



## ENVIRONMENTAL FELLOWSHIP CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

**Under this call notice, the Environmental Equity and Justice Partnership (EEJP) is inviting applications from eligible individuals working on issues of Toxicity, Waste and Pollution in India to apply for Environmental Fellowships**

### **About EEJP**

Environmental Equity and Justice Partnership (EEJP), an initiative of the Just Environment Charitable Trust was set up in 2004 with the goal of ***'securing environmental justice especially for the poor and the marginalized that are often expected to bear more than their share of environmental burdens'***.

This it seeks to realise by helping groups and individuals foster lasting improvement in the area of environmental justice by catalysing grassroots initiatives; triggering new imagination and perspectives; encouraging crossover linkages; and providing greater opportunities to connect to the environmental thinking.

Taking the goal further, the second phase of EEJP has been launched in 2009 for a period of three-years, primarily focussing on:

- Promotion of environmental justice at grassroots level;
- Integration of local work into mainstream policy;
- Organizational development to raise confidence to take up broader issues;
- Creation of a better -informed community

More specifically, EEJP strives for:

- Up-scaling existing and catalysing new, innovative interventions;
- Generating new research data especially on new emerging issues;
- Up-scaling community understanding on environmental issues and enhancing their participation in environmental decision making;
- Establishing linkages between the local institutions and environmental issues;
- Pooling resources of local level expertise

The program has two components: **Environmental Small Grants** (for grassroots organisations) and **Environmental Fellowships** (for young individuals).

### **About Environmental Fellowships**

The Environmental Fellowship allows EEJP to assist young committed individuals, with a leadership potential, to engage with cross cutting issues of Toxicity, Waste and Pollution within the context of environmental justice. The broad aim is to encourage new thinking and perspective that in turn challenge the status quo and help re-imagine solutions.



This is a full time program of **One-year duration** during which the Awardees will receive a fellowship of **Rs. 120,000**, in addition to opportunities for carrying out work under expert guidance; networking and capacity building.

### **Focus Areas**

Projects will be supported to the extent that they are strategic and have a strong environmental justice dimension. All activities should fall under the broad areas of **Toxicity, Waste and Pollution** (elaborated below). The actions listed below are only indicative and not meant to be an exhaustive list. Projects should relate to one or more of the broad areas.

**WASTE** issues in India primarily revolve around municipal waste, bio medical waste, hazardous waste and electronic waste. The targeted activities may have an urban or a semi urban/ rural perspective but most important is for all the interventions to be solution based and to not remain confined to mere awareness generation or carrying out base line research. Some suggestive activities that could be supported under EEJP may include those that:

- Demonstrate environmentally sustainable model on waste management especially in rural and semi urban areas
- Generate awareness among well-defined target groups with clear indicators
- Involve base line studies with a solution-based approach
- Draw linkages between waste management and climate change
- Involve training and capacity building of waste pickers, recyclers and others.
- Focus on brining transparency in the waste management practice

**TOXICITY:** Adoption of market-based economy along with globalisation has opened the floodgates for a wide range of products into India. A weak regulatory mechanism, lack of transparency and little information available on these products are posing a challenge to both, environment and health. Issues of toxicity that involve heavy metals, mercury, pesticides, and persistent organic pollutants among others, therefore need to be brought to the fore and at the same time community understanding enhanced. With this objective, EEJP encourages the following type of activities on the issue:

- Research community impacts of heavy metals, mercury and/ or other toxic chemicals, including bio-monitoring
- Innovate methodologies to conduct research on toxicity in products
- Testing of products for toxicity to establish facts
- Generate new data on pesticides usages, persistent organic pollutants and other toxic chemicals
- Identify and promote safer alternatives, chemical as well as non-chemical, to toxic chemicals.
- Draw linkages between toxicity and climate change.
- Generate awareness among well-defined target groups with clear outcome
- Targeted interventions that strengthens the regulatory and implementation mechanism and promote transparency



The issues of **POLLUTION** too are gaining prominence with the changing socio economic scenario in the country. Fast paced industrial growth has further aggravated the situation. The resultant pollution has far-reaching impacts on the community health and environment in general. Since the range of issues pertaining to pollution is very wide, support will be limited to specific program and interventions that seek to demonstrate impact and catalyzes larger issues. These may include, among others:

- New baseline studies/research on emerging pollution issues
- Promote new methodology in conducting research
- Identify new pollution hotspots and plan specific interventions
- Targeted interventions on specific pollution issues with the objective of bringing concrete change
- Environmental monitoring and testing
- Pollution and climate change

### **Who Should Apply**

Environmental Equity and Justice Partnership is looking for young individuals with innovative ideas, leadership potential with a strong desire for personal and professional development.

The Environmental Fellowships are open to Indian women and men ; resident in any part of the country; and who are under 35 years of age. Application may be from any sector including: social movements, corporate sector, media or academia. Fellowships are awarded to applicants from any discipline: social sciences, medicine and health, management, law, education etc. Prior relevant experience and a strong commitment to take on issues concerning toxicity, waste and pollution is crucial and so is their willingness to devote time to the various elements of EEJP.

Preference will be given to individuals who have:

- A plan to develop professional capacity and knowledge;
- Clearly defined and realistic objectives;
- A strategy to influence and impact policy and public debate;
- Indicators of progress towards those objectives.
- A clear follow up/ sustainability plan.

EEJP may also consider '**Joint Fellowship**' in exceptional cases under which two individuals may jointly submit an application. There however has to be a strong justification for the need for joint work. In such a case, the fellowship amount will be determined by the Board upon review of the activity plan and may not necessarily be at par with two fellowships. Contact EEJP Coordinator to find about the application procedure.



### **Kinds Of Actions Supported**

Decisions to award fellowships are based on many factors and are affected by competition for limited funds. Therefore, it is not possible to specify the types of projects that will be supported.

Broadly speaking, fellowships may be offered to individuals who wish to evolve innovative approaches, action and/or research initiatives in the program's focus areas. In addition, support may be provided for policy advocacy and information dissemination strategies that broaden public understanding of the issues. All activities should be action oriented and be rooted in a community/ site.

Moreover, the projects should be in line with broad EEJP principles and focus on:

- challenging the status quo by re-imagining existing solutions;
- promoting new environmental thinking, perspectives and research;
- producing and disseminating knowledge products that brings change on the ground;
- raising cross over awareness about issues and concepts of environmental justice.
- promoting public participation in environmental decision making;
- building capacity, advocating policy change, raising public education, among others.

Since there are far more requests than can possibly be funded. Applicants should understand that a decision to decline support does not necessarily mean that EEJP disapproves of the proposed action or fails to appreciate its merits.

### **Actions That Are Not Eligible**

This program is not intended to provide partial support for any of the ongoing activities. The EEJP will consider **only one application** from an individual at any given time.

In terms of specific activities, EEJP cannot support any formal academic training programs, study programs and profit making activities.

### **Before Applying**

EEJP requires that every applicant is linked (formally or informally) to a local **mentor**. The mentor could either be an individual or an organisation, having expertise on the specific issue. Before applying to EEJP, the applicant should have discussed the idea with the mentor and developed the activity plan in consultation. Mentor should have a clearly defined role and the same needs to be elaborated in the concept note/ proposal. Applications not meeting this requirement will not be considered favourably.

### **How To Apply**

The application for Environmental Fellowship may be submitted by e-mail, courier, or post (Applications sent by Fax will not be accepted) not later than **30 Jan 2010**. Applications received after the deadline will not be considered during the current cycle.



The decisions on Environmental Fellowships are made only once a year. Environmental Equity and Justice Partnership gives prompt consideration to all applications. The review may take up to four months to complete. The applicants shall be notified of the decision as soon as possible.

### **Application Process**

At this stage EEJP is calling for submission of only **Concept Note** in prescribed format). The short listed applicants will be asked to submit the detailed proposal along with supporting documents at a later stage. Applications should be neatly typed and include requisite details. Submissions made in any other format will not be considered. Application may be submitted in either English or Hindi.

### **Other Important Information**

Applicants should carefully go through the EEJP website ([www.eejp.org](http://www.eejp.org)) to understand the basic purpose and objective of the program. There is also useful information such as about the decision making process; key elements of the program; formats and guidelines; future grant cycles; and most important, the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs). The FAQ section includes answers to some of the common questions received on regular basis and may help answer your queries. For other queries, please email at: [info@eejp.org](mailto:info@eejp.org).

### **Where To Send Your Application:**

#### **CONCEPT NOTE SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO:**

**Environmental Fellowship – EEJP,  
H 2 (Ground Floor), Jungpura Extension  
New Delhi 110014**

**Email [fellowship@eejp.org](mailto:fellowship@eejp.org)** (This is not a general email and should be used only for submitting applications)

***Thanks for your interest in Environmental Fellowship of EEJP!!!***