congress of the International Communications Association Pre-Conference on India and Communication Studies</u> (Chicago, 21 May 2009). Sunil participated in a panel discussion on Media, Technology and Governance.

15. Free Access to Law – Is it Here to Stay? travelled to Johannesburg for the orientation meeting in 2009.

16. <u>Global Conference on Open Source</u> (Jakarta (Indonesia), 25–29 October 2009). Sunil Abraham participated in the conference and made a presentation on 'Making Open Source the Driver for Development'.

Prior to CIS

17. FOSS and the Indian Government. 5 November 2007. Delhi, India. Organisers: Bureau of Police Research and Development [BPR&D], Government of India.

18. Design of The Times [DOTT07]. 16 October 2007. New Castle on Tyne, United Kingdom. Organisers: Design Council and One North East and North East England.

19. FOSS and the Indian Government. 1 October 2007. Delhi, India. Organisers: Ministry of Home Affairs, Central Reserve Police Force, Border Security Force, and Indo-Tibetan Border Force.

20. Panel discussion on getting FOSS communities to work together at Freed.in. 29 September 2007. Delhi. India. Organisers: Indian Linux User Group – Delhi [ILUG-D]. Donors: Intel, Google, Sun Microsystems and Qvantel.

21. Workshop on proposed National Open Source Software Resource Centre in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. 4th June 2007. Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. Organisers: Computer and Electronics Research Institute, King Abdulaziz City for Science and Technology.

22. Workshop on Advancing e-Government Solutions for Friendly, Efficient and Secure Public Service. 24th April 2007. Chisinau, Moldova. Ministry of Information Development, Government of Moldova and UNDP Moldova.

23. Government Interoperability Frameworks Workshop and Study Group Meeting. 18th to 20th April 2007. Beijing, China. Organisers: APDIP-UNDP

24. Expert Group Meeting on Open Source Software Solutions for the Public Sector in the Arab Region. 19th to 20th December 2006. Cairo, Egypt. Organisers: Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, Information and Communication Technology for Development in the Arab Region and UNESCO.

25. UNDP Inter-Regional Europe and the CIS/Asia-Pacific e-Governance Community of Practice Meeting. 4th to 5th December 2006. Talinn, Estonia. Organisers: Estonian e-Governance Academy.

26. FOSS.IN 2006. 24th to 26th November 2006. Bangalore, India, Organisers: Linux Bangalore.

27. International Conference on Social Entrepreneurship in India. 24th to 26th November 2006. Mumbai, India. Organisers: unLTD, TISS, NMIMS and Skoll Centre.

28. e-GovWorld South Asia 2006, 26th to 28th October 2006. Delhi, India. Organiser: SPEG, Danish Technology Institute, Ministry of Communication and Information Technology – Government of India and TeTrain.

29. 4th International Conference on GPLv3, 23rd and 24th August 2006. Bangalore, India. Organisers: Free Software Foundation.

30. Consilience 06. 26th to 27th July 2006. Bangalore, India: Organisers: National Law School of India University.

31. Government Day at LinuxWorld Australia 2006. 29 March 2006. Sydney, Australia. Organisers: Linux Australia and Linux World.

32. FOSS.IN 2005. 29th November to 2nd December 2005, Bangalore, India. Organisers: Linux Bangalore.

33. PSTM Government Technology Forum 05. 5th October 2005. Singapore. Organisers: Public Sector Technology & Management Magazine.

34. FOSSAC'2005 1st National Free and Open Source Software Awareness Campaign. 16th to 19th August 2005. Lahore, Pakistan. Organisers: FOSSFP: Free and Open Source Software Foundation of Pakistan.

35. Open-Source Software - A Viable Alternative or a Risky Venture? Lessons for Singapore, 9th March 2005. Organisers: Intellectual Property Office of Singapore. See press coverage below.

36. Networks of Imagination. 20th to 22nd June 2005. Vienna, Austria. Organisers: Public Netbase, Waag Society for New and Old Media and Sarai/CSDS.

37. Doors 8. 21st to 26th March 2005. New Delhi, India. Organisers: Doors of Perception and Centre for Knowledge Societies

38. Richard Stallman Lecture on Free Software and Patents. 1st November 2004. Singapore. Organisers: UNDP-APDIP, International Open Source Network and Singapore Management University School of Information Systems.

39. Expert Group Meeting on Open-source Software for Knowledge Management. 11th to 12th October 2004. Bangkok, Thailand. Organisers: United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.

40. Africa Source I. 15th - 19th March 2004. Okahandja, Namibia. Organisers: Tactical Technology Collective, AllAfrica and SchoolNet Namibia.

41. World Social Forum IV Workshop on Democratization of Information with a Focus on Libraries. 18th January 2004. Mumbai, India. Organisers: Network Institute for Global Democratization (NIGD) and Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS).

42. Workshop on FLOSS, Intellectual Property and Development Cooperation. 2nd to 5th June 2003. Organisers: Waag Society for New and Old Media and Hivos.

43. Asian Social Forum, Alternatives to Media Empires a Workshop on the Information Politics & Media. 5th December 2002. Hyderabad, India. Organisers: Organized by Sarai/CSDS, Mahiti, Indymedia-Mumbai, PUKAR and Aman - Autonomous Media Network.

44. Achieving Connectivity for the Rural Poor in India Conference. 31st May to 3rd January 2001. Baramati, India. Organisers: Vidya Pratishthan's Institute of Information Technology, Digital Partners and the James Martin Company.

45. Local-Global Connectivity for Voices of the Poor Workshop. 11th to 13th December. Washington DC, USA. Organiser: The World Bank

Networking

Over the last ten years, Sunil has made hundreds of friends and acquaintances using a wide variety of off-line and online networks – Bytesforall Mailing List, Ashoka fellows worldwide, Sarai researchers, FOSS-PDI mailing list, Open Society Institute, Hivos and IOSN. On a recent mission, he met with Vladimir Molojen, Minister of Information Development, Republic of Moldova. As part of the production of Asia Source II, he met Kusmayanto Kadiman, Minister for Research and Technology, Government of Indonesia on several occasions. He was also able to meet with and interview Gilberto Gil, Minister of Culture, Government of Brazil during the production of "Code Breakers". He keeps in touch with many leaders of the global Free Software and Free Culture Movement including – Richard Stallman, Bruce Perens and Eben Moglen. He has more than 340 contacts on Linkedin.com and more than 160 contacts on Facebook.com. Consequently, many friends and colleagues depend on him for introductions.

News and Media Coverage

1. [Anti-Social Network](#) (Mail Today, 27 February 2011)
2. [Growing cyberspace controls, Internet filtering](#) (Hindu, 20 February 2011)
3. [Social Network Suicide](#) (Bangalore Mirror, 6 February 2011)
4. [What Are You Accused of? Find Out Online](#) (Indiarealtime, 1 February 2011)
5. [A Refreshing Start!](#) (Verve Online, January 2011)
6. [Self-regulation in media and society meet to gain legal perspectives](#) (indiantelevision.com, 13 December 2010)
7. This Is All India Radia (Outlook, 6 December 2010)
8. ['Pakistan' hackers target India's top police agency](#) (Google News, 4 December 2010)
9. The Niira Radia Tapes: Scrutinizing the Snoopers (Wall Street Journal, 29 November 2010)
10. 'Piracy is now a mainstream political phenomenon' (The Hindu, 22 November 2010)
11. Time to bury e-mail? (DNA, 21 November 2010)
12. The internet's new billion (Global Post, 15 November 2010)
13. Wi-Fi Direct promises range, bandwidth higher than Bluetooth (The Hindu, 31 October 2010)

14. <u>Report: Digitally Open: Innovation and Open Access Forum</u>, 23 Oct 2010, Doha, Qatar (Rami Olvan, 29 October 2010)

15. <u>Crisis for identity or identity crisis?</u> (d-sector.org, 12 October 2010)

16. <u>In new Facebook features, a comeback for community</u> (The Hindu, 10 October 2010)

17. <u>How the UID project can be a cause for concern</u> (IBN Live, 5 October 2010)

18. <u>Stiff Resistance Dogs India's ID Plan</u> (Asia Times Online, 1 October 2010)

19. <u>Internet, szabadon</u> (index, 22 September 2010)

20. <u>Hogyan szűrik a kormányok az internetes tartalmakat?</u> (hvg.hu, 21 September 2010)

21. <u>Konferencia az internetes szólásszabadságról Budapesten</u> (Hirado Online, 21 September 2010)

22. <u>Transparency and MDGs: the Role of the Media and Technology</u> (Transparency, Free Flow of Information and the MDGs, 25 August 2010)

23. <u>RIM Offered Security Fixes</u> (Wall Street Journal, 14 August 2010)

24. <u>Govt and BlackBerry firm wait for the other to hang up</u> (Indian Express, 9 August 2010)

25. <u>Open is the Future</u> (Open World Forum, July 2010)

26. <u>Networking? Not working</u> (Livemint, 13 July 2010)

27. <u>UID Act may be released for debate, may be introduced in monsoon session</u> (Livemint, 30 June 2010)

28. <u>Activists welcome privacy Bill, but point out concerns</u> (Livemint, 23 June 2010)

29. <u>Peeping Toms In Your Inbox</u> (Outlook, 21 June 2010)

30. <u>Dont hang up on this one</u> (Hindu, 15 June 2010)

31. <u>A new age in news</u> (dti news, 8 June 2010)

32. <u>Facebook, privacy and India</u> (Livemint, May 2010)

33. <u>Biometry Is Watching</u> (Outlook, 17 May 2010)

34. <u>Internet is neither good nor bad</u> (Socialter, 3 May 2010)

35. <u>'UID is being forced'</u> (Times of India, April 2010)

36. <u>Scrap UID project, say people's organizations</u> (Hindu, 29 April 2010)

37. <u>ID programme faces first challenge over privacy, data</u> (Livemint, 28 April 2010)

38. <u>UID info can be misused</u> (Deccan Chronicle, April 2010)

39. <u>Citizens' forums want UID project scrapped</u> (Deccan Herald, 28 April 2010)

40. <u>They fight for the visually challenged</u> (Times News Network, 15 April 2010)

41. <u>Expel or not? That is the question</u> (DNA, 2 April 2010)

42. <u>Nokia eyes GeNext to tap mobile email mkt</u> (India Today, 31 March 2010)

43. <u>Wiki's worth, on a different turf</u> (Livemint, 13 January 2010) by Sunil Abraham

44.   Newspapers should empower citizen journalism (DNA, 21 December 2009) by Sunil Abraham

45.   Pushing Buttons (The Hindu, 1 January 2010)

46.   Watch what you read on that website (DNA, 9 December 2009)

47.   Copyright Access for the Disabled and Collaborative IP Policy (SPICY IP, 18 November 2009)

48.   Mumbai no longer 'meri jaan' (Livemint, 20 November 2009)

49.   Open Source Peluang tidak Terbatas Industri TIK (GCOS 2009) (Media Indonesia.com)

50.   Change is coming thanks to the mobile (DNA, 29 August 2009)

51.   Piracy boils down to convenience (DNA, 15 August 2009)

52.   On the Internet, how much is too much? (The Hindu, 5 August 2009)

53.   Measuring the effectiveness of online activism (The Hindu, 21 June 2009)

54.   Don't buy what you can do without, Charu Bahri, BenefitIT, October 2007.

55.   United and Open, Balaji Narasimhan, CIO India, April 2007.

56.   Open Views 24: Sunil Abraham, Activist and Technologist, Sundar Raman, 100.1 FM KRUU: The Voice of Fairfield. March 2007.

57.   Social Entrepreneurs make it their business to change India, Frederick Noronha, Infochange features. January 2007.

58.   Call for Asia to adopt ODF, Aaron Tan, ZDNet Asia, August 2006.

59.   Move your business ahead with Mahiti, BenefIT, August 2006.

60.   Mounting the Development Juggernaut the OSS Way, Linux for You. June 2006.

61.   What if the alphabet was patented? Eileen Yu, ZDNet Asia. 1st April 2005.

62.   Linux guide designed for developing nations. CNET.COM. Ingrid Marson, 24th August 2004.

63.   Patenting of software stifles growth: expert. The Business Times. 8 November 2004.

64.   A rainbow group united against globalisation. Vaishnavi C Sekhar, The Times of India. January 2004.

Television & Film

1.   When Copyright Goes Bad This is a film by Ben Cato Clough and Luke Upchurch about how copyright has become one of the most important consumer issues of the digital age. The film features Sunil along with some of the key players in the copyright debate, including: Fred Von Lohmann from Electronic Frontier Foundation, Michael Geist from the University of Ottawa Law School, Jim Killock

of Open Rights Group and Hank Shocklee who is the Co-founder of Public Enemy. The film has been viewed 31,890 times on Youtube.

2. Sunil participated in the production of a two-part FOSS documentary [Warning: 225 Mb] as lead interviewer and script consultant. This documentary was sponsored by UNDP, UNESCO and IDRC and was aired on BBC World during May 2006.

Education

Bachelors Degree in Industrial and Production Engineering from Dayananda Sagar, Bangalore

Technical Skills

I am an intermediate/advanced user of the following tools and technologies. I have also designed and conducted trainings on these tools and technologies at events organised by Mahiti and IOSN.

Operating Systems: Ubuntu Linux and MS Windows

- Graphic Design: Gimp, Scribus, Inkscape, Adobe Photoshop, Macromedia Freehand and Adobe PageMaker.

- Multimedia: Audacity

- Web Technologies: xHTML, CSS, Javascript, XML, Apache, Zope, Plone, MediaWiki, SugarCRM, dotProject, PHPMyAdmin and Mailman

- Office Productivity: Open Office, MS Office and Adobe Acrobat

    Apart from managing designers and programmers at Mahiti, Sunil has worked on Graphic User Interface [GUI] design and Information Architecture [IA] for multi-platform, multi-lingual and multi-media enabled web and mobile applications. He also uses Unified Modelling Language [UML] to develop specifications for these applications, based on interviews with the client or Requests for Proposals [RFP]. He has experience in developing scripts for multimedia computer based training programs and in managing pre-press, screen-printing and offset printing.

Early Experiences

1997 Samuha

Sunil joined Samuha in 1997 as web-master for an on-line fund raising campaign and was quickly promoted to the head of the computer department. Samuha is a 20 year old integrated development organisation based in Karnataka, India. The computer department was to be incubated and spun off by Samuha management as Mahiti Infotech Pvt. Ltd. a specialist ICT resource organisation for the voluntary sector.

1996 Scene Designs

After receiving his degree in engineering, he worked for a year at a print design studio called "Scene Designs" run by Kiran Sahi from National Institute of Design.

1993 Students for Peace

During the second year of his Engineering degree, Sunil set up and managed an express apolitical and secular platform called "Students for Peace" during the Ayodhya/Bombay riots which organised a peaceful demonstration of 5000 college and school students holding candles on MG Road, Bangalore.

Other Interests

As a volunteer, Sunil has served on many committees and working groups concerned with Civil Society, ICT4D and IPR. For example most recently, he served on the jury of Chris Nicol's FOSS prize organised by Association for Progressive Communication and the advisory panel for the Civil Society Practitioners Programme organised by Oxford Internet Institute, University of Oxford. He is presently researching the economical and cultural impact of peer-to-peer based copyright infringement or "piracy" on music.

References

Reference 1: Darius Cuplinskas

"I have had the good luck to work with Sunil Abraham for more than two years, since we met at the Asia Source event in Bangalore in early 2005. I was struck by his keen strategic intelligence and leadership abilities, and nominated him for the OSI Information Program's global advisory board. He has been working closely with our program since then. I find his understanding of issues around technology and development, information policy, the use of ICTs by civil society, and intellectual property invaluable. His sense of humour makes it a pleasure to work with him. But what sets Sunil apart is the wisdom and commitment he brings to what can sometimes be quite technical work, and his personal integrity. I would be glad to provide more details or to discuss Sunil's qualifications further."

Darius Cuplinskas, Director, Information Program, Open Society Institute

Email: darius.cuplinskas@osf-london.org

Phone: +44 7717 307 262

Reference 2: Stephanie Hankey

"We have worked with Sunil extensively since early 2004 when he first attended one of our events; Africa Source in Namibia. We then went on to work together to host a 120 person event in India, Asia Source 2005 and to develop a project together to create an Indian hub for our Free and Open Source toolkit project, 'NGO in a box'. Earlier this year Sunil led and coordinated the development of Asia Source II with our mentoring and support. We have continued to renew our collaboration with Sunil over the past three years because we have found it so rewarding to work alongside him and his team. He is professional, an extremely good thinker and a pleasure to work alongside, balancing dedication and concentration on the job at hand with a sociable and outward looking persona. I would have no hesitation whatsoever recommending Sunil for any position. If you have any questions or would like further details, please contact me directly." Stephanie Hankey, Executive Director, Tactical Technology Collective

Email: stephanie@tacticaltech.org

Phone: +44 771 7538473.

Reference 3: Jaya Chittoor

"Sunil's energy levels are mind-boggling. Both of us worked for the same boss (Shahid Akhtar), though at different levels, who is a demanding leader. One comes out a polished manager with that experience. I have seen his commitment to Open Source and as an entrepreneur and Open Source evangelist, Sunil is likely to be a thought leader in the coming years. I was a participant of Asia Source Bangalore Camp (Jan 2005) which was hosted by Mahiti team, and Sunil also was a lead speaker at the Asia Commons conference that CSDMS, Bellanet, South Asia Partnership and IDRC organised at Thailand in 2006."

Jaya Chittoor, Editor, Centre for Science, Development and Media Studies. Email: jchittoor@csdms.in

Phone: +91 120 2502180 to 87

Reference 4: Harish Pillay

"I met Sunil at an open source event in Phuket in 2003 and I was very impressed with how he conveyed his ideas and how passionate he was and continues to be in the need to ensure equity of opportunity in the digital world. Although I have not had the pleasure of working with him, but I would certainly welcome an opportunity to do so."

Harish Pillay, Chief Technology Architect, Red Hat Asia
Email: hpillay@redhat.com