Recruiting graduate students (Masters, thesis stream) for a climate adaptation project at the University of Waterloo, Canada

The project RECOVER (*Resilience to Climate Vulnerability and Environmental Risk - with a focus on Asia Pacific islands*) is recruiting several Masters, thesis stream students at the University of Waterloo, Canada, starting Fall 2025.

RECOVER focuses on enhancing small islands' capacity to adapt to climate change through more inclusive, and research-informed decision environments. Small Island Developing States (SIDS) are on the frontlines of climate change and need transformational adaptation strategies urgently. Three SIDS in the Asia-Pacific region will serve as "hubs of innovation" for scalable and systems-changing climate resilience approaches.

Qualifications:

Ideal candidates will have:
- Completed a Bachelor's degree in environmental studies/science, economics / finance, geography, planning, international development, engineering, or related disciplines.
- A strong academic record (CGPA 80%+) with research potential.
- Demonstrable interest in climate adaptation science, and exposure to researching or working with vulnerable communities impacted by climate change is desired.
- Excellent written and oral communication skills.
- Possess skills / knowledge of tools that can tackle at least one or more project-related topics such as circular economy, climate finance, economic valuation of ecosystem services, water security/hydrological modelling, material and energy stock and flow analysis, risks and/or systems dynamic modelling, and nature-based solutions.
- Due to funding restrictions, domestic students (i.e. Canadian citizens or Permanent Residents of Canada) will be preferred.

Benefits:

Successful applicants will work in student teams, and engage in peer-to-peer learning with students from Canada and the Asia-Pacific. As part of this innovative project, you will receive mentorship from researchers in RECOVER and also have opportunities to interact with a global community of researchers within the CLARE program. The RECOVER partnership is multisectoral, inter-and-transdisciplinary and includes Real-World Labs (RLWs) that foster two-way interactions between the research team and island stakeholder groups to co-create innovative place-based climate adaptation solutions.

Successful applicants – depending on qualifications - will receive financial support from the project, in addition to Faculty and Department level funding. In terms of final

product, you will receive mentorship to publish your thesis in the form of a multi-authored science article with you as lead author, and thus be recognized for your contributions.

To Apply

Eligible and interested candidates, please send a single pdf file with a brief description of your research interests and experience (1/2 page maximum), along with your CV and transcripts to simron.singh@uwaterloo.ca (Project Leader) for an initial screening. Based on the informal/initial review, potential supervisors will be identified and applicants may be directed to apply formally to one of the Master programs in the Faculty of Environment depending on the applicant's interests, expertise and project needs.