

**Foundation for Environment, Climate, and Technology**  
*Contributions to the*  
**Masters in Development Practice (MDP) at University of Peradeniya**  
*Partners: Earth Institute at Columbia University, Maldivian Ministry of Environment.*



A Masters in Development Practice (MDP) course shall be launched by the University of Peradeniya in collaboration with FECT, Columbia University, Open University and others starting in October 2011. The program is hosted at the Department of Economics at the University of Peradeniya.

The program is supported by MacArthur Foundation, Chicago, USA as a node in a global network of 22 Universities that are offering MDP. The Global Masters in Development Practice Secretariat, based at Columbia University's Earth Institute, coordinates the MDP network (<http://mdp.ei.columbia.edu/>). Other resources from the Earth Institute at Columbia University are harnessed by Dr. Lareef Zubair, principal scientist at FECT, who has been at the Earth Institute for a decade.



**MDP Background** - The two year program has been designed to equip development practitioners to address sustainable development challenges across the sciences; *health, natural, social and management*. This cross-disciplinary academic curriculum promotes the development of knowledge, skills and other attributes of an effective professional.

The curriculum at the University of Peradeniya has a focus on

1. Coastal Regions and Tropical Islands
2. Millennium Development Goals and Poverty Measurement and Analysis
3. Climate Change in South Asia
4. Technology for Sustainable Development

Courses will be hosted by the University of Peradeniya. Lecturers and academics and professionals from different disciplines will be teaching these courses. After the first year, students may opt for a post-graduate diploma. A three month internship commences thereafter. Approximately eight internships will be managed by the Foundation for Environment, Climate, and Technology.

The program will reach out to prospective candidates from the South Asian region, and to those from outside the region who have an interest in regional issues and sustainable development issues.

## **FECT** Foundation for Environment Climate and Technology

The Foundation for Environment, Climate and Technology was registered as a non-profit company in 2003 to consolidate a decade of research, adaptation projects, and infrastructure development and sustain capacity. We contribute to climate, hydrology, adaptation, information technology, publishing and engineering for sustainable development.

### **Contact Details**

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### **Further Information on FECT**

**Brochure:** Is available at websites or on request.

**Websites:**

<http://www.climate.lk/>

<http://www.tropicalclimate.org>

<http://www.recoverlanka.net>

**FECT Collaborators and internship arrangements**

FECT will contribute to the internship programme of the MDP using its decade of experience and linkages to international and local partners in sustainable development practice. FECT is in discussion with several organizations to find practicum placements. Placement for the internship will start during the second half of 2012.

FECT has collaborated with:

**Sri Lankan Institutions**

- Mahaweli Authority of Sri Lanka
- National Water Resources Authority
- Department of Meteorology
- University of Peradeniya
- International Water Management Institute
- Anti Malaria Campaign
- Coconut Research Institute
- Tea Research Institute
- Department of Wildlife Conservation
- Open University of Sri Lanka
- University of Jaffna
- Eastern University of Sri Lanka
- Sabaragamuwa University

**International Institutions**

- International Research Institute of  
Climate and Society, New York
- Earth Institute at Columbia University
- Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology
- Indian Institute of Science
- Frontier Research System for Global  
Change - Japan
- National Aeronautical and Space  
Agency (NASA) – Maryland, USA.
- Maldives Ministry of Environment
- Botswana Meteorological Service
- University of Karachi, Pakistan
- Small Earth Nepal.

**Internship Arrangements by FECT**

FECT has tentative agreement with the following institutions to host internship placements.

1. Anti Malaria Campaign Sri Lanka
2. Foundation for Environment, Climate and Technology
3. Gemidiriya National Community Professional Learning & Training Center
4. Hydrodynamics Pvt. Ltd
5. Lanka Transformers' Limited (LTL Holdings Pvt. Ltd.)
6. Mahaweli Authority of Sri Lanka
7. MAS Intimates Pvt. Ltd.
8. Sugarcane Research Institute

FECT has developed flyers on requirements for internship placements for students for potential host institutions. Profiles of potential host institutions developed by FECT shall be useful for students to select an institution for their internship arrangements, and helps to build liaison with students and the institutions. These are available at our MDP website – <http://tropicalclimate.org/mdp>

FECT shall facilitate the communication between these institutions and MDP program and encourage the participation of relevant officials in recruitment of students and in hosting interns.

**Resources Available at FECT for MDP students**

**Projects**

Completed project reports are available at <http://www.tropicalclimate.org/> which can be used as case studies for the students.

FECT has several ongoing projects related to development sector listed in a companion flyer. Students can participate in these ongoing projects for their internship program.

**Staff**

FECT has staff with expertise in several relevant disciplines such as climate, water resources and natural resources management, water resources, agriculture, public health, disasters and environment (see brochure at <http://www.climate.lk>).

FECT also has 30 alumni and adjunct staff working in related organizations who can be a resource for students.

**Library**

FECT has a collection of international and local reading materials related to the natural sciences and sustainable development focusing on climate, water resources, agriculture (see brochure at <http://tropicalclimate.org/mdp>)

FECT shall assist students with some environmental data acquisition for their internship projects and class projects.