Name of organization & website URL: Association for Social and Environmental Development
www.asedkol.org

Contact person
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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 six 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 achieve biodiversity enhancement through public awareness, action research and people’s participation.

ASED’s Contribution to Biodiversity Enhancement:
- 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.
- The Green Rhinos Program to create youth nature leaders. More than 1100 Green Rhinos have been created in West Bengal, India.
- 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. Visit our website www.asedkol.org for more information.

How many interns can you accommodate?
Note: We recommend a minimum of two interns at each location

Two, male or female
Please Answer the Following Questions for EACH Available Job:

1. Job Description: What will the student intern be doing?
   They will be working on taking testimonials from the Green Rhinos and presenting this through digital media.

2. Is there any compensation associated with the internship? If so, how much?
   No

3. What helpful talents and/or skills should the student intern possess, if any, including major (business, engineering, etc.)?
   - Background in environmental education/ environmental studies/ environmental engineering.
   - Ability to interact with students and teachers.
   - Ability to create videos/ short films.

4. What would a typical day be like?
   The intern would work on the project in Kolkata and also visit field areas in Sundarbans. S/he will be given the task and can work independently. When in Kolkata s/he can work from the ASED office or from home.

5. Any other special requirements?
   Ability to be flexible and adjust to our culture.

What is your preference for dates?
(Fellows are expected to spend 5 to 7 weeks working with an organization.)
July-August

What is appropriate attire for internship (office) and within your region?
Pants/ Trousers and blouses. The interns often like to wear the Indian salwar kameez/ kurtas. Loose fitting cotton clothes are good for the weather in July-August.

Do you regularly have interns working with you?
Yes

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 is the nearest airport (with airport code)?

What are housing options and costs?
There are two options:
1. Staying as a paying guest (with food and accommodation) – $ 15 per day
2. Renting a room in a guest house:
   Single person – $290 a month ($72.5 per week)
   Twin sharing - $380 a month ($95 per week)

Please provide an estimate of other costs/week that the interns will need to pay for themselves
(Example: Food, lodging, local transportation, etc)

Food: $10 per day if staying in a guest house.
Transport: $ 75 per month
Telephone, etc: $50 a month

What is the weather like between late June and early September?
Appropriate attire would be cotton clothing which does not cling to the body. Late June to early September is the time of monsoons. So there will be rains, sometimes heavy rain, and humidity.

The temperature will be 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.

Any other helpful descriptions and comments:
Meet with past ASED Global Fellows prior to departure