

# Foundation for Environment, Climate, and Technology

*Contributions to the*

## Masters in Development Practice at University of Peradeniya

**Partners:** Earth Institute at Columbia University, Maldivian Ministry of Environment.

Further information is available at: <http://www.tropicalclimate.org/mdp>



The Foundation for Environment, Climate and Technology (FECT) is an outgrowth of projects conducted by the Earth Institute at Columbia University in Sri Lanka and the Maldives on sustainable development and climate adaptation from 2000. FECT projects have covered water resources, wildlife management, public health, food crops and plantation agriculture, disaster risk management, and coastal zone hydrology. FECT initiated the development of the Masters in Development Practice (MDP) course at the University of Peradeniya with bringing partners together to formulate the pre-proposal and the proposal.



FECT offers its past projects, resources, & partners in support of the MDP program. The resources from FECT are accessible at <http://www.tropicalclimate.org/mdp> MDP students can access our library, obtain case study reports, consult with our staff and be directed to our networks. More specifically FECT offered internship opportunities at partner institutions, developed course content for the Climate Change in South Asia and liaise with the Maldives institutions.

### MDP Background

The Masters in Development Practice (MDP) course was launched by the University of Peradeniya in collaboration with FECT, Columbia University, the Open University and others in October 2011 <http://www.pdn.ac.lk/arts/econ/mdp/>. The program is hosted at the Department of Economics at the University of Peradeniya. The program is supported by the 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/>).

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, and (4) Technology for Sustainable Development

After the first year students may opt for a post-graduate diploma. A three month internship commences subsequently. Internships could be offered through the Foundation for Environment, Climate, and Technology, with availability depending on the host institutions (see overleaf).

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

We started work in 2000 as a collaborative project between Columbia University and the Mahaweli Authority of Sri Lanka and chose to institutionalize all our work into a non-profit company hosted at the Mahaweli Authority. The Foundation for Environment, Climate and Technology was registered as a non-profit company in 2003 to use climate and environmental information for societal benefit and sustainability. We provide research, training and undertake projects and climate services in Sri Lanka, Maldives and Comoros.

### Contact Details

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### Further Information on FECT

#### Websites:

<http://www.climate.lk>  
<http://www.tropicalclimate.org/mdp>  
<http://www.tropicalclimate.org/maldives>  
<http://www.tropicalclimate.org/comoros>  
<http://www.tropicalclimate.org/mdp>

**Blogs:** <http://fectsl.blogspot.com>  
<http://fectmv.blogspot.com>

**Collaborators and Internships**

**Collaborating Institutions**

***Sri Lankan Institutions***

Mahaweli Authority of Sri Lanka  
Departments of Irrigation and Meteorology  
International Water Management Institute  
Anti Malaria Campaign  
National Dengue Control Unit  
Coconut Research Institute  
Tea Research Institute  
Sugarcane Research Institute  
Department of Wildlife Conservation  
Department of Agriculture  
University, Open, Jaffna, Ruhuna, Rajarata,  
Eastern, South-Eastern, Sabaragamuwa,

***Maldivian Institutions***

Maldives National University  
Maldives Meteorological Service  
Renewable Energy Maldives  
Health Protection Agency (Min. of Health)  
Ministry of Environment  
Male Water Supply Company

***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.  
Botswana Meteorological Service  
University of Karachi, Pakistan  
Small Earth Nepal.  
FECT – Afrique, Moroni, Comoros

**Internship Arrangements**

We have tentative agreements with the following institutions to host internship placements.

1. Renewable Energy Maldives
2. Land and Marine Environment Resources, Maldives
3. Maldives Meteorological Service
4. Ministry of Housing and Environment, Maldives
5. Mahaweli Authority of Sri Lanka
6. Hydrodynamics Pvt. Ltd, Sri Lanka
7. Lanka Transformers' Limited, Sri Lanka
8. MAS Intimates, Sri Lanka
9. International Water Management Institute, Sri Lanka
10. UNDP Sri Lanka and Maldives
11. Male Water Supply Company, Maldives

We shall facilitate the communication between these institutions and MDP program. We encourage the participation of relevant officials in recruitment of students and in hosting interns. We have developed flyers on requirements for internship placements for students for these and a few other host institutions. Profiles of potential host institutions included in our website shall be useful for students to select an institution for their internship arrangement and helps to build liaison with students and the institutions. These are available at the FECT MDP website.

These institutions shall take in interns depending on their own needs at the time. There are also other institutions who are listed as partners who may take in interns if you have a specific interest.

**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.

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

**Staff**

Our staff with expertise in 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 50 alumni and adjunct staff working in related organizations who can be a resource for students along with about 25 overseas scientists, social scientists and academics.

**Library**

We have a collection of literature related to the natural sciences and sustainable development focusing on climate, water resources, agriculture (see <http://tropicalclimate.org/mdp/>). Our library catalogue can be accessed by students.

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