

NEERAJA KULKARNI

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

UNITED NATIONS EOSG • GRADUATE CONSULTANT

Aug 2023 – Dec 2023 | Remote

- Contributed research and co-authored a report for the EOSG on mapping the progress of member states for future generations, advising the Envoy for Future-Generations in line with the 2024 Summit of the Future

QUICKSAND • RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

Dec 2020 – Jan 2022 | Delhi & Remote, India

- Collected and synthesized qualitative data of sexual and reproductive health sector leaders to design business strategies of a early-stage incubator for Jhpiego.
- Collected and synthesized qualitative data of over 80 transgender persons across India for USAID. Further co-authored a three-stage sensitization report for medical practitioners, facilitating preventive HIV biomedical clinical trials among marginalized transgender communities across India.

SELCO FOUNDATION • RESEARCH FELLOW

Sep 2019 – Mar 2020 | Bangalore, India

- Collected and synthesized qualitative data of 80+ small landholder farmers to explore renewable energy access solutions in horticulture value chains across Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. Further developed business strategies for deploying five renewable energy technologies to support rural agri-entrepreneurs.
- Contributed research to a report on 8-10 technological advancements in the cold chain ecosystem of India for IKEA.

ECHOSTREAM • GRADUATE INTERN

Jan 2019 – May 2019 | Sikkim, India

- Co-authored and published a peer-reviewed research paper on organic farming systems in Sikkim. Collected and synthesized qualitative data of 25 diverse stakeholders, including local farmers, entrepreneurs, and government officials across Sikkim in North-East India.
- Contributed to the design of culturally relevant graphic visuals for three SCERT Government textbooks.

SKILLS

- RESEARCH & WRITING
- IMPACT, BUSINESS & STRATEGY
- HUMAN-CENTERED DESIGN (HCD)
- QUALITATIVE DATA METHODS
- VISUAL DESIGN

TECHNOLOGY & LANGUAGES

- MICROSOFT OFFICE SUITE
- ADOBE SUITE, FIGMA, PROCREATE
- ARCGIS PRO
- FLUENT - ENGLISH, HINDI, MARATHI

ACADEMIC BACKGROUND

THE FLETCHER SCHOOL, TUFTS UNIVERSITY

Aug 2022 – Dec 2023 | Boston, USA

Master of Global Affairs (MGA), GPA - 3.8/4.0

- Working Paper: AI, power, and capitalism in a Foucauldian lens
- Student Coach and guest lecturer - 'Managing NGOs and Enterprises' class
- Fletcher Russia & Eurasia Program - Communications Assistant

HARVARD KENNEDY SCHOOL

Cross-registrant

- HKS DEV308 Social Institutions and Economic Development
- HKS DPI207 Philosophy of Technology: From Marx and Heidegger to AI, Genome Editing, and Geoeengineering

MIT Institute of Design, Pune

Jun 2015 – May 2019 | Pune, India

Bachelor of Design (B.Des)

- Thesis: Organic Farming Systems in Sikkim, India

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

TECA • FELLOWSHIP WINNER

Jun 2023 – Aug 2023 | Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

- Secured a \$5,000 Tufts Elephant Conservation Alliance grant for research on elephant conservation in Eastern Ethiopia, conducting ethnography and informal interviews to advocate collaboration among transnational stakeholders for development of Babile Elephant Sanctuary.

IND.EPTH • CO-FOUNDER & PARTNERSHIPS

Mar 2023 – Sep 2023 | Addis Ababa & Remote

- 'ind.epth' is a hybrid volunteer-led workshop series between Ethiopian students and Indian industry experts. The series, under the aegis of Creative Hub Ethiopia, promotes creative upskilling among Ethiopian youth to enhance cultural production in East Africa.

PUBLICATIONS/CONFERENCES

- System Mapping: Understanding the Value Chain of Organic Farming in Sikkim, India
Book chapter in "Design for Tomorrow-Volume 3, Smart Innovation, Systems and Technologies 223" by Springer Nature Singapore Pte Ltd.
- Cobalt As A Political Artifact - Revealing the Equity Gaps in the Sustainability Movement
Presented at The Third Global STS (Science, Technology and Society) 2024 Conference organized by Nanyang Technological University (NTU-NISTH), Singapore
- Why is Killers of the Flower Moon relevant today?
Climate Policy Lab
- A Quest for Equality: Dr. Dalee Sambo Dorough
Climate Policy Lab
- The Truth About Indian Farmer Suicides
Fair Observer