

# Kedar Uttam, Ph.D.

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## Profile

Sustainability Researcher with experience in research projects related to environmental policies, helping develop research proposals involving multi-stakeholder collaboration and transdisciplinarity at KTH Royal Institute of Technology (Stockholm) and coordinating activities within community-based projects. Facilitated several non-governmental organisations in India with conceptualising and planning of projects, taking project proposals through recommendatory process at the regional level and delivery of action-based projects focused on environmental themes such as climate change mitigation and renewable energy. Track record of follow up and performance evaluation of more than 20 sustainable development projects in South India funded by the UNDP Small Grants Programme. I enjoy facilitating workshops on environmental issues for University students from various educational and cultural backgrounds. Proven experience in establishing networks, interviewing and holding dialogues with managers, scholars from Nordic countries, consultants, grantee partners and leaders within different organisations.

## Research and Professional Experience

**Postdoctoral Researcher**, KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm, Sweden 2019 – 2020

- Presented concepts to my research group at KTH to analyse the process of knowledge co-production in a transdisciplinary project called Integrating Sustainability Strategies in Urban Environments (ISSUE) that brought together stakeholders from both academia and practice in Stockholm to co-produce strategies for urban sustainability. Preparation of publication in progress.
- Assisted environmental consultants in a research project (on Swedish transport planning) by providing them with a detailed analysis and synthesis of theoretical development in the field of strategic environmental assessment.

**Independent Researcher**, Sweden and India 2016 – 2018

Freelanced for the Sustainable Planning and Environmental Assessment Knowledge (SPEAK) project at KTH, represented the project at the "Expert Consultation on the Environment and Health Impact Assessment for the World Health Organization" and "Implications of BREXIT for Environmental Assessment and Management in the UK" Workshop. Co-authored a book chapter in the 'Handbook on Strategic Environmental Assessment'.

**Researcher**, KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm, Sweden 2014 – 2016

Contributed theoretical knowledge and ideas and assisted my research group in securing funding for a transdisciplinary research proposal entitled 'Integrating Sustainability Strategies in Urban Environments (ISSUE)'.

**Doctoral Student**, KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm, Sweden 2009 - 2014

- Conducted research of sustainable solutions at the interface of policy, management, environmental and social science.
- Interacted with environmental managers from the top five construction companies of Sweden, officials at the Swedish municipalities, environmental consultants and researchers based in Nordic countries to develop innovative ideas for linking two major environmental policies relevant to procurement and sustainability in the construction sector
- Successfully implemented the research project (funded by FORMAS The Swedish Research Council) entitled '*Improving the Environmental Performance of the Construction Sector: Opportunities within Impact Assessment and Green and Sustainable Public Procurement*' leading to 3 publications in peer-reviewed journals, one of which is widely cited. Presented ideas drawn from this research at 3 international conferences

# Kedar Uttam

**Project Associate**, Centre for Environment Education, Bangalore, India

2006 – 2007

- Oversaw more than 20 Global Environment Facility (GEF) – United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) – Small Grants Program (SGP) funded projects, conducting site visits and developing evaluations.
- Liaised between the SGP Regional Office, relevant government departments, scientific institutes and other stakeholders to facilitate collaboration between science, policy and practice
- Contributed to an improved process of scientific and development oriented review of project concepts and proposals focusing on sustainable development practices

**Environmental Engineer/Field Coordinator**, Environment Support Group (ESG), Bangalore, India

2004 – 2005

- Coordinated proposal for the waste management system of a city in Karnataka state, India that led to the design of a management action plan
- Provided analysis in an initiative to end pollution of the Kali River from the West Coast Paper Mills.
- Contributed with a case study to the Access Initiative Project, a global coalition of civil society organizations working to promote national implementation of commitments to the Rio 10 Principle.

## Education

**PhD**, Land and Water Resources Engineering with Specialization in Environmental Management and Assessment  
KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm, Sweden, 2014

**Master of Science**, Environmental Engineering and Sustainable Infrastructure  
KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm, Sweden, 2009

**Bachelor of Engineering**, Environmental Engineering  
Visvesvaraya Technological University, India, 2003

## Language skills

English (Fluent), Hindi, Kannada, Tulu, Urdu and Swedish (basic)

## Personal interests

Guest blogger for the AESOP Young Academics Network to which I contribute with short essays concerning sustainability. I also have my own blog in which I write short stories and musings. Whilst in hometown, I collaborate with a local Citizens' Forum to organise environmental initiatives.