

# Terms of Reference: Next Generation India Lead Fellow

## Background

Our Future Agenda is a new UN Foundation program that helps young people shape the global policy agenda to tackle the world's most urgent challenges. It aims to deliver impact for the next generation - young people under 30 who make up half the world's population; and future generations - the 10.9 billion people yet to be born this century. It builds on the request by the UN Secretary-General to host a group of young leaders as Next Generation Fellows to contribute to and support Our Common Agenda, his vision for the future of international cooperation. Their proposals were launched in a standalone report entitled Our Future Agenda, which identifies six thematic priorities raised by young people as priorities for global action: transforming education; jobs and economic opportunities; climate and sustainability; and peace and justice.

The program helps young thinkers, leaders, and activists deliver results. We aim to:

- Support a new cohort of Next Generation Fellows under 30 to drive Our Future Agenda priorities in partnership with the United Nations and the broader international system.
- Engage partners through the Unlock the Future coalition to drive action, commitments, and financing for young people, leveraging its reach of over 875 million worldwide.
- Activate the generation of doers, providing young people with an open, intergenerational platform to design the future.
- Bolster efforts to rejuvenate global institutions and equip them to think, plan, and act for the future across the UN and the broader international system.

## Next Generation India Fellowship

The Next Generation India Fellows is an opportunity for young Indian thinkers and leaders to gain first-hand experience in understanding and solving the world's most pressing challenges from the lens of the Global South. In the year that India will be confirmed as the world's most populous country and leads the G20, this fellowship will provide a global platform for its young doers, leaders, and thinkers, to explore and champion an agenda for next and future generations. The UN Foundation (UNF) and the Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW) will work in partnership to co-deliver the fellowship, building links between these Fellows and changemakers in other young countries, and providing a platform for the Fellows during India's G20 presidency, the Sustainable Development Goals Summit in 2023, and the Summit of the Future in 2024.

The fellowship supports the One Future theme of India's G20 and its commitment to 21st century multilateralism and the acceleration of the implementation of the United Nations Agenda 2030 – and will build towards the first United Nations Summit of the Future in 2024. As part of the two-year fellowship, the fellows will foster honest conversations about the One Future theme of the G20 presidency, the implementation of the SDGs, and build consensus around a 'future agenda' for young

Indians. The fellows will also explore options for investing in their generation and for protecting the needs and rights of India's future generation. The fellowship will provide an opportunity to strengthen youth-led and youth-focused networks, platforms, and contribute towards institution building. In line with our commitment to building links between immediate, near-term, and long-term challenges, this work will:

- Develop solutions for the most urgent challenges facing young Indians, in areas such as education, health, inclusion for marginalized young people, sustainable growth, and disaster risk reduction.
- Tackle risks that will shape the lives of next and future generations across the course of this century, including climate change, biodiversity loss, food systems, digital transformations, emerging security threats, and catastrophic and existential threats.
- Make proposals for how to build 21st century international institutions that can think, plan, and act for the future.

The Next Generation India Fellows will work with UNF and CEEW to design, implement, and lead a process that will develop proposals to influence the global policy agenda. Each Fellow will be selected to key priorities emerging from the G20, namely climate finance, energy security, food security, inclusive growth, women-led development, digital transformation, global health, and 21st century multilateralism. Working across these areas, Fellows will connect with other youth-led networks and young leaders, and will take feedback from members of these various organizations and academic experts in the form of Action Groups. They will also explore how the UN and the broader international system can create space for young people to participate and shape decisions that affect their futures and how it can represent the interests of future generations.

### **Roles and Responsibilities**

The Next Generation India Lead Fellow will serve a dual role with a multilateral focus and representative of the Next Generation Fellows. They will collaborate with a global network of young changemakers, as well as partners in the international system and across regional bodies, to connect this fellowship with the Summit of the Future and other key opportunities and processes. This is an exciting opportunity to lead a transformative fellowship and empower young Indians to drive positive change in line with the Sustainable Development Goals.

CEEW is responsible for hosting the Lead India Fellow, with joint management lines to CEEW and UNF. In this role, the Lead India Fellow will:

1. Co-design and deliver the overall strategy and operational plan for the Next Generation India Fellowship, working with UN Foundation and CEEW to help manage the fellowship, including co-creating and advising on strategy and work plans, selection process, mentorship and career development opportunities, activity timelines, logistics and providing guidance and collaboration support where needed.

2. Serve as the primary representative of the Next Generation India Fellowship, advocating for the fellowship's objectives and engaging with policymakers, influencers, and the media to promote the importance of youth leadership and sustainable development.
3. Lead the Fellows to promote intergenerational dialogue, building strategic relationships with leading policymakers and think tanks to enhance the fellowship impact and reach, exploring the potential for further dialogue with leading thinkers in young experts in India, the UN, and key actors in New York and elsewhere; Be the key organiser and convenor for the Fellowship's Advisory council.
4. Build a network and engage with the global Next Gen Fellows and other young leaders, thinkers, and networks from around the world on priority issues, with a specific focus on youth mobilization and Global South leadership.
5. Provide guidance and mentorship to fellows throughout their fellowship journey, fostering their personal and professional development, facilitating networking opportunities, knowledge sharing, and collaboration among Fellows and with relevant stakeholders.
6. Develop a robust monitoring and evaluation framework to track the impact and outcomes of the fellowship, regularly assessing the effectiveness of the activities and make necessary adjustments to enhance its success.
7. Prepare comprehensive updates and documentation on activities, progress, and outcomes, capturing and sharing compelling stories of fellowship success, showcasing the impact; Work closely with the Outreach team of CEEW and UNF to creatively communicate various Fellowship milestones and generate a strong interest in this flagship initiative.
8. Co-design a strategy for action in the lead up to the Summit of the Future Summit in 2024 and other key global and regional moments, outlining key milestones and deliverables, and resources that will be required for this work.

## Qualifications

- Young changemaker between 18 to 30 years of age.
- Degree in a relevant field such as international development, public policy, or a related discipline.
- Proven experience in program management, preferably in the field of youth empowerment, leadership development, or sustainable development.
- Strong understanding of the UN system, global development processes, and the Sustainable Development Goals.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills, with the ability to engage with diverse stakeholders and build partnerships.

- Demonstrated leadership and diplomacy abilities and the capacity to inspire and motivate young people.
- Exceptional organizational skills and the ability to manage multiple tasks and priorities.
- Knowledge of the Indian social, cultural, and political context.
- Fluency in English is required; proficiency in additional languages, particularly Hindi, would be advantageous.
- Preference to be based in New Delhi, India. Some local and global travel is expected.

### **Application Process**

Interested candidates are requested to submit the following documents:

- Updated curriculum vitae (CV)
- Cover letter highlighting relevant experience and skills (including links to previous work including but not limited to media engagements, research papers,...)
- Examples of previous work related to program management, sustainable development, or youth leadership
- Contact details of three professional references
- A 1 minute motivation video

Note: Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for an interview.