

# Ammara Aslam

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## ABOUT ME

A passionate environmental professional with experience navigating the climate change and policy landscape, I combine a deep understanding of environmental science from my advanced university degree with proven expertise in project management and communication. I excel at crafting compelling reports and proposals on diverse themes - from climate mitigation strategies to sustainable development initiatives - thanks to my extensive freelance writing background of 6+ years.

Skilled in leading the technical implementation of donor-funded projects, I have a strong track record of delivering impactful results for government entities and international organizations. I thrive in complex environments and am skilled in writing grant or research proposals, coordinating with stakeholders, and data analysis to create meaningful and sustainable solutions.

## WORK EXPERIENCE

01/02/2024 – CURRENT Islamabad, Pakistan

**RESEARCHER AND RESEARCH EDITOR** POLICY RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR EQUITABLE DEVELOPMENT (PRIED)

- Conduct and compile desk research on the themes of climate change, renewable energy, coal phase-out, and green hydrogen in technical and policy terms.
- Evaluate the potential of Thar coal power plants and their phase-out under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).
- Studying the causal relationship between lightning strike cases with coal power plants and mining activities in the Thar region of Pakistan.
- Coordination and communication with government officials, policymakers, civil society organizations, other climate consultancies, think tanks, and academia to mediate community-focused campaigns and climate justice and advocacy.
- Management of social media accounts, as well as coordination of weekly meeting agendas and outreach of the Pakistan Renewable Energy Coalition (PREC) PRIED is a partner of.
- Compilation of weekly local and international news within the above-mentioned themes for PRIED's weekly and biannual media monitors.

**Website** <https://www.priedpk.org/>

01/04/2023 – 31/10/2023 Islamabad, Pakistan

**TECHNICAL TEAM LEAD** GREEN GROWTH CONSULTANTS

- Compiled the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and Implementation Plan documentation for Pakistan at the national and provincial levels to include data from all provinces and the Federal Capital.
- Conducted desk research for Pakistan's GHG emission-intensive sectors to scope out viable options for the implementation of voluntary carbon markets (VCMs). Also curated a framework to mediate the inception of VCMs in Pakistan for the government and the Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination (MoCC&EC).
- Led teams of interns and research assistants to curate project and donor proposals and served as a technical lead of the Ministry's flagship project "COP in my City" funded by UN Women, UNDP, and UNICEF Pakistan, organized training sessions for youth participants from all over Pakistan by experts in the field of climate sciences, journalism, and social development, managed social media platforms and content of Youth4Climate Pakistan, and coordinated with activists and professionals to streamline project implementation. Also conducted field visits to all 8 regions and provinces of Pakistan for on-ground competitions, served as a moderator for the sessions on climate change and relevant themes, and compiled the field and project reports for final submissions to donors.
- Led teams of 10-15 youth activists from 8 regions of Pakistan each to compile and curate citizen's shadow reports for each region on the 5 key pillars of the Clean Green Pakistan Index (Clean Drinking Water, Sanitation, Hygiene, Solid Waste Management, and Tree Plantation) by conducting online and field surveys and compiling the "Pink Report" as part of donor (UNICEF) requirements.

01/03/2022 – 31/03/2023 Islamabad, Pakistan

**RESEARCH ASSOCIATE** GREEN GROWTH CONSULTANTS

- Conducted desk research to assist in content and report creation on topics of Sustainability, Climate Change, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Climate Mitigation and Adaptation, Air, Water, and Soil Pollution, Waste

Management and Plastic Pollution, Circular Economy, Health and Climate Change, Renewable Energy, and Climate Policies especially focused on Gender & Youth Perspectives.

- Assisted Project Manager in research and project proposal creation and development of terms of reference for internationally funded projects by organizations such as SACEP, World Bank, UN organizations, and ADB.

01/02/2016 – 28/02/2022 Islamabad, Pakistan

**FREELANCE WRITER** SELF-EMPLOYED

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- Worked part-time as a freelance writer and proofreader, and offered tutoring and help to international students for essay writing, paraphrasing, academic writing, and play and poem analysis.
- Tutored Biological sciences and English majors in Baccalaureate academic courses.
- Curated business reports, and finance and business plans for small businesses overseas and locally.

## ● EDUCATION AND TRAINING

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05/05/2022 – 31/07/2022 Toulouse, France

**ERASMUS INTERSHIP TRAINEE** INP - ENSAT Toulouse

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- Acquisition and standardization of techniques in Ecotoxicology, Bioinformatics, and Molecular Biology used at ECOLAB, in the Context of Genotoxicity and Antibiotic Resistance, and their Effects on *Xenopus laevis* and other bioindicator species.
- The aim of the internship was familiarization with techniques used in ecotoxicology.
- The project and research aimed to evaluate the effects of carbon nanoparticles and antibiotics on model species and the effects of these pollutants on the physiology and reproductive health.

**Website** <https://www.ensat.fr/en/index.html> | **Field of study** Ecotoxicology

03/09/2018 – 15/08/2022 Islamabad, Pakistan

**MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE** National University of Sciences and Technology, Islamabad

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- The research was conducted to confirm the presence of antibiotic-resistance genes in uncultured bacterial diversity that comprises 99% of total bacterial populations in the soil.
- Molecular docking analysis confirmed the binding and this deactivation of antibiotics with bacterial antibiotic resistance genes.
- The research has clinical implications and measures the extent of ecotoxicity in agricultural soil environments caused by antibiotic misuse by humans.

**Website** <https://nust.edu.pk/> | **Field of study** Environmental Sciences |

**Thesis** Molecular Docking Analysis of Uncultured Bacterial Antibiotic Resistance Proteins Retrieved from a Functional Metagenomic Database.

15/06/2016 – 31/08/2016 Islamabad, Pakistan

**RESEARCH INTERN** National Institute of Genomics and Advanced Biotechnology - NARC

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- The purpose of the internship was familiarization with laboratory techniques within molecular biology, genomics, and biotechnology.
- The purpose of the study was to identify the best breeds of buffalo for milk production to increase yield through selective breeding.

**Website** <http://nigab.parc.gov.pk/> | **Field of study** Biotechnology, Genomics |

**Thesis** Study of Gene Polymorphism Using Molecular Markers in Nilli Ravi and Sahiwal Buffalo Breeds of Pakistan.

01/09/2014 – 03/07/2018 Islamabad, Pakistan

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN BIOSCIENCES** COMSATS University Islamabad

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- The study aimed to evaluate people's awareness regarding where their fish/seafood is sourced from, as well as the environmental impacts of the fishing industry.
- Applications of the study are in market analytics as well as environmental impacts and public awareness levels.

**Website** <https://www.comsats.edu.pk/> | **Field of study** Biosciences, Bioinformatics |

**Thesis** Survey Based Study on the Fish and Seafood Consumption Preferences of the people of Twin Cities (Islamabad-Rawalpindi) of Pakistan.

## ● LANGUAGE SKILLS

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Mother tongue(s): **URDU**

Other language(s):

	UNDERSTANDING		SPEAKING		WRITING
	Listening	Reading	Spoken production	Spoken interaction	
<b>ENGLISH</b>	C2	C2	C2	C2	C2
<b>FRENCH</b>	A1	A2	A1	A1	A1
<b>ARABIC</b>	A2	A2	A1	A1	A2

Levels: A1 and A2: Basic user; B1 and B2: Independent user; C1 and C2: Proficient user

## DIGITAL SKILLS

Phylogenetic analysis by MEGA | Molecular Docking Analysis | Biological tools: MEGA, Jalview, Clustal, MAFFT, BLAST etc | knowledge of presentation platforms (PowerPoint, Prezi, Canva) | AutoDock, AutoDock Vina (Expert) | Protein Modelling | BIOVIA Discovery Studio Visualizer | Molecular Analysis Software (PyMol, Avogadro, OpenBabel, Chimera, MOE etc) | R/RStudio | C Programming Language | Computer literacy(Microsoft Word,Excel,Office,Powerpoint,Outlook,Adobe Photoshop) | • Statistical Analysis using Microsoft Excel, SPSS, and Minitab software | Sequence Alignment

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### NETWORKS AND MEMBERSHIPS

20/01/2023 – CURRENT Remote

**Certified Impact Rater- Impaakt Platform** Perform monthly ratings based on the environmental and social impact of companies like Amazon, Nike, and Apple (of real-time data on emissions and footprints), which aids businesses and investors to make informed decisions about their investments into more sustainable projects and companies. The ratings cover all SDG themes.

01/03/2019 – 30/06/2019 Islamabad

**NUST Saddle Club** Developed Equestrian skills after 4 months of horse-riding classes, including mounting and dismounting a horse, controlling a horse's movement to walk, canter, and trot, and learning to use the correct riding aids and safety practices.

01/08/2018 – 30/09/2019 Islamabad

**NUST Environment Club - Social Media Executive** Handled the social media profiles of NUST Environment Club and posted relevant and carefully curated content regarding environmental activism to spread awareness, alongside the coverage of all on-ground events and activism and awareness campaigns.

### HOBBIES AND INTERESTS

Amateur Pâtissière and Chef

Volunteering and Community Service

Equestrian Training

Environmental Activism and Awareness Campaigns

Graphics Design and Video Editing

Traveling and Exploring New Cultures