

SECOND CALL DOCUMENT

INVEST INDIA

invites

Proposals for Award of Swachhta Saarthi Fellowship (SSF) to Students from Schools, Colleges, Universities/Institutions, and Self-Help Groups (SHGs) Across the Country Under Waste to Wealth Mission of the Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India

1. Genesis:

The Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India under its “Waste to Wealth” Mission invites applications for the award of “**Swachhta Saarthi Fellowship**” to recognize students, community workers/self-help groups, and municipal/sanitary workers who are engaged in tackling the enormous challenge of waste management, scientifically and sustainably. The fellowship is an initiative to empower young innovators who are engaged in community work of waste management/awareness campaigns/waste surveys/studies, etc. as Swachhta Saarthis and implement actions to reduce waste for a greener planet.

The role of young students from schools and colleges, citizens working in the community through Self Help Groups (SHGs), and sanitation workers, is key in sensitizing the community towards waste management and offer innovative solutions for conversion of waste to value. This fellowship is aimed to empower citizens to continuously engage in their attempts to reduce waste in cities and rural areas.

2. Aims of the Fellowship:

To achieve the objectives of the Waste to Wealth Mission, citizens are expected to play a key role in sensitizing their communities/surroundings in waste management and offering innovative solutions for conversion of waste to value.

This fellowship is aimed at empowering citizens to come up with their own ideas to reduce waste and implement actions to help the planet.

3. Expected Outcome and Impact of the Fellowship:

The following outcome is expected under the **SSF Programme** at the end of the year-long fellowship:

- At least 10 best innovative projects / initiatives / demo model/ prototypes/ reports for recognition under the programme.
- Create an ecosystem of converting waste to value by following the concept of reduce, recycle, and reuse and motivate fellows to make real contributions to their communities/surroundings.
- Create a team of Young and Energetic “SSFs” to volunteer their efforts in waste to wealth initiatives to reduce the amount of trash generated by schools/colleges/universities/communities, to create awareness among

their peers / communities about waste management and drive environmental stewardship by finding ways to reduce and reuse of waste.

- Engagement with sanitation workers and encourage them on use of technology interventions for efficient waste management and its conversion to value.

4. Eligibility Criteria

Open to all students from Schools, Colleges, Universities, Institutions, as well as Self-Help Groups (SHGs) and Sanitation Workers. Applicants applying under Category-C must have done some previous work/ already doing some work on waste to wealth management activities including waste management awareness campaigns, surveys, studies, etc.

Those who are already availing fellowship under SSF (FY 2021-22) are not eligible under this call. This fellowship is on “Individual Basis” and group fellowship is not applicable. However, SHGs can work as an organization and the fellowship will be in the name of applicants.

5. Who can apply

I. **Category-A**

- School students – 9th to 12th standards
(The applicants should give credentials of their teacher / guardian who will ensure submission of monthly, half yearly and yearly progress reports)

II. **Category-B**

- Students from UG & PG colleges, Universities/ Institutions
- Research students/scholars – a clear plan of action with few outcomes and impact in one year. If possible, some paper/articles etc are expected during the fellowship.

III. **Category-C**

- Self Help Groups (SHGs) - (a maximum of two applications can be submitted by one SHG)
- Sanitation workers

All applicants are required to submit proof of them being a student (I-card issued by school/colleges/universities/institute or proof of SHGs registration/association) as mentioned in the Format for application/proposal. Final selection will be based on complete verification of the necessary documents required for the SSF Programme.

6. **Last Date to Apply:** - All complete applications will be received online by **April 4, 2022** and the decisions will be announced in the second week of April 2022.

7. How to Apply:

Online applications are to be submitted at www.wastetowealth.gov.in/fellowship-home

8. Fellowship Amount Category-wise:

I. **Category A Proposals (School students)**

School students from 9th to 12th standards engaged in waste management community work come under **Category-A**. An amount of **Rs. 500/- per month** would be given as Fellowship for a period of 1 year **subject to** continued submission of the monthly activity reports, participation in monthly SSF Samvaads, half yearly and yearly (final) progress report, demo models, etc. on completion of one year.

II. **Category B Proposals (College/University/Institute students)**

Students from College/University/Institutions - UG, PG & Research students engaged in waste management community work come under **Category-B**. An amount of **Rs. 1,000/- per month** would be given as Fellowship for a period of 1 year **subject to** continued submission of the monthly activity reports, participation in monthly SSF Samvaads, half yearly and yearly (final) progress report, demo models, etc. on completion of one year.

III. **Category C Proposals (SHGs/NGOs/sanitary workers)**

Citizens working through Self Help Groups (SHGs), municipal or sanitary workers working beyond specifications of their job requirement/descriptions come under **Category-C**. A maximum of 2 citizens from the same SHG can apply. An amount of **Rs. 2,000/- per month** would be given as Fellowship for a period of 1 year **subject to** continued submission of the monthly activity reports, participation in monthly SSF Samvaads, half yearly and yearly (final) progress report, demo models, etc. on completion of one year.

Note- *the fellowship will be released on monthly basis depending on the submission of monthly progress reports by due date and also continued participation in SSF Samvaad each month. In case of non-submission of monthly reports and non-participation in the SSF Samvaad by selected SSFs consecutively for two months, the fellowship will be discontinued.*

9. **Process of Selection:** An expert committee will evaluate the proposal, and the successful proposals will be provided funding (as detailed above) for a period of one year.

Broad selection parameters / indicators

- I. Relevance of the work already done by the applicants
- II. Innovative solutions implemented in their activities
- III. Practicality for replication of the activities undertaken
- IV. Engagement of the peers / community
- V. Proposed action plan for a year
- VI. Expected outcome and impact

(For Category A and B applicants, requirement of previous work done is not mandatory and their evaluation will be on the basis of the basic understanding of waste to wealth initiatives and the proposed plan of action for one year, expected outcome and impact etc.)

10. Reporting Requirements:

The successful applicants/fellows will be required to document their work in the following manner:

- a. Monthly submission of their activities including pictures/small videos etc to Invest India
- b. Mandatory participation in the monthly SSF Samvaads
- c. Half Yearly Progress Report- A detailed progress report as per defined format submitted at the end of the 6th month of fellowship to be eligible for further fellowship support. Those who fail to submit reports, as required, will not be considered for further release of fellowship. The fellowship after six months will also depend on satisfactory performance evaluated by the expert committee.
- d. Yearly Progress Report - A final progress report, demo models, prototypes etc.

11. Terms and Conditions of the Fellowship:

- i. The call for fellowship is for students and SHGs as per Category A, B & C.
- ii. The fellowship offer will remain valid for one year from the date on which the offer of Fellowship is made by Invest India.
- iii. The fellowship will be released by Invest India on monthly basis through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) system to the AADHAAR linked bank account provided by the applicants. No changes in the bank account number would be entertained at a later stage. A copy of the cancelled cheque/passbook/bank statement is to be submitted for verification of account number.
- iv. All fellows are required to submit 12 monthly reports (major achievements, videos, pictures etc.) to Waste to Wealth web portal by 5th of each month.
- v. All fellows are required to attend all monthly SSF Samvaads and other related webinars
- vi. All Fellows are required to submit 1 six monthly and 1 yearly progress reports as per formats in addition to the monthly reports. The fellowship after six months will be released to only those fellows who submit their report in the sixth month and their performance is evaluated as “satisfactory” by the expert committee.
- vii. On completion of one year, all fellows are required to submit final progress report, demo model, prototypes etc.
- viii. At least Ten (10) best selected fellows based on their progress report etc will be recognized by Waste to Wealth Mission on its website and social media handles.
- ix. Certificate of participation will be given to all fellows who successfully complete their fellowship tenure.
- x. On completion of the fellowship, the fellows may be invited physically or virtually for presenting their progress through posters, demos/models, prototypes, etc.
