



IYIP INTERNSHIP 2024-2029

Communication Officer Intern

Internship location: Negombo and Jaffna, Sri Lanka

Host organization: [NAFSO \(National Fisheries Solidarity Movement\)](#)

NAFSO is a Sri Lankan fishermen's movement that primarily works with marginalized groups such as internally displaced people, women and youth, to promote human rights and true sustainable development. NAFSO focuses on agriculture and fisheries sectors in post-conflict Sri Lanka. It represents fishermen from 15 coastal and inland fishing districts on the north and south coasts. NAFSO challenges harmful development models, particularly land and sea grabbing, and works to empower communities whose rights are threatened by these practices in developing countries, with the aim of contributing towards lasting peace in Sri Lanka based on equity, social justice, democracy and full respect for the rights of women and minorities. NAFSO also worked extensively with women in the war-affected coastal regions of the country.

Position Title: Policy, Research and Advocacy Officer Intern

MANDATE (include tasks and responsibilities)

To support the partner organization in three priority sectors:

- a) building capacity of the NAFSO and its local offices in using information and communication technologies (ICT) more strategically and more safely;**
- b) supporting NAFSO's education and campaigning efforts to promote the rights of war-affected marginalized women in Sri Lanka;**
- c) supporting NAFSO's policy and advocacy efforts to empower coastal communities and safeguarding marine ecosystems.**

Interns will work with NAFSO team in Negombo (main office of NAFSO) and Jaffna (and the places with war affected women in the northern Sri Lanka), and will be assigned projects and tasks according to the activity plan described below:

- Assisting NAFSO staff and volunteers in building more strategic use of ICT (including through social media strategies) in support of their campaigns and advocacy work, nationally, regionally and internationally;

- Supporting NAFSO's strategic communication and campaigning work on various themes related to ecology, agriculture and fisheries, gender equality, and peace and reconciliation, including food sovereignty, land rights, and rights of war-affected women and displaced communities. This will include producing website content in English for an international public, blog posts, social media updates, graphics, podcasts and short video tools addressing human rights challenges, in particular concerning their land rights that represents a critical issue faced by women in Sri Lanka to today;
- Supporting research and analysis on key issues in the coastal areas of Sri Lanka;
- Providing basic digital security training of trainers to NAFSO's staff, volunteers and other human rights organizations in Negombo (and Colombo) and Jaffna, and surrounding coastal areas, and raising awareness about digital security risks and threats for human rights defenders in Sri Lanka;
- Strengthening monitoring and evaluation systems of NAFSO and its district members;
- Other duties as may be assigned by NAFSO.

In addition, the intern will:

- Participate in the progress review meeting with the NAFSO Director every month.
- Adhere to the administrative procedures of NAFSO.
- Follow the guidance and instructions of NAFSO director for any given situation.
- Work in cooperation with NAFSO staff and the collaborators all the time.
- Assist NAFSO team with their work when and where appropriate and needed.

REQUIRED SKILLS: The candidate must have a strong interest in international development and human rights, as well as in research, communications, and digital development.

Training before departure and upon return from the internship

Before leaving, participants have the chance to participate in a 2-weeks (10 business days in total) professional training course (**in French and English with accommodations**) led by instructors **recognized in their field**, during which they will address diverse themes as per the following program.

The IYIP also aims to help participants integrate the job market when they return. In this context, participation in the program includes **workshops** designed to **improve interview skills and strengthen job search tools**.

In addition, participation in the IYIP covers:

- Travel and medical insurance costs;
- Plane tickets;
- Mandatory vaccinations*;
- The cost of the visa, if necessary;
- The organization of accommodation ;
- Daily living expenses ;
- Personalized follow-up during your international stay.

Duration of international stay: 3 months

To be eligible for the International Youth Internship Program (IYIP), the candidate must:

- Be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident;
- Be facing barriers to employment by belonging to or identifying with a group of people who face discrimination such as people living with disabilities, Indigenous people, racialized youth and members of the 2SLGBTQI+ community.
- Be between the ages of 18 to 30 years old at the time of final selection (i.e. at the time of signing the contract by the intern and Alternatives);
- Have never participated in the IYIP (with some exceptions: see our FAQ section)

Language: good knowledge of written and spoken English required.

Interested? To register, please access the form below by clicking on apply.

Only those who send their CV and covering letter (via the registration form) will be considered in the selection process.

Information: psij@alternatives.ca

[Take your chance and apply here!](#)