

ASER Pakistan: Internship Opportunities!!!

ASER Pakistan (The Annual Status of Education Report) is looking for summer interns who can be a part of ASER Cycle 2014. This is an outstanding opportunity for someone with exceptional energy, curiosity about leadership development and a passion to create positive change.

ABOUT ASER:

ASER - The Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) is a citizen led; household based initiative that aims to fill a gap in learning outcomes and provide reliable estimates on the schooling status of children aged 5-16 years residing in the rural and few urban districts of Pakistan. ASER seeks to improve the quality of education nationwide by providing a reliable set of data on an annual basis about what children learn, how they learn, where they learn, education status of their mothers etc. By using an innovative citizen driven approach, ASER intends to mobilize policy makers as well as ordinary citizens- parents, students, local communities and the public at large – to become aware of actual levels of children’s literacy and numeracy, and build on that awareness to stimulate practical community and policy change across Pakistan. ASER has the following key components:

1. A large household based survey covering all i.e. 138 districts 13 major urban cities of the country.
2. The use of an easy tool to assesses literacy and numeracy that can be easily administered.
3. Inspiring a citizen volunteer-driven approach to conduct the assessment.
4. Instant feedback of the assessment results to parents/ guardians, children and local leaders.
5. Broad communication across the country through the media and other forms to create debate.
6. Facilitating thoughtful learning and monitoring throughout, and feeding back these lessons into the next year’s preparations.
7. Repeating the survey each year to create and sustain momentum for change.

Under the auspices of the South Asian Forum for Education Development (SAFED), Idara-e-Taleem-o-Aagahi (ITA-Centre of Education & Consciousness) and other partners with nationwide presence, ASER is being replicated in Pakistan since 2008 and is part of the large scale annual assessments gaining momentum across Asia and Africa. Some of the major programs coordinated by ITA are as follows:

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| 1. Whole School Improvement Program. | 5. Technical, Education & Vocational Training. |
| 2. Right to Education Campaign. | 6. Early Childhood Education & Development Program. |
| 3. Children’s Literature Festival. | |
| 4. School Assessment for School Improvement. | |

Details about the program can be found at www.itacec.org , www.aserpakistan.org

BASIC FUNCTION:

An excellent opportunity for a recent graduate/ student who is looking for an international work experience. Interns will have the opportunity to collaborate and work with professionals working on research projects in various sectors and get hands-on field exposure. The work may involve literature review, field work and data collection, data cleaning and analysis and assistance in report writing. The ideal candidate should be willing to work in a team setting, as well as work independently. The ability to work under pressure and on a varied range of tasks to meet deadlines is necessary. Some of the proposed activities are as follows:

- To design and finalize tools for ASER cycle 2014 with rigorous rationale.
- Coordinate with ASER National Team during the various phases of survey including piloting, training, data collection, data analysis and reporting, and dissemination.
- Travelling to districts to organize and conduct trainings for research studies, partners and volunteers.
- Support ASER core team in data compilation and analysis.
- Assess, interpret and evaluate the outcomes of research, and develop ideas for the application of research outcomes.
- Support research team in developing research proposals for seeking external funding for research projects.
- Creating concept papers, proposals and budgets for funding, as needed.
- Contribute in designing research focus and methodology for research various initiatives.
- Commenting and providing input on draft papers produced from research.

QUALIFICATIONS & CHARACTERISTICS:

- Candidate of Masters or similar graduate-level degree.
- Prior experience in research, curriculum design, tool design etc is preferred.
- Experience in teacher- training, understanding of educational landscape of different countries will be a plus.
- Excellent interpersonal, oral and written communication skills including ability to give clear and concise presentations of complex material.
- Ability to work well independently as well as part of a team.
- Detail Oriented.
- Must exhibit initiative, discretion, tact and good independent judgment.

DURATION: The internship duration can be of 1-3 months.

It should be noted that all travel and accommodation costs will need to be borne by applicants.

COMPENSATION: A stipend will be offered to interns (that will cover domestic/internal travel only) and a certificate upon successful completion of the internship.

LOCATION: Lahore / Islamabad/ Karachi, Pakistan

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS: Please mail your resume and a cover letter on the following mail address: sahar.sd@gmail.com, hr.lhr@itacec.org.