

Motivation Letter for a PhD Project

I am writing to express my interest in the PhD project entitled “*Effects of Earthquakes on cultural landscapes in central Nepal: Increasing preparedness within local communities*” at University of Quebec. I have an educational background in Forestry and Landscape Ecology, complemented by relevant work experience in forestry and data analysis. Additionally, I have enhanced my capacity with extensive skills in data science and programming knowledge particularly R and Python. I am writing this letter with high motivation and excitement to contribute to the esteemed team.

I hold a Master's degree in Landscape Ecology and Nature Conservation from the University of Greifswald, Germany, and a Bachelor's degree in Forestry from Tribhuvan University, Nepal. My academic journey has equipped me with a solid foundation in ecological principles and advanced research methodologies, while my professional experience has honed my capacity in understanding the overall environmental sector and social dynamics of rural area of Nepal. Growing up in Rasuwa¹, a remote northern district of Nepal which was also greatly affected by the 2015 earthquake, I experienced the firsthand damage that earthquakes can cause to both the environment and local communities. Additionally, while working as a Forest Ranger in Baitadi, one of the most remote districts of Nepal, I witnessed how earthquakes impacted forests and people's livelihood. During my tenure at Baitadi, I got an opportunity to work as Government focal person for Kailash Sacred Landscape Conservation Initiative project in collaboration with Dr. Yadav Uprety. We collaborated to perform activities related to environmental conservation, safeguarding of cultural linkages, and enhanced resilience of communities in the landscape. These experiences have given me a deep understanding of the need to improve preparedness and resilience in vulnerable communities.

Currently, I am serving as a Research Officer at the Climate Change Management Division, Ministry of Forests and Environment, Nepal. In this role, I have been actively involved in developing and implementing climate change policies, providing technical assistance, and conducting research. My work has enabled me to develop a deep understanding of the impacts of climate change on vulnerable communities and the actions needed for effective adaptation and mitigation.

I have also undertaken significant research projects, such as the preparation of the National Landcover Monitoring System using GIS and Remote sensing techniques, an assessment of private forestry models in Nepal etc. I am highly motivated to advance my academic qualifications and professional expertise. My goal is to produce impactful research outputs that provides data-driven, science-based inputs for environmental policies to enhance community resilience to natural disasters. I am excited to work with your team, particularly on the second and third aims of the project.

Enclosed is my CV, which provides further details about my qualifications and achievements. I look forward to the opportunity to discuss how my skills and experiences align with the goals of the project.

Thank you for considering my application.

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¹ [Nepal Earthquake District Profile - Rasuwa](#)

² [Landslide susceptibility in Rasuwa District of central Nepal after the 2015 Gorkha Earthquake](#)