

AYAN KANHAI AMAN

Climate Governance: Energy Transition and Decarbonisation Strategy

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CHARACTER

Diligent and Resourceful

Proactive problem-solver with strong judgement and performance in high-stress environments.

Insightful and Versatile

Broad knowledge-base with quick grasping abilities and a dynamic personality to adapt and deliver.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Consultant: Operations and Strategy

Louis Dreyfus Company and Foundation 📅 09/2022 - 01/2023 📍 Delhi, India

- **Decarbonisation Strategy:** Developed a strategy to transition LDC's coal-powered edible-oil refinery to a solar-and biomass-based energy mix. Estimated a 57% reduction in emissions and £66,138 saving in operational costs annually.
- **Institutional Audit:** Audited LDF's global portfolio of 48 projects (2012-22) on basis of their implementation, mission-alignment and KPIs. Produced a report to identify strategy gaps and evaluate the partnership between LDC and LDF.
- **Scholarship Establishment:** Assisted LDF in the establishment of an undergraduate-and masters-level merit-and need-based scholarship program worth €125,000 for 80+ students across India's top 5 agricultural universities.
- **Project Evaluation:** Evaluated a LDF-funded TATA Trust project aimed at improving the productivity of 4000+ female farmers. Recommended the incorporation of entrepreneurship workshops with business design sprints in order to improve their market access, financial literacy and self-sufficiency.

Research Associate

Palmyra Partners 📅 10/2020 - 02/2021 📍 Vancouver, Canada

- **Stakeholder Mapping:** Developed a multi-region stakeholder map of 103 donor and service-delivery organisations working towards the formalisation and governance reform of artisanal & small-scale mining.
- **Research Support:** Conducted desktop research for projects related to natural resource governance, gender and mining, and the United Nations Agenda 2030.

Policy Analyst

Canadian International Resources and Development Institute

📅 09/2019 - 08/2020 📍 Vancouver, Canada

- **Policy Gap Analysis:** Published a first-of-its-kind systematic literature review of 60 policy-oriented articles to evaluate and report the state of research on Community Benefit Agreements (CBAs) in resource-based industries.
- **Legislative Research:** Conducted legislative and case-law research to identify vulnerabilities in Canada's Environmental Impact Assessment process and contribute to Transparency International's Accountable Mining Program report.
- **Focus-Group Research:** Convened and facilitated 3 focus groups interviews to assess the transparency and corruption risks in the mine permitting and licensing processes of British Columbia and Yukon.
- **Coalition Building:** Built a browse-able database of 62 policy experts working in alignment with CIRDI's mandate to enable future collaborations.

Product Developer

Collaborative of Advanced Landscape Planning

📅 05/2018 - 04/2019 📍 Vancouver, Canada

- **Product Development:** Leveraged graphic design skills to design media like logos, infographics, posters, and brochures for the Citizen's CoolKit guide. Produced an informational film for the Community Energy Explorer (CEE) project.
- **Product Testing:** Facilitated the testing and evaluation of the Coolkit with 100+ stakeholders, to gauge its usability, feasibility, and potential to effectively engage end-users on issues of climate change and urban forestry.
- **Product Deployment:** Assisted in implementing a public engagement, education and awareness-building strategy through 3 workshops, social-media, and print-media to boost the product's use amongst end-users.
- **Prototype Metric:** Devised a comprehensive indicator system to quantitatively gauge the environmental performance of a household to monitor and evaluate compliance and alignment with local climate targets.

MOTIVATION

Passionate about facilitating a just net-zero transition through environmental governance focused on climate change policy, decarbonisation strategy, green business and renewable energy.

EDUCATION

University of Oxford

MSc. Nature, Society & Environmental Governance

📅 09/2021 - 09/2022 📍 Oxford, United Kingdom

- **Grade:** Merit (67.2%)
- **Focus:** Interdisciplinary understanding of environmental politics, decarbonisation policies and ecological economics with empirical grounding in the just transition and sustainable energy systems.
- **Fully-Funded:** Louis Dreyfus-Weidenfeld and Hoffmann Scholarship and Leadership Program

University of British Columbia

BA. Geography and International Relations

📅 09/2016 - 05/2021 📍 Vancouver, Canada

- **Grade:** High Distinction (85.5%)
- **Focus:** Major in Environment & Sustainability and Minor in Economy & Development
- **CO-OP Program:** Full-time industry-specific professional work experience prior to graduation
- **Partially-Funded:** Arts International Student Scholarship

The Aga Khan Academy, Hyderabad

International Baccalaureate (IB)

📅 08/2014 - 06/2016 📍 Hyderabad, India

- **Grade:** 36/45
- **President** of the Student Council
- **Director General** of the Model United Nations
- **Subjects:** *Higher-level:* Geography, English, Visual Art. *Standard-level:* Hindi, Biology, Mathematics

LANGUAGES

English and Hindi Native ●●●●●

Gujarati and Telugu Fluent ●●●●●

SKILLS

- 🔍 **Research**
Analytical, Comparative, Knowledge-Gap, Legislative, Survey, Case-Study, Interview
- 🧠 **Analysis**
Quantitative, Qualitative, GIS, Gender-Based, Impact Assessment, Life Cycle, Excel Modelling
- 🗣️ **Communication**
Reports, Papers, Policy-Briefs, Public Speaking, Presentations, Film, Photography, Graphics
- ⚙️ **Software**
MS Excel, Final Cut Pro, Adobe Photoshop, Arc GIS, (SQL and R Certifications Underway)

ENTREPRENEURIAL EXPOSURE

The Weidenfeld-Hoffmann Enterprise Challenge

PACS (Proofing Against Climate Shocks) 📅 2022 📍 Oxford, United Kingdom
Led the ideation, design and development of a social-enterprise that aims to boost the crop-productivity and climate-resilience of off-line small-holder farmers in Kenya. Our aim is to enable informed crop-related decision-making through the USSD-based (SMS) provision of 5 high-resolution agrometeorological data-points. Currently, conducting market-surveys in Kenya and seeking £150,000 in pilot-stage funding from crop-insurance firms, given their payout-related financial exposure.

ACADEMIC RESEARCH

Just-ifying India's Solar Transition (Merit)

📅 09/2022 📍 Oxford - Dissertation

- Evaluated the solar transition model of Telangana, India from a social-justice lens, critiquing its unsustainable land-acquisition practices that induce community displacement. Consequently, explored the restorative potential of land-lease based business-models that make the impacted village-communities central stakeholders in India's solar projects.

Stimulating Sustainability for a Just Transition (Distinction)

📅 04/2022 📍 Oxford - Policy Brief

- Analysed the UK's Net-Zero policy to recommend sector-specific economic interventions (cross-subsidization, workforce restructuring, blended finance) to be undertaken by the government for a just and deep decarbonisation.

Inducing Circularity in Nuclear Energy (Distinction)

📅 01/2022 📍 Oxford - Elective Essay

- Illustrated how inducing circular economy principles in the nuclear regime can volumetrically reduce its radioactive wastes and hence the safety risks to society in absolute terms, thereby paving the way for its acceptability.

Re-evaluating the REDD-emptive Potential (94%)

📅 04/2021 📍 UBC - International Forestry

- Assessed the REDD+ program's role in accelerating conflicts and impoverishing communities in project localities through case-studies of India, Indonesia, Norway and Brazil. Proposed rectification through decentralised governance mechanisms that involve locals in implementation and offset-monitoring.

Bounding Transboundary Processes (88%)

📅 12/2020 📍 UBC - Global Environmental Politics

- Evaluated how carbon accounting-based metrics like the Environmental Performance Index and mechanisms like carbon taxes are premised on fundamentally flawed conceptions and computations that overlook carbon leakage and foster a false sense of Environmentalism in nations.

UNDERGRADUATE COURSEWORK

Analysing Environmental Problems (93%)

Problem-based course on qualitative and quantitative techniques in environmental research. Focused on estimating GHG emissions from various transportation choices, risk assessments of coastal hazards, and public-engagement techniques.

Micro-scale Weather and Climate (93%)

Atmospheric physics course focused managing climatic feedback loops through urban albedo control by modifying spectral reflectivity, making microclimate predictions from differential radiation loading in complex terrain, and improving conversion efficiency of photosynthesising plants.

Geographic Information Systems (83%)

Analytical course based on the utilisation of cartographic modeling, digital terrain models and spatial interpolation. Personal project assessed sites suitable for rain-water absorption in Hyderabad (India) given an increase in climate-induced flooding events. Based on the specific environmental characteristics of flood-prone localities across the city, it proposed 3 different solutions to re-direct the excess rainwater and prevent flooding.

QUALITIES

Leadership and Teamwork

Organisation and Time Management

Stakeholder Engagement and Networking

Negotiation and Mediation

Event Planning and Delivery

ACTIVITIES

JumpStart Orientation (Leader)

The University of British Columbia

📅 08/2018 📍 Vancouver, Canada

Led, in a team of two, the orientation of 40 incoming International students, supporting their transition by serving as a representative of UBC. Organised activities to familiarise them with academic & campus life and provided them with informed referrals to essential campus resources.

Skill Development Mentor (Service)

Local Orphanage and Government School

📅 2015 📍 Hyderabad, India

Programmed activities at local government schools and orphanages to coach 150+ students in English, Math, and Drama to sharpen their holistic skills. Also served as the primary translator between the Telugu-speaking locals and volunteers to facilitate dialogue.

Countryside Expedition (Participant)

'Chinna Shodha Yatra'

📅 09/2014 📍 Telangana, India

Undertook a 3-day journey on foot, across the interiors of my state, with the aim to understand and document the traditional practises and knowledge systems of village communities that live in harmony with their environment and nature.

Media Design (Volunteer)

The Aga Khan Academy, Hyderabad

📅 2013 - 2016 📍 Hyderabad, India

Conceptualised, shot, and edited 3 promotional films for the Academy's marketing department. Designed communications such as posters and brochures for events, contributed photographs to the website, yearbook, and social media platforms.

PASSIONS



Nature, Wildlife, People



Photography, Film, Graphic Design



Yoga, Squash, Gym, Swimming

MANTRA

People, Planet, Prosperity