

Forum for Policy Dialogue on Water Conflicts in India

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Internship Opportunity with the Forum for Policy Dialogue on Water Conflicts in India

Forum for Policy Dialogue on Water Conflicts in India (Forum to be brief), is seeking interns to conduct research on water related issues, particularly, where there are conflicts, or potential for conflicts or devising solutions to resolve them. The internship period will be minimum of 2 months and depending on the nature of work and interest of candidates, the internship will either be paid or unpaid. Society for Promoting Participative Ecosystem Management (SOPPECOM), an organization based in Pune anchors all the activities of the Forum.

SOPPECOM is a voluntary, non-profit organisation registered under the Societies Registration Act and its primary objective is to promote and help the rural population, especially those who are dependent on their immediate ecosystem resources like land, water and biomass resources for their livelihoods, in the self-management of these resources as part of a wider process of equitable and sustainable development. In furtherance of this objective, SOPPECOM carries out research and advocacy, lends technical and knowledge support and also carries out pilot studies and action research (for details see www.soppecom.org; <http://conflicts.indiawaterportal.org>; www.waterconflictforum.org).

Present work of the Forum

Forum is currently in its third phase of work and the main activities are grouped into, a) Core activities and b) Thematic activities. The core activities include research and documentation, training, dissemination and outreach and policy dialogue. Under the thematic work, four themes, right to water and sanitation, environmental flows, agricultural and industrial water use and groundwater are included. A detailed study of the latter three activities is being carried out in the Mahanadi basin.

Role and work expectation

The intern can be involved in research and writing, field based study or policy level work. The intern can undertake conceptual or empirical study on any topic which is related to or part of Forum's current work on water conflicts.

He/ She can also go beyond this and Forum will consider the possibility of supporting such study if it finds it appropriate and relevant. At the end of the internship period, it is expected that the intern shall submit articles and a complete report.

Alternatively, the intern can also work on the following activities:

- 1) To help disseminate our already published works so that it reaches a larger audience. To achieve this we are focusing on publishing our case studies on water conflicts on a mapping platform called ejatlas.org. This would require a good reading of our case studies and summarizing them in a prescribed format, so that it can be uploaded on the platform.

- 2) Ongoing work on e-flows in the Mahanadi basin- to help develop water balance study of the Hasdeo basin in Chhattisgarh. Requirement: interest in hydrology, data analysis, knowledgeable about GIS
- 3) Human and wildlife conflict
- 4) Situation analysis of drinking water and sanitation in the Mahanadi basin
- 5) Desk review of the small hydro projects: mainly critically analysing the policies, implemented and planned projects.

In addition the Forum is also involved in a project called COCOON- Conflict and Cooperation in the Management of Climate Change, supported by the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research. Forum is playing the knowledge partner in understanding the rapid hydropower development in North-east India and its impact on climate change. We are looking for interns who are preferably based in the North-east and interested in water conflicts, hydropower and climate change issues. So, one can apply for internship under this project too.

Expected qualifications

The Intern is expected to have:

- Masters degree from any relevant discipline (ongoing or completed) with some knowledge about water related issues
- Proficiency in English. Knowledge of Hindi is desirable
- Capable of independent writing in English

Remuneration and location

Depending on the nature of work, paid interns shall receive a stipend of Rs. 15,000 each month. Preferably, the intern can be located in Pune and depending on the research study, one may have to travel to the field area.

This arrangement will be decided after finalizing the research study that the intern wishes to undertake.

To apply

Interested candidates please send your 1) CV (that also mentions the names of two referees), 2) a short write up (about 300-400 words) summarising your relevant expertise and experience, motivation for applying for this post, and details of the study that you wish to undertake as part of this Internship. 3) Published articles (if any).

Please send these documents in a soft form, addressed to Mr. K. J. Joy at waterconflictforum@gmail.com. In the application letter kindly mention the Internship period you are looking forward to and if you are applying for a paid internship or unpaid internship (with some other support).

Shortlisted candidates would be interviewed over Skype or in person at Pune.

K. J. Joy
Coordinator of the Forum