



**UNDP Human Development
Media Fellowships for
Asia-Pacific 2007**

Asia-Pacific
Human Development Unit

Objective

The objective of the Fellowship is to support policy advocacy and dissemination of research in order to bring people to the centre of the development debate. The Fellowship encourages media professionals from the Asia-Pacific developing countries to undertake media advocacy on issues of concern in the region from a human development perspective.

The Asia-Pacific Human Development Media Fellowship was initiated by the Human Development Unit at the UNDP Regional Centre in Colombo in 2006. The Fellowship is offered once a year.



Context

The human development approach makes people the central concern of development. While recognizing economic concerns, it goes beyond them to raise issues of enlarging human capabilities, thus expanding peoples' choices. The media is one of the strongest channels to communicate and disseminate this knowledge in ways that put people at the centre of the development debate.

With a wide and diverse audience --policy makers, private citizens, teachers, young people, civil society organizations, the wealthy and the poor-- stronger media coverage of human development can promote a focus on critical development concerns such as gender equality, HIV and AIDS, trade, human rights, justice and governance, concerns of indigent people and the environment. Some ways in which the media can raise awareness about human development issues include: radio programmes, short films, television programmes or series, print media articles, TV debates and so forth.

The Fellowship

The Fellows will be provided financial support based on a proposal and budget. Funds will be released in two installments.

The final media product will become the property of UNDP and UNDP will be recognized in the output.

The Fellows should be willing to present their work at workshops, seminars and other events as may be arranged by UNDP from time to time (travel-related costs will be covered separately).

Theme for 2007- CORRUPTION

Corruption costs the developing world billions of dollars every year. It represents a serious drag on economic growth, drains scarce resources and diminishes a country's prospects for development. Moreover, it debases human rights and destroys confidence in democracy. It can break or at least constrain, the link between growth and poverty reduction- and thus, the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals.

Several Asia-Pacific countries including Bangladesh and Indonesia, have consistently ranked among the world's most corrupt nations, according to Transparency International. Findings generally show that developing countries and Least Developed Countries (LDCs) often have the highest indices for corruption. From an economic and political standpoint, the adverse effects of corruption are well-documented.

The media work should aim at addressing adverse effects of corruption from a human development perspective, throwing light upon the consequences of corruption in terms of critical human development dimensions: e.g. sustainability, equity, empowerment and productivity. The reverse links can also be explored: to what extent do better human development conditions help to reduce corruption?



Eligibility

- A citizen of any of the Asia-Pacific developing countries listed in the Annexure
- A mid-career accredited media professional (proof of accredited status required) or with demonstrated ability to get output printed or broadcast in mainstream media
- Have more than three years of professional experience in broadcast journalism
- Completed application with enclosures (proposal, budget, timeframe, CV, supporting material, if any, in English); supporting material in a language other than English must be accompanied by an English translation
- UN staff members are not eligible to apply

Selection Criteria

- Possess exceptional creativity and innovation
- Be contributing to value-addition or innovation in communicating research
- Provide evidence for assured placement of final product in mainstream media; preference will be given to strategic or wide reach completion of work by end of 2007 or not later than the first quarter of 2008
- Incomplete applications will not be processed





Selection Procedure

Selection will be based on an assessment of the application with a proposal not exceeding 2,000 words, including a proposed budget, an estimated project timeframe (preferably 12 months or less) and a brief but concrete dissemination plan for the end product. A review of eligibility and an assessment of proposals submitted will be the basis for shortlisting. Shortlisted candidates may be required to participate in an interview

Deadline for 2007

Applications should be submitted by **15 March 2007**.

For more on Human Development please visit the website of the UNDP Regional Centre in Colombo at <http://www.undprcc.lk> under "Publications".

Contact Information

Applications or any queries should be sent preferably by e-mail, to Mr. Omar Siddique at omar.siddique@undp.org

Or by post, to:

UNDP Human Development Academic Fellowship for Asia-Pacific
Human Development Unit
UNDP Regional Centre in Colombo
23 Independence Avenue, Colombo 07
Sri Lanka

Annexure

Nationals of the countries listed below are eligible to apply:

1. Afghanistan
2. Bangladesh
3. Bhutan
4. Cambodia
5. China
6. Cook Islands
7. Democratic People's Republic of Korea
8. Federated States of Micronesia
9. Fiji
10. India
11. Indonesia
12. Iran
13. Kiribati
14. Lao PDR
15. Malaysia
16. Maldives
17. Marshall Islands
18. Mongolia
19. Myanmar
20. Nauru
21. Nepal
22. Niue
23. Pakistan
24. Palau
25. Papua New Guinea
26. Philippines
27. Republic of Korea
28. Samoa
29. Solomon Islands
30. Sri Lanka
31. Timor-Leste
32. Tokelau
33. Tonga
34. Thailand
35. Tuvalu
36. Vanuatu
37. Viet Nam



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