



Call for Participation: Ecosystems for Life Media Fellowship – 2013

IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) invites applications from journalists, with demonstrated interest in environment and development issues in India, to undertake field based research and write articles/stories on various facets of the *chars*, the river islands of Brahmaputra. IUCN is providing two fellowships for field visits to the *chars* of the Brahmaputra.

This is part of IUCN initiative ***Ecosystems for Life: A Bangladesh-India Initiative*** which is a civil society led multi-stakeholder dialogue process to promote better understanding of trans-boundary ecosystems between Bangladesh and India. The initiative is geared towards creating a knowledge hub that will facilitate developing a shared vision and inform fact based, research driven policy making in both countries for effective governance of trans-boundary ecosystems.

The reporting will capture the following:

- ⇒ Research based information on issues of trans-boundary water resource management with particular focus on food security, climate change, environmental security and biodiversity conservation
- ⇒ Perceptions of people living in *chars* about water resources management, use and their lived realities with particular focus on food security, climate change, inland navigation, environmental security and biodiversity conservation
- ⇒ The opinion of technical experts/policymakers/bureaucrats on issues affecting communities inhabiting *chars* and possible solutions to the same

Objective:

The objective of this assignment is to sensitise and create a greater understanding of the issues surrounding the populations and ecosystems of the *chars* of the trans-boundary Brahmaputra/Jamuna river in India and Bangladesh by producing high quality and credible research based content and disseminating it in the public domain through a collaborative effort.

Duration:

- The duration of the Fellowship is for three months falling between July-December 2013
- Applications must be received on or before 24 June, 2013
- The results will be announced on 08 July, 2013. Only successful candidates will be notified by email

Eligibility:

Journalists with demonstrated interest in environment and development issues in India are invited for *The Ecosystems for Life Media Fellowship – 2013*. This is open to both regular and freelance journalists with **at least five years experience**, from mainstream media including print, electronic, radio, online media and news agencies/wires to study, analyse and report on the issues mentioned above. The working language will be English; however the fellows are welcome to publish in other regional languages, viz., Assamese and Bengali.

Task Implementation Plan and expected outputs:

Following are the specific outputs that are expected:

- The deliverables from the Fellowship over the three-month award period will comprise a total of three print or TV/audio stories for every fellow
- An anthology of the disseminated/published/aired News-Clips/Video Footage to IUCN
- A summary report on their activities and feedback on the *Ecosystems for Life Media Fellowship - 2013*

Ecosystems for Life and IUCN seek to put credible and substantive information, critical to lives of millions, into the public domain. Therefore IUCN insists that the Fellows follow the highest reporting standards.

IUCN will not support any report with inaccurate data or information.

Trans-boundary issues are sensitive in the region. Given the fact that the project is trying to find policy options for both Bangladesh and India by building bridges between the research community and civil society across both the countries, an act of prudence would be to exercise judiciousness in compiling and disseminating the reports.

To ensure this, IUCN and the Fellows will conduct a review of all outputs before any dissemination. This will also help in closing information gaps in the final outputs.

General Terms and conditions:

- All content will be uploaded on the www.iucn.org/e4l website.
- All content submitted under these fellowships will be under the Creative Commons Licence. IUCN has the right to use and/or reproduce wholly or partially the articles/photographs, arising out of the Fellowship Programme, in any of its publications, without any additional payment.
- The support provided by IUCN for this Media Fellowships should be suitably acknowledged in all the articles/photos.
- Copyright and ownership of all work will rest with the fellows

Application procedure:

All applications should be sent to ecosystemsforlife.media@gmail.com

The application should include the following documents:

- A copy of curriculum vitae (CV)
- A comprehensive fellowship proposal (in English) outlining:
 - a) Region (state/district) on which the proposal is focused
 - b) Subject/s and story ideas that the applicant proposes to focus on (1000 words maximum)
 - c) Tentative travel plans, budget and time
 - d) Three references along with recommendation/nomination letters from each of concerned individuals (Editor/news editor/chief news editor)

Disbursement of Fellowship money:

Payments will be disbursed in two instalments:

Selected fellows will each receive a total stipend of INR 100,000 (including all taxes and subject to tax deductions at source) in the given period of three months. Each fellow will also be given travel reimbursement based on-actual, subject to an upper limit of INR 50,000.

Payments will be disbursed in two instalments:

Disbursement date	Instalments	Amount
	1st instalment (30% of the total budgeted amount), after signing of the agreement	
	Final Instalment (70% of the total budgeted amount), after submission of final report	
	Travel reimbursement on-actual	
	Total	

For more information please contact:

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