

Research Associate for a 2-year Study on Grasslands and Pastoralism in Alpine and Savannah Landscapes

March 2025

Centre for Pastoralism (CfP) works on a range of pastoralists' issues across the country. The National Centre for Biological Sciences (NCBS) works on the frontier areas of biology to advance an integrated view of life processes. CfP and NCBS are partnering on a research project that seeks to understand the relationship between grasslands and pastoralism in mountain and savannah landscapes.

This project outlines three research objectives aimed at addressing the gaps in the understanding of pastoral ecology. The project hopes to investigate the drivers and scale of sedentarisation among pastoralist's communities, understanding pastoralists' decision-making processes and their perceptions of environmental changes. The project will involve field surveys, interviews with pastoralists, and data analysis to provide valuable insights for policy interventions and contribute towards knowledge on pastoral systems and ecologies.

Note: The Research Associate will be based full-time at Centre for Pastoralism, New Delhi with periodic field visits in Himachal Pradesh and Maharashtra.

Research Associate is expected to:

- Conduct an extensive literature review on the changing aspects of pastoralism in alpine and savannah landscapes.
- Participate in other aspects of the research, including data collection, analysis, and report writing.
- Present findings at academic and non-academic platforms.

Desired Experience and Qualifications in the Social Sciences:

We are looking for someone with a strong social science research background who can understand the evolving dynamics of transhumance pastoralism. The ideal candidate will be highly motivated, independent, and a creative thinker with prior experience in conducting field research and a demonstrated ability to prepare research reports.

Previous experience in collaborative research is highly desirable, along with knowledge of both qualitative and quantitative analytical skills and software, such as Nvivo, ATLAS.ti, MAXQDA, SPSS, R, etc.

The candidate must have the following qualifications:

- A background in anthropology, sociology, public policy, economics, or a similar field. Candidates who hold a Master's degree in any of the aforementioned disciplines with prior experience in working with pastoral communities.
- Ability to conduct regular field visits to collect qualitative and quantitative data over extended periods with different communities.
- Support in synthesizing literature review, ethnographic and quantitative data.
- Excellent social science communication skills, including speaking and writing.
- Willingness to take on any other responsibilities assigned by CfP.

Please write to Aniruddh Sheth (aniruddh@centreforpastoralism.org) or Priya Rajput (priya@centreforpastoralism.org) for more information on CfP, the project or the position.

To apply, please submit your CV and a Cover Letter to research@centreforpastoralism.org. Be sure to include the subject line - Grasslands and Pastoralism Research Associate - your full name.

www.centreforpastoralism.org

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