

Forest Fire Researcher

Nepal

This assignment has been negotiated in good faith with the Partner Organisation, and the information contained was correct at the time of acceptance of the request. However, while we take responsibility for matters under our direct control, all assignments and arrangements are subject to change. This assignment may be amended or withdrawn to reflect changes in circumstances.

ASSIGNMENT DETAILS

Assignment title	Forest Fire Researcher		
Partner Organisation	National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA)		
Location	Singhadurbar, Kathmandu		
Website of Partner Organisation	https://bipad.gov.np/en		
Duration of assignment	1 year	Start date	05/06/2023
Type of assignment	In-person	Australian Organisation	N/A
Time commitment	Full time (25 hours per week or more)		

PARTNER ORGANISATION OVERVIEW

Nepal's National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA) was established as per Section 10 of the Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act, 2074 BS. NDRRMA began operating on 15 December 2019 (2076-08-29 B.S.). According to the Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act, 2074 BS, there is an arrangement for the National Council for Disaster Risk Reduction and Management to be chaired by the Prime Minister. It formulates national disaster management policies and plans. The arrangement has been made for the NDRRMA to have an executive committee under the chairmanship of the Home Minister. More on <https://bipad.gov.np/en>

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ASSIGNMENT DETAILS

Assignment overview

In Nepal, fires are recurrent during the dry season, from mid-November to May. Nepal has been experiencing increasing forest fires affecting forests and other natural vegetation. The increasing vulnerability is imposing serious threats to human lives and property, and contributing to the destruction and degradation of watershed conditions and valuable forest ecosystems. To address such a complex risk requires joint action from multiple ministries and relevant stakeholders; the NDRRMA has formed a task force that includes representatives from a number of ministries and agencies to revise the Forest Fire Management Strategy, (2010). The task force has drafted a 'Strategic Forest Fire Risk Reduction and Management Framework 2022-2030' that identifies joint actions from multiple agencies including identifying the roles of provincial and local governments. Further, the NDRRMA has drafted a 'White Paper' on Forest Fires in Nepal. To date, there is no systematic fire management system in place in Nepal. Moreover, there is limited capacity at local, provincial, and national levels to deal with fire risk. A volunteer is sought to design an appropriate study methodology and conduct the study on damage and loss by forest fires in selected areas in Nepal. In addition, the volunteer will support capacity development of government officials on fire investigation processes.

Assignment objectives

To design an appropriate study methodology and conduct a 'Damage and Loss by Forest Fires in Nepal' study.

To design and develop a national level training program on 'fire investigation'

To strengthen the local team capacity to understand fire risk and to effectively reduce and manage fire risk in Nepal

To include all people directly affected by the volunteer assignment in the Partner Organisation and community, using strategies that promote: gender equality; inclusion of youth; inclusion of people with a disability; child protection and safeguarding; inclusion of marginalised groups.

Duties and responsibilities of the volunteer

To design a study methodology on damage and loss caused by forest fires

To conduct a study on damage and loss caused by forest fires

To assist NDRRMA and its expert team in long-term program planning and research

To conduct a training program for government officials on 'fire investigation'

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Selection criteria

Minimum of a Master degree in Natural Resource Management / Disaster Risk reduction

Minimum 2 years of experience in fire investigation (Bush Fire)

Over 10 years of general experience in bush fire management and minimum of 5 years experience at management level

Fire fighting experience (bush or arial)

Research experience

Desirable skills, language and experience

Proficiency in English (both speaking and writing)

Prior work experience in Nepal is desirable

Good communication skills

Line Manager	Sundar Prasad Sharma, Under Secretary at NDRRMA
Staff Supervision	No
Working relationships	<i>The volunteer will receive a briefing from NDRRMA on overview of its program, assignment expectations, key personnel to be working closely with and their availability.</i>
Hours and days of work	Sunday to Thursday, 10:00am-5:00pm & Friday 10:00am-3:00pm. November 2 to January 30 ,10
Leave	All volunteers are entitled to 20 days leave per 12 months. Volunteers will also be entitled to the same sick, annual and public holiday leave as local colleagues. 20 days annual leave and 12 days sick leave per year are allocated to staff in NDRRMA, excluding public holidays and weekends.
Professional indemnity insurance (Required for all volunteers who are acting as a medical, allied health or legal professional whilst on assignment.)	No - This assignment is not deemed to require professional indemnity insurance The volunteer should consult the partner organisation about the need for professional indemnity insurance for the role prior to departure. Where required and/or considered essential to hold this insurance, please discuss this with the Volunteer Services Manager in Melbourne prior to departure.

LIVING AS A VOLUNTEER

The Australian Volunteers Program supports volunteers from preparing to go on assignment through to returning home. For a full breakdown of support provided, please visit: <https://www.australianvolunteers.com/volunteering/lifestyle-and-support/>

Living allowance	AUD 1330 The allowance levels are based on the cost of living in the host country location and are listed in \$AUD. Allowances will be reviewed periodically and may increase or decrease.
Accommodation allowance	AUD 300
Language support	Language support is provided during the in-country orientation period. Most often, additional resources for further development later in the assignment will be available if required.
Country profile	Learn more about the host country location by reading the country profile. We encourage candidates to research the specific location of this assignment as it will be discussed and addressed with a recruitment officer during the interview process.

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Political or faith-based activities	The Australian Volunteers Program supports partner organisations to achieve their development objectives. It does not engage in or support any evangelical activities and is not linked to any political party. We partner with local faith-based organisations on the basis that the volunteer placement does not engage in evangelising; and participation in activities run by the volunteer is not conditional on conversion or adherence to a particular religious denomination. We also partner with advocacy organisations on the basis that volunteer activities are not in support of a political party or candidate.
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HOW TO APPLY

All applications must be submitted online through the Australian Volunteers Program website. If you have not already done so, you will need to register on our website prior to applying. For more information about how to apply, please visit:

<https://www.australianvolunteers.com/volunteering/how-it-works>

We actively support and encourage people of all backgrounds and abilities to volunteer internationally, and aim to make the program as accessible and inclusive as possible. The program has a dedicated Indigenous Programs Coordinator to support Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander volunteers, who can be contacted at indigenouspathways@australianvolunteers.com. Access and inclusion plans are available for volunteers with disabilities, to ensure their assignments and living and working arrangements are made more

Personal circumstances

Due to security, cultural, legal or visa restrictions associated with this location, we ask that applicants disclose:

- If they want their same-sex partner to accompany them on assignment.
- If they want their partner, to whom they are not legally married, to accompany them on assignment.
- If they want their child(ren) to accompany them on assignment.
- If they have a criminal conviction where a criminal conviction may be relevant to the inherent requirements of the assignment.

(Delete any that do not apply)

