

RINAN SHAH, PhD

SUMMARY

Interdisciplinary researcher with ten years of experience in environment, development and sustainability studies. I study water, mountains, governance, policy, institutions and urban issues. My fieldwork covers India and Nepal, with publications in international journals. I have worked with domestic and international NGOs, governments and institutions on environment and sustainability. I have travelled extensively for workshops, exchange programmes, conferences, consultations, and lectures. In my spare time I coordinate and facilitate the India Youth Water Network, and work with the International Water Resources Association. Fluent in qualitative analysis, R and QGIS.

ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS

- PhD on Disentangling the Drivers of Domestic Water Scarcity in the Eastern Himalayan Region, Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE), Bangalore & Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE) | 2015 to 2023
- University Grants Commission National Eligibility Test (UGC NET), Environmental Science for Lectureship | 2016
- M.Sc Climate Change and Sustainability Studies, Tata Institute of Social SCIENCES (TISS), Mumbai | 2013 to 2015
- B.Tech Computer Science & Engineering, Amity University, NOIDA | 2007 to 2011

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Teaching Assistant, ATREE, Bangalore | 2019 to 2023
 - Practising Interdisciplinary Research on the Environment | March to July 2023
 - Economics for Environment and Development | August to December 2022
 - Introduction to Climate Change | February to July 2022
 - Fundamentals of Environmental Science | August to November 2019 & 2021
- Lead Co-facilitator, Mahindra United World College (UWC) India (MUWCI), Paud | June 2019
 - Design, facilitate and teach Youth, Environment and Sustainability course for 14-18 year old children
- Co-supervised a Masters thesis on the domestic water issues in Gangtok | December 2018 – April 2019

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- Research Fellow, National Mission on Himalayan Studies, ATREE, Bangalore | April 2016 – July 2019
 - Research design and execution, fieldwork, documentation and publication, rapporteur and coordination
- Systematic metareview on effectiveness of adaptation strategies for Chapter 4 IPCC Water Adaptation Meta Review under Dr. Aditi Mukherji, IWMI | April 2020 to 2022
- Methods in Field Ecology, ATREE and Kalakad Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Tamil Nadu | 1st to 13th May 2016
- Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) exercise, Cauvery Wildlife Sanctuary, Karnataka | 19th to 20th March 2016

- Internship at Sikkim State Disaster Management Authority on climate change and sustainability for Disaster Management, Multi Hazard Risk Vulnerability, and State Action Plan on Climate Change | 5th May to 5th June 2014
- Rural Fieldwork in Raikhel Village, Tuljapur, Osmanabad District Maharashtra on agricultural and energy | April 2014
- Urban Fieldwork in Bhandup, Mumbai to assess the vulnerability of the urban poor settlements | October 2013

INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

- Independent Technical Consultant, Eastern Himalayan Foundation, Darjeeling | June 2022 to July 2022
 - Analysis and writing the State of the Youth Report.
- Independent Technical Consultant, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, New Delhi | June 2020 to March 2022
 - Technical and project management support for the Water Security and Climate Adaptation (WASCA) in collaboration with the Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Department, Government of Karnataka
- Software Engineer, Genpact Headstrong Capital Markets, NOIDA | June 2011 - May 2013

FELLOWSHIPS & GRANTS

- Household Water Insecurity Experiences – Research Coordination Network's Collaborator Accelerator Award (HWISE-RCN CAA) on Deconstructing Water Insecurity in Himalayan Mountains Towns [Co-Recipient] | 2021
- Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment Institutional Fellowship | 2015 to 2020
- National Mission on Himalayan Studies Research Fellowship | 2016 to 2019
- Full Scholarship for B.Tech from Amity University | 2007 – 2011

PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

- Marginality and Informality in Domestic Water Scarcity: Case of a Self-Service Mountain Town. ICAS Conference Proceedings | 2022
- Laying Bare: Determinants of Informal Water Vendors for Domestic Water Supply in Himalayan Mountain Towns. Himalaya | 2022
- Conundrum or Paradox : Deconstructing the Spurious Case of Water Scarcity in the Himalayan Region through an Institutional Economics Narrative. Water Policy. Co-Author | 2018

Policy Recommendations

- NWP 2020: How is India's youth reimagining its water future? Submitted to National Water Policy working committee. Co-Author | 2020

Book Review

- Caring for Glaciers: Land, Animals, and Humanity in the Himalayas by Karine Gagné. Conservation and Society | 2023
- Cultivating the Nile: the everyday politics of water in Egypt by Jessica Barnes. Water Science Policy. Co-Author | 2021

Reports

- State of the Youth Report 2022, Eastern Himalayan Foundation. Co-Author | 2023
- Contributing author, Sixth Assessment Report Working Group II, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) | 2022

- Effectiveness of Water adaptation responses in reducing climate-related risks: A meta-review. Co-Author | 2021
- Composite Water Resource Management Plan: Abbalagere Gram Panchayat Shivamogga District, Karnataka. Co-Author | 2020

Popular Writings

- Youth Engagement for Global Action: Theme - Inclusive Water Governance | Oxfam Asia | 2020
- Where do I belong? | The University of Western Australia Blog | 2020
- Data and knowledge generation for SDGs | swissnex Blog | 2020
- Contextualizing Water Scarcity in Urban Mountain Towns: The Case of Darjeeling | City Observer | 2018

AWARDS AND HONORS

- Member of the EauMega 2020 Youth Steering Committee and presented the Youth Declaration || 7th to 11th December 2020
- eDX Verified Certificate for Governance for Transboundary Freshwater Security | December 2020
- Student Exchange at the Department of International Environment and Development Studies (NORAGRIC) by Royal Norwegian Embassy Grant| 27th Nov to 3rd Dec 2017
- Member of the HI-AWARE Academy for Doctoral Students | 2016
- Selected by Scientific Committee, the Science and Technology Service of the French Embassy in India to participate at the International Conference on “Water, Megacities and Global Change”, Paris | 1st to 4th December 2015

WORKSHOPS CONDUCTED

- Writing and Discussion Workshop 2023 on Deconstructing Water Insecurity in Himalayan Mountain Towns and Cities with 10 participants from the Eastern Himalayan Region funded by HWISE-RCN CAA 2021

CONSULTATIONS

- Multistakeholder Consultation on Transformative Futures for Water Security Initiative, International Water Management Institute | 23rd November 2022
- Oxfam Annual Learning Forum, Kathmandu | 4th to 6th May 2022
- National Policy Advocacy Workshop on Springshed Management under The National Mission on Himalayan Studies with the support of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India. | 28th October 2021
- Panel Discussion: Breaking Silos: Future of Water Research for Himalayas, Co-PREPARE, IIT Roorkee and University of Potsdam (UP) | 28th October 2021
- SAMVAAD “Land, Indigenous Communities and Climate Action”, TISS | 23rd September 2020

ACADEMIC SERVICES

- Facilitator and coordinator for the Indian Youth Water Network | 2020 to Present
- Support for GIS workshop and rapporteur at Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) Training Programme by ATREE | 1st -12th July and December 2019

LANGUAGES

- Nepali (Spoken - Fluent, Written- Fluent, Reading- Fluent)
- English (Spoken- Fluent, Written- Fluent, Reading- Fluent)
- Hindi (Spoken- Fluent, Written- Satisfactory, Reading- Fluent)
- French (Written – Basic, Reading – Basic)

