Tamil Nadu State-wide Chapter Notes

1. Better Model:

The hub-and-spoke model is an improvement on the present city-based chapter structure. It was created to deal with the problems of growing chapters in a vast country like India. The current plan, which limits chapters to 50 km and needs two corporate members and two individual members, needs to be more relaxed. By creating a Master Chapter at the state level, we create a central hub that supports regional spokes. This lets us reach more people and get deeper into niche areas. This method encourages adaptability while staying in line with the foundation's philosophy of continuous growth. The model makes it easier to grow without lowering the quality and can be improved even more once it's widely used.

2. Fits with the IoT SF's goals and membership growth:

The hub-and-spoke model helps the foundation reach more people, get involved in local communities, and deal with specific regional problems. As a strategic hub, the Master Chapter provides centralised resources and consistent direction. On the other hand, Spokes focus on localised involvement, ensuring they align with the foundation's mission.

3. Membership Growth:

Because it's easier for spokes to join, the organisation can grow naturally as more groups form with help from the main chapter. Targeted recruitment strategies can focus on getting members from various backgrounds, using both individual and business involvement.

4. Engagement Strategy:

State-level events, sites for sharing resources, and mentorship programs will help Spokes get new members and keep the ones they have. Centralised efforts will reach more people, ensuring a solid membership base. This plan clearly links structural flexibility and membership growth and encourages a sense of community.

5. Structure and Resilience of Leadership:

The hub-and-spoke approach makes leadership resilient by dividing up duties and setting up a clear structure.

- Leadership Framework: The Master Chapter comprises representatives from the area spokes, which ensures that everyone is included and that different points of view are heard. There are fewer single points of failure because each spoke has its own authority and a clear line of communication with the hub.

- Continuity and Succession: Planning for the next leader is an essential part of the leadership system, and there are ways to train and prepare them.

The Master Chapter has committees that work on important issues like finances, management, and events to ensure smooth operation even when leadership changes.

Concerns about operational resilience are eased by this structure's clarity, continuity, and responsibility.

6. SkillsDA role and responsibilities:

SkillsDA's Knowledge and resources will be essential for the success of the Master Chapter and its spokes. SkillsDA will be the operating backbone, giving spokes templates, tools, and best practices. Regular meetings for sharing knowledge, training programs, and mentorship opportunities will help people work together and be consistent. SkillsDA will organize state-level projects like events and registration drives, making the foundation's work more visible and have a more considerable effect.

The plan will work if concrete steps are taken, such as making shared resources available and setting up regular meetings for collaboration.

7. Financial Sustainability

The suggested model is based on the idea that it can generate funds to run the chapter entirely. We can have members per IoTSF guidelines and generate funds through sponsorship and event registration fees for the events. As a registered entity, we must go through the statuary audits. As a not-for-profit society of members, we must publish annual reports to members, ensuring complete transparency and governance. This ensures the model can keep working and change to meet new needs.

8. Operational Details:

The plan must be easy to use.

- First-Year Plan: Choose leaders for the Master Chapter and explain each spoke's job. Start the first spokes in strategically important areas where many people might want to join. Run campaigns to inform people about the new system and get them to join.

- Pan for the second year: Add more spokes, focusing on areas that aren't well covered. Hold talks or events for the whole state to show off your progress and build momentum.

9. Mechanisms for coordination:

Set up centralised communication plans to ensure the hub and spokes can talk to each other easily. Reviewing and sharing every three months will help keep track of progress and deal with problems. A clear plan for the first few years ensures the shift goes smoothly and that the plan is carried out well.

The hub-and-spoke plan is a strategic improvement meant to fix the problems with the current structure while still meeting the IoTSF's goals. Transparent operations and distributed leadership offer freedom, encourage growth, and boost resilience. The model guarantees the foundation's long-term success by using SkillsDA's knowledge, ensuring it can stay in business, and focusing on clear steps for application. As adoption grows, this system can be looked at again, made better, and replicated globally.

Follow up questions

Management

The structure of a hub and spoke model sounds good and is justified. Please confirm that the official roles associated with managing/leading the model are within the guidance (i.e. can only be occupied by IoTSF members). This is important for a number of reasons but especially adhering to the Foundation's Constitution (https://iotsecurityfoundation.org/constitution/) as this cannot be delegated.

Yes..the official roles will only be IOTSF members. If any one we choose for managing/ leading a spoke centre he or she will have to be an IOTSF member first.

Members

I am sure we will have board members who will be interested to understand the business side as well as the strategic fit and management:

- *Do you have a sense of how membership of IoTSF may grow?*
- *Do you have a sense of how this might look for years 1,2,3?*

It will be a very professional as well as people who have skin in the game .We can target 100 members in phase 1 who will be from academia,industry and corporate .From our Hub and Spoke, we can target 300 memberships collectively in year 2 and 3 and it will grow further depending on how we engage with them.

Registered Entity

This makes sense and keeps all sponsorships, projects, accounting etc., simple/above board.

I am unfamiliar with the rules of the region – is safe to assume that we will be consulted during the process so we can ensure we do not inadvertently assume any hidden risks?

Yes, sure we will keep you posted on evert step as it will be important for you as you grow more Master Chapters in India.