

Leavey School of Business, SCU
Global Fellows Program
Placement

Name of organization & website URL:

Association for Social and Environmental Development

www.asedkol.org

Contact person Name:

Diti Mookherjee

Location of Organization:

Country: India

Region: Kolkata

Street Address: 7&8 Golf Club Road. City, Postal Code: Kolkata 700033

Description of organization (history, mission, focus):

The Association for Social and Environmental Development (ASED) was started by a group of nature conservationists and social development practitioners in 2001. It was formed as a non-profit making company which received registration in September 2001 under the Indian Companies Registration Act, 1952. ASED is governed by a five member Executive Committee. Coordination is done by the CEO, Diti Mookherjee and she is assisted by two staff. ASED works through a network of schools and the community. It takes the help of consultants and works in partnership with other NGOs for conducting field level activities.

ASED's vision is to create an ecologically sustainable society. ASED's mission is to nature conservation through creation of youth nature leaders. ASED's short term aim is to create 10,000 youth nature leaders by 31 December 2020.

ASED's Contribution to Biodiversity Enhancement

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Current programs:

- The Green Rhinos Program to create youth nature leaders. More than 4500 Green Rhinos have been created in India since 2012
- NatureSmart School - a program to awaken creativity among 8 to 11 year olds through engagement with nature. Started in 2017.
- Citizen Naturalist – a program for adults to explore, enjoy and engage with nature in public spaces. Started in 2018.
- Establishing Green Rhinos Clubs/ Nature Clubs: ASED establishes Green Rhinos Clubs in schools that have conducted the Green Rhinos Program. ASED assists schools to establish nature clubs. Students with an interest in nature are honed to become amateur naturalists.

Previous achievements:

- Biodiversity sensitization and awareness programs involving over 200 schools and more than 20,000 school students in West Bengal, India
- More than 700 middle school students have been trained in biodiversity recording and conservation since 2004
- Promoting solar energy in rural areas: 1300 solar lamps have been provided to poor meritorious students and solar lighting systems have been provided in 8 government school hostels and a coaching centre benefitting 400 students.

How many interns can you accommodate this year?

(Minimum of two students per location)

We can accommodate three interns.

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Please Answer the Following Questions for EACH Available Job:

Job Description (1) : What will the student intern be doing?

ASED is in the process of creating a Green Rhinos Trainers' Manual. The student intern is required to assist in manual creation by sourcing manuals for environmental education that are being used in the US and other countries. S/he will help the CEO to create the basic structure of the manual. The student intern will visit schools where the Green Rhinos Program is being conducted to get a hands-on experience. S/he will also participate in a personal leadership training which will be delivered by the CEO using the Green Rhinos leadership training curriculum.

The student interns will also take two sessions at a Green Rhinos Club in a school in Kolkata.

Two student interns can work on this together.

Job Description (2) : What will the student intern be doing?

Refining the Green Rhinos Anthem and coordinating its translation into Bengali. A Green Rhinos Anthem has been created by a previous Global Fellow, Riley McShane. It needs to be refined. It also needs to be translated into Bengali. The student intern is required to refine it, teach it to a group of Green Rhinos and arrange for its translation into Bengali. The student intern will work with a local Bengali musician for this purpose.

Or

Student intern can create an output/ outcome evaluation matrix for the Green Rhinos Program. This will involve creating a baseline survey and endline survey to be administered to a sample group of Green Rhinos at the start and end of a Green Rhinos Program cycle.

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To share their knowledge with Green Rhinos this student intern will accompany the other two interns for two sessions with a Green Rhinos Club in Kolkata.

S/he will also participate in a personal leadership training which will be delivered by the CEO using the Green Rhinos leadership training curriculum.

What helpful talents and/or skills should the student intern possess, if any, including major (business, engineering, etc.)?

The intern needs to have a love for working with nature and for with young people.

S/he needs to be open-mindedness and flexible.

What would a typical day be like in the office?

The intern would work from 10 am to 5 pm from Monday through Friday. They will work independently with minimum supervision. They will work at the office and visit the project sites as and when planned.

At the start of the internship the CEO, ASED will work out a tentative weekly plan with them spanning the entire period of their internship. Weekly meetings will be held with the interns' team and the ASED team.

Any other special requirements?

No

What is your date preference for students to work with you?

(Fellows are expected to spend 6 to 8 weeks working with an organization – ideally late June-August)

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Late June till August 2019

What is appropriate attire for internship (office) and within your region?

Appropriate attire would be cotton clothing which does not cling to the body.

Pants/ Trousers and shirts/ blouses work well. Interns often like to wear the Indian salwar kameez/ kurtas that they purchase here locally.

Do you regularly have interns working with you? Will there be other interns working with the SCU Global Fellows?

We have interns working with us during the year. There are no plans as yet to have other interns working with the SCU Global Fellows. However if a suitable intern applies for engagement at that time we will consider it.

If there is a mandatory language requirement, what language and how fluent must the fellow be?

No. Bengali is the local language. However people in Kolkata mostly understand English. In the rural areas people may not understand English. However during their work the interns will be accompanied by a local person who can translate for them. It would be good if the interns knew some basic words in Bengali.

LOGISTICS:

What are housing options and costs? Will you be able to recommend or provide housing for the interns?

I can provide housing for the interns at a serviced apartment I operate very close to the ASSED office. It will be twin sharing accommodation. The cost will be \$26 per day per head which includes accommodation, breakfast, dinner,

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laundry, cleaning, basic toilet supplies and wi-fi.

Please provide an estimate of other costs/week that the interns will need to pay for themselves. What does it include (meals, transportation, etc)?

They need to arrange a working lunch every day, transportation around the city for sightseeing, etc and local telephone calls. This would cost approximately \$150 per month.

Outstation trips' costs need to be calculated depending on where in India they wish to travel.

What is the nearest airport (with airport code)?

Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose International Airport (Kolkata Airport), code CCU

What is the weather between late June and early September?

It is the time of monsoons. So there will be rains, sometimes heavy rain, and humidity.

The temperature is usually approx. 92°/79° F with about 82 % humidity.

What are some possible weekend excursions/activities for young people?

There are various places that young people can visit over the weekend including Darjeeling, a hill resort and Santiniketan, a cultural destination.

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Any other helpful descriptions and comments:

The interns need to start corresponding with ASERD soon after they are selected. This will enable them to have a clear idea of their internship projects and they will be able to complete their preparatory work while they are in the US (sourcing study materials, etc).

The interns need to meet with the previous Global Fellows to get an idea of their experiences and challenges.