

ACIC GIETU - Community Innovator Fellowship

The Community Innovator Fellowship Program is an initiative of Atal Innovation Mission, NITI Aayog in collaboration with UNDP India to facilitate knowledge building and provide infrastructure support to aspiring community innovators essential for their entrepreneurship journey. Atal community innovation centres in different locations of the country would help fellows in acquiring SDG awareness, entrepreneurial skills and life skills while working on their idea's and will extend fellowship support upto Rs. 2,00,000/-. This is a one-year-long intensive fellowship program wherein an aspiring community innovator can apply irrespective of their socio-economic background.

Eligibility Criteria for a Fellow

1. Age - 18-35 Years
2. Education - At least a bachelor's/diploma/degree holder in any discipline from a recognized university
3. Distance from the community – Residential address within 30 km from ACIC GIETU*
4. Literacy level – English Language proficiency (Intermediate)**

*Fellows could also be enrolled from outside the ACIC GIETU's geographical region with a mandate of completing certain community hours and ACIC GIETU hours.

**Applicants not meeting this level of literacy can be supported by a 'Buddy' and also through training and workshops as part of the fellowship.

To know more on the CIF, click here: <https://aim.gov.in/acic-fellowship.php>

kumarprasannajitsahu@gmail.com [Switch account](#)



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* Indicates required question





ACIC GIET UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR COMMUNITY INNOVATOR FELLOWSHIP

WHO CAN APPLY ?



Age
18 - 35 years



Distance from the community
Residential address within 30 km from ACIC



Education
At least a bachelor's/diploma/degree holder in any discipline from a recognized university



Literacy Level
English Language proficiency (Intermediate)



Scan here
<https://forms.gle/kiuAMwn5udpd7G1T7>

LAST DATE
15th April 2025

+91 9178970093 | contact@acicgietu.in

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Applicant's Name *

Padmini Mishra

Applicant's Contact Number *

7008241852



Email Id *

padminimishra@giet.edu

Gender *



Male



Female



Prefer not to say

Age (as per govt records) *

38

Current city *

GUNUPUR

What is your preferred language of communication? *

ENGLISH



Educational Qualification *

- ☐ Bachelors
- ☐ Diploma
- ☒ Degree Holder
- ☐ 12th - Passed
- ☐ Other:

College/University Name *

GIET UNIVERSITY

Provide details of Bachelor's/Diploma/Degree with Specialization *

M Tech in Electronics and Communication

What motivates you to do Innovation/Enterprise *

Coming from Chilika with firsthand knowledge of the day-to-day hardships faced by fishermen in places like Gopalpur, I've always envisaged innovation as a means to address real-life issues. Seeing fishermen venture out into the sea without any reliable fish-finding devices made me realize how mainstream technology is so far away from the realities of rural areas. This is my source of motivation- to build solutions that are affordable, accessible, and truly meaningful like EchoFish that empower these communities with the very technology they need.

Which community problem are you addressing through your innovation/enterprise? *

Coastal Fishing Community



Title of your Innovation/Enterprise *

Aquarix

Define your idea in less than 150-200 words *

Aquarix is an affordable AI-powered sonar device helping small-scale Indian fishermen detect fish spots in real-time without the need for an internet connection, GPS, or high-end equipment. From the traditional fish finders, they are big-sized, imported, and cost above ₹70,000, hence being inaccessible to the rural fishermen. Aquarix, being an Indian product, combines the functions of a sonar transducer, microcontroller, Bluetooth module, and an optional solar charger in one single gadget. This data, i.e., real-time measurements of water depth and fish location, is then reflected on a mobile or web-based dashboard indicating to fishermen where fish are located, how deep they are, and whether they swim alone or in schools.

Aquarix uses AI and machine learning to distinguish between fish and debris, with the ultimate goal of predicting fish behavior, identifying species, and marking productive hotspots. Priced very low, it targets the small boats prevalent in regions such as Odisha, West Bengal, and Andhra Pradesh. Each time it is used, Aquarix gets smarter – taking traditional fishing in a tech-assisted, data-driven direction. Aquarix helps fishermen save time, save fuel, earn better, and also be a force for sustainable fishing.



Which SDG is your idea focused in? *

- ☐ GOAL 1: No Poverty
- ☐ GOAL 2: Zero Hunger
- ☐ GOAL 3: Good Health and Well-being
- ☐ GOAL 4: Quality Education
- ☐ GOAL 5: Gender Equality
- ☐ GOAL 6: Clean Water and Sanitation
- ☐ GOAL 7: Affordable and Clean Energy
- ☐ GOAL 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth
- ☐ GOAL 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
- ☐ GOAL 10: Reduced Inequality
- ☐ GOAL 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities
- ☐ GOAL 12: Responsible Consumption and Production
- ☐ GOAL 13: Climate Action
- ☒ GOAL 14: Life Below Water
- ☐ GOAL 15: Life on Land
- ☐ GOAL 16: Peace and Justice Strong Institutions
- ☐ GOAL 17: Partnerships to achieve the Goal



At what stage you are in your Entrepreneurship Journey? *

- ☐ Pre-Ideation
- ☐ Ideation
- ☐ Validation
- ☒ Early Traction
- ☐ Scaling

Who are the target beneficiaries of your innovation/enterprise? *

The targeted beneficiaries are primarily small :

How will this fellowship benefit you? *

92 wordsclear

Humanize AI

This fellowship will give us the appropriate platform, guidance, and visibility to further develop our solution and drive our entrepreneurial journey at a faster rate. It will assist us in testing EchoFish with the help of expert advice, access relevant stakeholders in the fisheries and rural innovation ecosystem, and get ready for real-world deployment on a large scale. The network and resources of the fellowship will also aid us in establishing sustainable partnerships, identifying fund-raising opportunities, and amplifying the impact of our product in grass roots communities. Above all, it will facilitate us to turn our vision into a scalable, impactful, and inclusive solution for India's coastal fishing industry.

Any other fellowship you got before *

No



Upload supporting documents for your application like - Resume, Recognition, Detailed Business model of the idea etc. *

Upload up to 5 supported files. Max 10 MB per file.

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