



"MAKING DEVELOPMENT MORE SUSTAINABLE"

Form FELL14-October2006

MIND has been established to play a vital role in nurturing a community of scholars and concerned citizens who will address the issues of sustainable development worldwide, and explore viable means of achieving this goal in Sri Lanka and elsewhere, without compromising economic, environmental and socio-economic integrity.

Key objectives of the MIND awards programme are:

- i. To make development more sustainable by initiating research programmes, promoting intellectual activities, and undertaking projects in relevant fields, including engineering, life, physical and social sciences.
- ii. To increase awareness among young scholars about the need to balance and integrate the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development, and identify unsustainable elements in existing patterns of development.
- iii. To improve the analytical skills of scholars in addressing sustainable development issues.

MIND will offer several research fellowships per year (to Sri Lankan and/or foreign candidates), to carry out their research in Sri Lanka on any topic related to sustainable development. Application details are attached.

MUNASINGHE INSTITUTE FOR DEVELOPMENT

**Head Office: 10/1, De Fonseka Place, Colombo 5, Sri Lanka. Phone/Fax: 94-1-2551208/2551608; E-Mail: Mind@eureka.lk
North American Office: 5909 Jarvis Lane, Bethesda, MD 20814, USA. Phone: 1-301-493-5451; Web: www.mindlanka.org**

MIND Research Fellowship Programme

The Munasinghe Institute for Development offers several research fellowships per year to full time overseas and local students reading for a Masters or Ph.D. equivalent, or post-doctoral researchers, on any topic relating to sustainable development that is relevant to Sri Lanka. The fellowships are awarded for a maximum period of 4 months in any calendar year. Shorter stays are also possible. The fellow should be based in Sri Lanka during that time period.

Terms and conditions

- The research topic(s) selected should be related to sustainable development.
- The candidate must submit a completed application form to the MIND office.
- If the application is approved, the candidate will be contacted by the MIND office, in order to arrange lodging, travel etc. to suit his/her specifications and budget.
- Upon the completion of the assignment, the fellow is expected to submit a report to the chairman of MIND, in fulfillment of his/her obligations. Following the approval of the board, MIND will issue a certificate conferring the title of Research Fellow of MIND.
- All fellows will receive a basic award to cover the costs of the full range of office facilities, services and academic support provided by MIND as set out below, for a maximum period of four months. To meet additional costs of local accommodation and subsistence, MIND will consider requests for financial assistance from developing country applicants only (based on merit and need). All international travel costs are the fellow's responsibility and will have to be covered by other funding sources.
- The Board of MIND reserves the right to modify or terminate the terms of this offer at any time, with no further explanation.

The fellowship has the following features:

- Supervision by academic professionals both local and international (including Prof. Munasinghe)
- Work station at the MIND office.
- Office computers and printing facilities
- Internet and email facility
- Local communication/fax, photocopying etc.
- Data gathering (MIND staff will direct the fellow to the relevant authorities).
- MIND will arrange for the fellows to meet with appropriate scholars, academics, and others who will be able to help them in their work.
- The facilities of the extensive MIND library.
- Free participation at seminars and workshops organized by MIND (if they take place during the fellow's visit)

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Some Recent MIND Research Fellows and Research Associates

Pradeep Kurukulasuriya (Research Fellow)

Pradeep is a Sri Lankan who completed his Ph.D. at Yale University, USA, in 2006. He received a fellowship in Sri Lanka in July-August of 2000. He conducted a survey on water use and willingness to pay for water in the greater Colombo area, as a part of his thesis research.

Risako Morimoto (Research Fellow)

Risa is a Japanese researcher who completed her Ph.D. at Cambridge University, UK, in 2002. She was in Sri Lanka during July-September 2000. Her research covered the environmental impacts of large dams. She received data and assistance from the CEB and other NGOs, while visiting many local dam sites. Risa has written about her experiences at MIND in our newsletter.

Yaw Afrane-Okese (Research Fellow)

Yaw is a Ghanaian with an MSc in Chemical Engineering. He is a PhD student at the Energy Research Centre, University of Cape Town, South Africa. In June-September 2001, Yaw finalised his thesis proposal “Developing sustainable strategies for energy use in urban households in Southern Africa: case study of Botswana” -- based on the *sustainomics* concept developed at MIND. He had discussions with energy experts and took field trips to renewable energy sites.

Sung-No Niggol Seo (Research Fellow)

Niggol is a Korean researcher, with a Masters degree, and enrolled for a PhD at Yale University, USA. During July-August 2002, he studied the impacts of climate change on Sri Lankan agriculture. Based on the results of his research at MIND, Niggol co-authored a paper which was published in the *Journal of Environment and Development Economics*.

Kumudu Gunasekera (Research Associate)

Kumudu is a Sri Lankan who completed his PhD in transportation economics at Boston University, USA, in 2006. He spent four months at MIND during 2003, gathering data and developing a model to explain the link between sustainable development and the growth of transport infrastructure in Sri Lanka, as a part of his thesis.

Akiko Yamane (Research Fellow)

Akiko is a Japanese student enrolled in the PhD programme at Monash University, Australia. She spent 3 months at MIND during 2004, studying how climate change vulnerability is understood and experienced by different localities and how this might contribute to making development more sustainable. She analysed literature in the MIND library, and interviewed key stakeholders.

Robin White (Research Fellow)

Robin is a Canadian student in the graduate program at the Fletcher School, Tufts Univ., USA. He spent several months at MIND during summer 2004, gathering and analysing data for his thesis “Macroeconomic Policy Framework for Reducing Deforestation: A Sri Lankan Case Study”. Mr. White undertook several field trips during his stay.

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Harold Winkler (Senior Fellow)

Harold is a South African national from Cape Town University, who completed his PhD research work at MIND during the June-July 2004. He studied the sustainomics approach to sustainable energy development, and wrote the bulk of his thesis on “Energy policies for sustainable development in South Africa’s residential and commercial sectors” during his stay here.

Nimal Siripala (Senior Fellow)

Nimal is a Sri Lankan who was Deputy Director of the National Planning Department, Sri Lanka. During 2005 and 2006, he has worked on green accounting and environmental modifications to the Sri Lanka input-output table, while helping MIND develop a multi-sector macroeconomic model to analyse sustainable development policies.

Golam Mathbor (Senior Fellow)

Golam is a Bangladeshi national who is Assistant Dean at Monmouth University, USA. He spent July-August 2006 at MIND, studying the social aspects of disaster management. He visited areas affected by the 2004 Asian Tsunami in Sri Lanka and Indonesia, and participated in several MIND workshops on sustainable hazard reduction and disaster management.

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