

SROMONA BURMAN

(she/they)

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PROFILE

A socio-environmental researcher, looking at ecosystem-livelihood vulnerability, climate change and human-nature conflict from an intersectional lens. With a geography background that has provided extensive experience in fieldwork in diverse spheres. Having an integrated and holistic approach to research on multidisciplinary grounds.

EDUCATION

Postgraduate studies in Global Environment & Sustainability, Radboud University, Netherlands **2023-2024**

Master (M.A) in Natural Resources & Governance, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, India **2019-2021**
Dissertation - Assessing the Coastal Livelihoods and its Vulnerability to Natural Hazards of the Communities in Kachchh, Gujarat.
Grade A-

Bachelor (B.Sc.) in Geography, Loreto College, Calcutta University, India **2016-2019**
Project - A cross-sectional study and land-use survey of two villages in Amarkantak, Madhya Pradesh
Class II

Senior Secondary (ISC), Our Lady Queen of the Missions School, India **2014-2016**
Subjects - Geography, Sociology, Political Science, Psychology
Grade - 8

Secondary (ICSE), Our Lady Queen of the Missions School, India **2014**
Grade - 7

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Senior Research Fellow **Dec 2023 - Dec 2025**
WforW Foundation in collaboration with WODER, Remote

- Contributing to a project titled "Water Anxiety and Security of Women in Disaster-Led Distresses," supported by WODER and conducted with the WforW Foundation.
- Leading current fieldwork in West Bengal and Sikkim, including a case study in Rangpo, as part of action-based research.

Environmental Consultant **Aug 2020 – Oct 2025**
HICCUP (a menstrual-cup company) - Remote, India

- Conduct research-based interpretation, assessment, and hypothesis generation from qualitative and quantitative secondary data.
- Establish baseline conditions for pollution and contamination levels in areas under study; Project: *A Comparative Life-Cycle Assessment of Menstrual Products (Sanitary Pads, Tampons and Menstrual Cups); Pro-Environmental Attitudinal Change Towards Choice of Menstrual Products.*

Social Scientist MainStay Consultancy - Lucknow, India - Conducted a Source Vulnerability Assessment–Source Water Protection Plan (SVA–SWPP), including a plant visit. - Assessed social and statistical indicators and water consumption, and audited and indexed industries based on CSR utilisation.	Jul 2023
Research Associate & Social Scientist South Asia Consortium for Interdisciplinary Water Resources Studies (SaciWATERS) - Hyderabad, India - Designed research proposals, action-research, reports, assessments and analyses in water policy and governance, peri-urban water security, climate change and water, water and gender, WASH, and water quality. - Contributed to a proposal on "Combating Climate Change in Coastal Deltas/Wetlands and Livelihoods Resilience," alongside a parallel situational analysis and assessment. - Conducted an SVA–SWPP as social scientist across Jammu, Lucknow, and Odisha.	Dec 2022 – Apr 2023
Research Intern Resilience Innovation Knowledge Academy (RIKA) India Pvt. Ltd - Delhi, India. - Co-authored the paper "Ecosystem Challenges to the Continuity of Customary Regulations and its Impact on Ecosystem Conservation in the Indian Sundarbans." - Reviewed literature on interlinked ecosystem services and the continuity of customary regulations. - Assessed literature on community-based natural resource management, coastal community-level governance frameworks, collective social monitoring, and the vulnerability and adaptation of coastal ecology to hazards and climate risks through a gendered lens.	Oct 2021 – May 2022
Research Intern The Community Wellbeing and Environment Programme, Dakshin Foundation Bengaluru, India - Developed a report based on a secondary literature review (quantitative and qualitative) to meet research objectives. - Conducted research, writing, and editing support for the study: Project — <i>Report on the Health Status of Coastal Communities in Tamil Nadu</i>	Aug – Nov 2020
Research Intern <i>Sri Someswar Nath Mahadev Trust (SANMAT), Remote</i> - Contributed to content development in education, including a report on the development of soft skills and job opportunities among new-age workers. <i>Hyderabad Tiger Conservation Society (HYTICOS), Hyderabad, India</i> - Prepared a report based on the analysis of quantitative data using GIS-based mapping; Project — <i>Assessment of Forest Cover Change in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana in the Past Two Decades (remote-sensing-based analysis)</i>	May – Jun 2020 Jun – Jul 2020
Field Surveyor Foundation for Ecological Security (FES), India	
Rajasthan, India - <i>International Forestry Resources and Institutions Site Study and Community-based report of Mukungarh, Rajasthan</i>	Feb 2020
Odisha, India - <i>Understanding community behaviour and profiling the Kushakala using Participatory Rural Appraisal tools.</i>	Dec 2019

- Conducted field-based village studies in Rajasthan and Odisha, including an International Forestry Resources and Institutions (IFRI) study of local forests with an accompanying biomass survey.
- Assessed village profiles using Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) tools such as Social Mapping, Resource Mapping, Transect Walk, Problem Matrix, Historical Timeline, Mobility Mapping, and Behaviour-over-Time Graph, and conducted a qualitative socio-economic survey of location-based livelihoods.
- Compiled detailed analytical reports capturing social and demographic characteristics, represented through Age-Sex Pyramids, Occupation Charts, Health Indicators, and Women's Drudgery analysis.

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

Basics of RS, GIS and GNSS

Aug 2021 - Nov 2021

Indian Institute of Remote Sensing, Indian Space Research Organization, India

Geomatics in Forestry - Data Collection & Management

Sep 2020 - Dec 2020

The Faculty of Forestry, University of British Columbia, Canada

Co-founder — Jalebi Folk

Sep 2023 - Present

An initiative exhibiting handicrafts made by refugee and tribal artisanal communities, supporting alternative livelihood models and slower consumer markets.

HONOURS & AWARDS

Radboud Scholarship – Radboud University, Nijmegen

April 2023

SKILLS

Technical — QGIS, ArcGIS, Google Earth Engine, Remote Sensing & GIS-Based Spatial Analysis, KoBoToolbox, R Programming, STELLA (Systems Dynamics & Modelling), Advanced Data Analysis (Biodiversity & Geo-Informatics), MS Office Suite, Web Design

Research Methods - Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) Facilitation (Social Mapping, Resource Mapping, Transect Walks, Historical Timeline, Mobility Mapping, Behavior-over-Time Graph), Vulnerability & Risk Assessment Frameworks, Mixed-Methods Research Design, Survey Design & Sampling, Life-Cycle Assessment (LCA), Ethnographic Fieldwork & Interviews, Focus Group Discussions, Questionnaire Design, Qualitative & Quantitative Analysis

Academic & Professional — Research Proposal & Grant Writing, Stakeholder & Community Engagement (Citizens, Public Authorities, Civil-Society Organisations), Scientific Writing & Peer-Reviewed Publishing, Literature Review & Synthesis, Project Management & Budgeting, Conference Presentation & Communication

Interpersonal — Cross-Cultural & Multilingual Field Communication, Team Leadership & Collaboration, Conflict Resolution & Mediation, Critical Thinking, Relationship Building.

Languages - Bengali (native), Nepali (C1), English (C2), Hindi (C2), German (A1)

CONFERENCES & PRESENTATIONS

- Co-Presenter

Aug 2024

World Water Week on Water Anxiety over Security: Distressed Women in Disaster-Led Displacement, Stockholm

- Co-Presenter

Dec 2023

Epistemic Communities and Role of Knowledge in the space of International Environmental Politics, Radboud University

• Presenter G20-Youth20 Consultation India Summit in 2023, Representing the Youth for Water India, New Delhi	Mar 2023
• Guest Speaker Climate Change in Higher Education, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Hyderabad Campus	Jan 2023
• Guest Speaker Panel Discussion on Experiences in Environment and Natural Resources Governance, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Hyderabad	Jan 2023
• Speaker Youth, Climate and Sustainability two day PreCOP26 Summit	Oct 2021
• Presenter The ONGES Tribe of the Andamans in a program hosted by the Geography Department, Loreto College, India	Mar 2018

PUBLICATIONS

- Bhargava, M., Naik, G., Burman, S., Sangeeth, K., Water Anxiety in Disaster-Led Displacements. Invited book chapter in *Just Transition in Water Resources Development and Governance: Integrating Climate Change Adaptation, Technology, and Environmental Justice*, Springer Water Resources Development and Management Series. (Manuscript submitted for publication).
- Burman, S., & Chatterjee, R., (2023). Exploring Challenges to the Continuity of Customary Regulations and Its Impact on Ecosystem Conservation in the Indian Sundarbans. *ICONOMOS India Publication, Resilient and Sustainable Development of Historic Precincts and Areas: Focus West Bengal*.
<https://www.icomosindia.com/upload/library/Resilient%20and%20Sustainable%20Development%20of%20Historic%20Precincts%20and%20Areas-with%20ISBN.pdf>
- Burman, S., & Katyaini, K., (2022). Vulnerability of Coastal Communities and Livelihoods Through the Experiences of Developmental Organizations: A Case Study of Kachchh, Gujarat, India. In: Singh, A. (eds) *International Handbook of Disaster Research*. Springer, Singapore.
https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-16-8800-3_153-1

REFERENCES

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