

Dandapani Varsha



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Environment Science professional with 6 years of experience in Project Management and Policy Research and Advocacy. Have worked on a range of issues including sustainability, urbanization, climate change, natural resource governance and innovation & entrepreneurship.

Key Skills

- Project Management
- Financial Management
- Policy Research and Advocacy
- Research and Assessment
- Documentation and Knowledge Management

Profile Summary

- Currently working as Program Coordinator at Oxford Policy Management Ltd. Based at the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change to provide technical support to the Ministry on the formulation and implementation of their programmes and policies and developing strategic plans with focus on project & program goals.
- Excellent understanding of the sustainability and environment issues
- Experience in working with Government (national and sub-national level), private sector, civil society organizations, multi and bilateral organizations and think tanks
- Responsible for substantial, administrative and financial management high profile projects for the Government of India
- Excellent communication skills across mediums
- Recorded high performance across projects and verticals

Career Timeline



Education



Bachelor's Degree in
Biotechnology

- ★ Vellore Institute of Technology
- ★ 2010
- ★ 90.4%



Master's Degree in
Environment Science &
Technology

- ★ Banaras Hindu University
- ★ 2013
- ★ 88.4%

Work Experience

Part 1

Oxford Policy Management Ltd as Program Coordinator –

Since July 2017

Key Result Areas:

- Provide technical assistance to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change on formulation and implementation of national level policies and programmes like the National Action Plan on Climate Change, Nationally Determined Contributions etc.
- Consult relevant stakeholders on development/revision of policies and programmes.
- Research and assessment and preparation of technical briefs/reports.
- Provide technical support for the implementation of Climate Change Innovation Programme of UKAID. Coordinate project update meetings, preparation of review reports and maintain effective communication between Ministry, UKAID and implementation teams.

NITI Aayog, Government of India as Young Professional – Atal Innovation Mission – **From January 2016 to July 2017**

Key Result Areas:

- Support NITI Aayog in designing and implementing different workstreams of Atal Innovation Mission, an initiative of Government of India to promote innovation and entrepreneurship in the country.
- Focus on design and development of implementation modalities of the pilot initiative of establishment of Tinkering Labs in schools and support schools in establishing and operating the labs.
- Monitoring and evaluation of the initiatives for undertaking course corrections
- Engaged with leading corporates like Intel India Pvt. Ltd., IBM for potential collaboration
- Created program documentation (including handbooks and guidelines for schools, case studies, reports, MoUs etc.)
- Communication support (with internal and external stakeholders) using appropriate channels of print and social media
- Research and analysis to propose policies and strategies on several issues like digital payments and e-governance

Development Alternatives as Deputy Manager – Environment Management

– From June 2012 to January 2016

Key Result Areas:

- Responsible for management of policy research and influence projects, coordination of implementation strategies at national, sub-national and regional level, financial management and client handling.
- Collaboration with relevant stakeholders for implementation of the initiatives
- Monitoring and evaluation of the initiatives for undertaking course corrections
- Qualitative and quantitative research, analysis and documentation on issues related to urbanization, climate change and sustainable development.
- Designed and developed documents based on research and technical analysis (reports, articles, policy briefs, case studies)

Work Experience

Part 2

National Institute of Oceanography as Summer Intern

– From May 2011 to June 2011

Key Result Areas:

- Research on status of affected organisms due to oil spill

Achievements

- Influenced policies at the national and sub-national level on climate change, housing and resource efficiency
- Successfully designed and implemented different initiatives like project on promotion of efficient use of natural resources in construction and automobile sectors, the pilot initiative of Government of India to establish Tinkering Labs in schools, etc.
- Led a team of more than 25 people for the establishment of Tinkering Labs in schools
- Collaborated with corporates like Intel India, IBM for implementation of programmes of Government of India

Soft Skills

