Cornell Iscol Summer 2016 Intern – (2016 ACSF Internship #8)

Project/Job Title: Building a Carbon Pricing Resource Center – Global Climate Summer Intern
Program: Global Climate
Location: New York, NY

Environmental Defense Fund (edf.org), a leading international nonprofit organization, creates transformational solutions to the most serious environmental problems. EDF links science, economics, law and innovative private-sector partnerships. Connect with us on EDF Voices, Twitter, and Facebook.

Are you interested in exploring a career at an internationally recognized environmental organization? By joining EDF as an intern, you can be part of a vibrant workplace that welcomes diverse perspectives, talents, and contributions, where innovation and a focus on results are a way of life. EDF’s internship program welcomes intellectually hungry leaders to join us, advance our work, and cultivate the skills and relationships needed for a successful career working for the environment. Alumni of our internship program have gone on to important leadership positions—most notably our own president, Fred Krupp. Could you be the next Fred Krupp?

EDF offers internships and fellowships for students and recent graduates in a variety of programs and departments throughout the organization. The ultimate goal of our internship and fellowship program is to provide high-quality experiences (including relevant projects and opportunities for networking) that form the foundation for any individual who is serious about pursuing an environmental career.

EDF has been a pioneer in advocating the use of market-based policies, particularly emission trading, to solve environmental management problems including climate change. The Global Climate Program conducts EDF’s climate work in countries other than the U.S. and China. We seek to help the world get on a path to climate safety, “turning the corner” on global greenhouse gases and putting emissions onto a downward trajectory by the end of this decade, while also laying the foundations for deeper reductions in the future. We focus on market-based approaches, as they tend to achieve the biggest bang for the buck in reducing emissions.

By harnessing markets to drive down emissions, carbon markets and other pricing approaches can build the ambition needed to turn the corner toward climate safety. The good news is that carbon pricing is gaining momentum around the world: over 50 jurisdictions (home to nearly one billion people) are implementing emission trading programs, and several others are pursuing carbon taxes. Ninety countries identified using markets/carbon pricing as means to achieve the targets they agreed to during the 2015 international climate conference in Paris.

Reports to
Ruben Lubowski
Chief Natural Resource Economist
Overall Function
The intern will be part of a dynamic team of experts in EDF’s Global Climate Program and will work to help design and construct a carbon pricing resource center: an online information repository on best practices for market and pricing design and operationalization, with material carefully curated from a range of sources. The intern will be responsible for reviewing and identifying content to include in the center and helping to synthesize materials and prepare original policy briefs. The intern will also work to ensure the center’s complementarity with existing efforts of other organizations and to develop its overall structure and design. This initiative will be a centerpiece of EDF’s future efforts to support the development of well-designed carbon markets and other pricing systems around the world.

To manage the intern’s work flow, Ruben Lubowski will establish standing weekly meetings and will have an ongoing open-door policy. The intern will also interact with EDF experts in the Office of Economic Analysis and Policy and across EDF, as well as in various outside partner organizations.

The intern will have opportunities to grow professionally by, for example:

- Interacting and learning from specialists in a range of fields (PhD economists, biologists, and anthropologists; lawyers; and policy and technical experts).
- Developing an international perspective by working in-depth on multiple regions of the world and at the intersection of economics, science, policy, and business.
- Participating in meetings with U.S. and foreign-government officials and with U.S. and international NGOs.
- Attending academic and think-tank conferences on relevant issues.
- Attending staff briefings and brown-bags presented by staff from across EDF’s programs.

Key Responsibilities
Tasks will include but are not limited to:

- Reviewing and compiling environmental economics and policy academic papers and technical reports on carbon pricing design and implementation and examining online resources provided by other institutions and organizations to identify highest value materials for inclusion in the resource center.
- Helping to synthesize best practices and prepare policy briefs on carbon pricing approaches.
- Helping work with partners at other organizations outside EDF (e.g., universities and outside contractors) to identify and develop these materials.
- Assisting in designing structure and all other aspects of launching the resource center.

Qualifications

- Demonstrated interest in environmental policy and research, ideally related to climate change and carbon markets and pricing and/or other environment and development issues, is preferred.
- Graduate-level coursework in environmental policy, economics, and/or finance.
- Exceptional attention to detail and organizational skills.
• Interest in relating economic research to real-world policy and in bridging the worlds of advocacy and academia.
• Foreign language skills (especially Portuguese or Spanish) are a plus.
• Excellent written and oral communication skills.
• Well-organized, motivated, and detail-oriented.
• Ability to multitask, prioritize, and meet deadlines.
• Ability to work in a team setting, with the ability to work independently when projects are due.
• Demonstrated initiative and problem-solving skills.

Location
New York, New York

Term
10 weeks during the summer

Hours
Full-time (35 hours/week)

Compensation
Compensation is $5,000 for the summer term.

Application Materials
• Submit applications by email to Paula Euvrard, pge3@cornell.edu.
• Attach your application as a single PDF file.
• Application must include a cover letter addressed to the EDF contact with a brief explanation of your qualifications and interest, followed by your CV or resume.
• Optional: you may include a brief writing sample.
• You must attach a separate PDF file for each internship, if applying for more than one.

Due to the volume of employment applications and queries received, EDF is unable to respond to each application individually. Applicants will be contacted directly if selected as a candidate.

Environmental Defense Fund is an Equal Opportunity Employer

March 2016