

# GlobalEnvironments

SUMMER ACADEMY

*Peer-to-peer learning for emerging changemakers*



## What is the Global Environments Summer Academy (GESA)?

GESA is a 3-week summer course designed to broaden and deepen the knowledge, networking, and communication skills of postgraduate students, professionals and activists who are concerned about human dimensions of environmental challenges. During GESA, an international and multidisciplinary group of resource people nurture the ability of participants to:

- develop their academic insight and competence
- transcend disciplinary and geographical boundaries
- expand their understandings of policy
- enhance their advocacy skills
- learn from peers and tap new support networks

“GESA was much more than a summer academy or a leadership programme. It was about stories, fun, joint commitment, about challenging and being challenged, about making new friends and building relationships - and about learning so much!”

Marie Wilke,  
GERMANY

“Everyday there were instances in which I felt thoroughly inspired.”

KuoRay  
Mao,  
TAIWAN



## GESA: a practical experience

Our intensive course includes roundtable discussions, participant-led seminars, workshops and field trips. Throughout the 3-week academy, participants:

- engage directly with policy-makers
- acquire practical skills in research design, fieldwork methods and data analysis
- join hands-on innovation and communications workshops
- collaborate on advocacy projects
- work personally with leading scholars to enrich their ideas and practice and research.





**“GESA is a brilliant opportunity to meet people from academia, NGOs and government who represent different perspectives on development. It was an opportunity I would never have gotten elsewhere.”**

**Rishabh Kumar Dhir, INDIA**



**“What a privilege it is to have this opportunity to get supported, to have space to air what your challenges are, to be reminded that you are not alone doing the work, and to make new friends.”**

**Dr. Carolyn Finney,  
USA**

## **GESA resource people**

GESA resource people include academics, professionals, artists, and activists who together represent an extraordinary diversity of backgrounds and experiences.

# After the summer: Global Environments Network and GESA Innovation Fund

Global Environments Network (GEN), which is composed of GESA alumni, resource people and participants in other emerging initiatives, comprises a virtual space with opportunities for collaboration. GEN provides a supportive platform for emerging changemakers as they:

- carry out cutting edge multidisciplinary research
- lead transformative policy-making
- develop practical and advocacy-related projects

GESA alumni may apply to the GESA Innovation Fund to continue peer-to-peer collaboration; further their efforts to advance advocacy, environmental justice, and ethical approaches in their respective fields; and disseminate the results of their applied research to the general public.



## APPLY

Applications are invited from students in the humanities, natural sciences and social sciences – as well as from professionals working in advocacy, research, law, media, policy, or the arts – who focus on the relationship between environment and society.

## FIND OUT MORE

at our website [www.globalenvironments.org](http://www.globalenvironments.org)  
or email us at [info@globalenvironments.org](mailto:info@globalenvironments.org)



Global  
Diversity  
Foundation  
A world of difference

[www.global-diversity.org](http://www.global-diversity.org)

GESA is organised by the Global Diversity Foundation and is hosted every summer by a European academic institution, such as the Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society in Munich, Germany and the Centre for Development and Environment in Bern, Switzerland.