

Research Internship
Bharat Rural Livelihoods Foundation

Position: Research Intern

Organization: Bharat Rural Livelihoods Foundation (BRLF)

Location: Maharashtra, Bodoland Territory Region (BTR), Assam

Number of Positions: 12 (Maharashtra (6), BTR (6))

Reports To: Research Fellow

Duration: 30 working days between 12th August 2026 – 30th September 2026

Stipend: INR 12000/-

Application Deadline: August 7th, 2026 (Rolling basis)

ORGANISATION BACKGROUND

Bharat Rural Livelihoods Foundation (www.brllf.in) is an autonomous body established in 2013 under the Ministry of Rural Development, as a decision of the Union Cabinet of the Government of India. With a vision to transform the lives and livelihoods of the most vulnerable populations across India, BRLF plays a crucial role in fostering and facilitating civil society action in partnership with the government and people's institutions. Its mandate encompasses a range of objectives, including bridging the gap between program outlays and outcomes, improving implementation of government flagship programs, providing grant support to civil society organisations (CSOs), and promoting partnerships for inclusive, sustainable development.

BRLF has a pan-India mandate and focuses on tribal geographies, particularly those in the Central Indian tribal belt and Northeast India. The focus has been on the states with the highest concentration of tribal populations: Gujarat, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Telangana, Odisha, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Assam, and Mizoram. To achieve its objectives, BRLF follows a networked approach to nurture the appropriate institutional and programmatic ecosystem to enhance interventions in sustainable livelihoods for tribal rural communities. The collaborative model actively engages various key stakeholders, including the government, private philanthropies, the public and private sectors under corporate social responsibility (CSR), Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), and Community-based Institutions (CBOs and PRIs). The unique collaborative model facilitated by BRLF successfully harnesses the collective strengths of these institutions to design and scale rural development initiatives effectively. For more details, please visit our website: www.brllf.in.

ABOUT THE STUDY

The Mid-Course Correction Assessment (MCCA) is an independent mixed-methods assessment of the ongoing BRLF implemented rural livelihood and natural resource management interventions in Maharashtra and Bodoland Territorial Region (BTR), Assam. The assessment will

review the progress made in the implementation of these projects, review the institutional and programme performance, assess the emerging livelihood outcomes and identify the operational gaps that need corrective action in the remaining implementation period.

The study combines quantitative household surveys with qualitative research methods including Key Informant Interviews (KIIs), Focus Group Discussions (FGDs), Most Significant Change (MSC) stories, institutional assessments and secondary data review. The assessment will examine the project's performance in core thematic areas such as institutional strengthening, women's leadership, community institutions, livelihood enhancement, governance, climate resilience, natural resource management and programme delivery.

The findings will produce evidence-based recommendations to strengthen implementation, improve programme effectiveness, strengthen institutional capacities and maximise project outcomes. The assessment will also contribute to BRLF's growing knowledge base on rural livelihoods, tribal development, community institutions and sustainable natural resource management, and inform future programme design, policy engagement and adaptive management.

JOB PURPOSE

This is a great opportunity for early-career researchers and scholars with an interest in applied research, programme evaluation, rural development, sustainable livelihoods and natural resource management. Researchers will participate in the Mid-Course Correction Assessment team to help generate evidence for enhancing ongoing development interventions in Maharashtra and Bodoland Territorial Region (BTR), Assam. The role is responsible for assisting with the collection of quantitative and qualitative data in the field, digital household surveys, focus group discussions, key informant interviews, assisting in transcription and coding of qualitative information, data cleaning, and validation. Researchers will also help to record field observations, check project records and gather evidence to assess programme performance and progress of implementation. Team members will work closely with BRLF, implementing partners, community institutions and government stakeholders to gain hands-on experience in mixed-methods research, monitoring and evaluation, impact assessment, participatory rural appraisal and evidence-based programme improvement.

SCOPE OF WORK

- Collect field data from approximately 800 sampled households using a household survey based on CAPI in five districts of Maharashtra - Gadchiroli, Gondia, Nanded, Yavatmal and Chandrapur and three districts of Bodoland Territorial Region - Baska, Tamulpur and Udalguri.

- Undertake qualitative research activities such as facilitation of Focus Group Discussions (FGDs), Key Informant Interviews (KIIs), and documentation of field observations to understand community perspectives and programme outcomes.
- Check, clean, validate, and organise quantitative and qualitative data sets for further analysis, ensuring data quality and management, and assisting with interview transcriptions.
- Support stakeholder meetings and field coordination by providing assistance in meetings, workshops and interactions with implementing partners, community institutions and government stakeholders.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

An M.Phil./PhD (pursuing) student or PG completed in Agriculture, Agri-business, Geography, Economics, Development Studies, Rural Management, Public Policy, Public Administration, Social Work, or any other related discipline from a reputed institution directly relevant to the scope of work.

- Proven ability to work with multi-disciplinary teams of highly qualified researchers.
- Excellent written and communication skills in English.
- Candidates applying for BTR must have excellent knowledge of spoken and written Assamese and Bodo.
- Candidates applying for Maharashtra must have excellent knowledge of spoken and written Marathi.
- Proven skills in transacting Quantitative / Qualitative data collection tools in rural development, livelihood domain.
- The intern must have experience in conducting data collection using qualitative and quantitative CAPI tools.
- Must be proficient in data cleaning using MS Excel, and familiar with CAPI-based data collection platforms.
- Knowledge of SPSS/R desirable.
- Work independently and be organised to ensure that tasks are completed on time.
- Results orientation with attention to detail.
- Willingness to travel extensively.

The research intern must have access to a personal working smartphone and laptop to engage with the assignment. BRLF does not issue laptops/mobile phones for internship assignments.

Application Process:

Eligible candidates interested in this position are requested to apply through [LINK](#). The intern is expected to use their personal laptop to complete the internship assignment.

Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis, with early submission strongly encouraged and a final application deadline of August 7, 2026.

BRLF is an equal opportunity organization without any discrimination by virtue of religious belief, social class, caste, special ability, or gender. Women are encouraged to apply.

BRLF reserves the right to close this recruitment as the position is filled from applications received.

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