



# Megha Phadkay

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## EDUCATION

**MSc in Environmental Policy and Management, University of Bristol** 2024-2025

**B.A. L.L.B. [Bachelor of Law], ILS Law College, University of Pune:** First Class with Distinction 2019- 2024  
Relevant modules: Environmental law, International Economic Law, Political Science, Economics

**Standard 12 Board Examinations:** 89.54% (top 1 percentile)

**Standard 10 Board Examinations:** 97.80% (top 1 percentile)

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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

- Climate Policy Research Assistant (Consultant), Pune International Centre** *Jan 2023-April 2024*
  - Authored policy papers on Urban Climate Governance presented to Niti Aayog, Government of India.
  - Collaborated with the local government to prepare a policy for increasing Pune's Carbon Sequestration potential.
  - Launched India's first Climate Neutrality Facilitation Cell within our City Municipal Corporation.
  - Developed the YouCAN initiative and the Youth Manifesto to include our demands in the local electoral agenda.
  - Organised Stakeholder consultations on Climate and Renewable Energy Policies
- Climate and Economic Policy Research intern, Climate Collective Pune** *Jan 2023- June 2023*
  - Researched Climate Finance and Green Masala Bonds.
  - Analysed the IPCC Synthesis report and wrote a research note.
  - Conducted stakeholder interviews and create reports
  - Organised Sustainability conferences
- Executive Board Member and Networking Head (India), ThinkOcean** *Jan 2022-Nov 2022*
  - Ideated, developed and executed youth-driven projects on Climate Action and Sustainability.
  - Initiated and organised community projects on legal education and waste management.
- Climate Risk and Advisory Intern, Clifford Chance London** *April 2021-May 2021*
  - Reviewed and commented on Heads of Terms for an Emission Reductions Purchase Agreement.
  - Management induction on climate-related disclosure duties.
  - Client counselling on pending Carbon-taxation US legislation.
- Legal Research Intern, Adv. Sreeja Chakraborty** *May 2020-June 2022*
  - Assisted on pending cases in NGT Pune and the Supreme Court of India.
  - Prepared a comprehensive report on the working of NGT and its critical cases analyses
- Legal Research Intern, Centre for Environmental Law, Nirma University** *Dec 2020- Jan 2021*

- Researched and prepared an analysis report on:
  - i. EIA Notification 2004-05 and the consequent amendments.
  - ii. Public Participation in the process of granting environmental clearances in India.
  - iii. Current status and management of scientific information related to the Indian environment.
- Prepared case briefs for the Supreme Court cases on Environmental Impact Assessment.

## 7. Founder of Roots of Change

- The organisation aims to conduct Climate Vulnerability Assessments to map the vulnerabilities of impacted communities to help better plan resilience strategies.

## 8. Head, Environmental Law Cell, ILS Law College

*Jan 2021- June 2024*

- Launched the ILS Green Club in partnership with the Government of Maharashtra and UNICEF India.
- Organised and led sustainability projects in and around campus.
- Conducted seminars on contemporary environmental policy issues and science.

## ADVOCACY EXPERIENCE:

1. Selected to represent India as a **Climate Leader** at the International Climate Justice camp organised by **Greenpeace International**.
  - Participated in and conducted workshops for Climate leaders representing over 110 countries.
  - Selected as a 'Living Book' to narrate my Climate Action story and my work in this field.
2. Selected as a **Climate Action Champion** by the **US Department of State** and ORF
  - Took part, along with over 50 South Asian Youth Delegates from 5 different countries, in shaping public debate and policy on climate change.
  - Presented the position of Least Developed Countries in the Climate Crisis.
  - Recommended solutions to build climate resilience within systems and communities in the region.
3. Selected as one of the 50 **Youth Representatives** by **UNICEF** to formulate a Youth Policy statement for the **Government of India**.
  - Collaborated with the Government of India to give recommendations for the implementation of NAPCC (National Action Plan on Climate Change) and SAPCC (State Action Plan on Climate Change) of Maharashtra.
4. Selected as a **Global Changemaker** in an international initiative called MOVHERS
  - One among the 75 women changemakers chosen from 140 countries, to participate in the first female-led global transformational leadership movement: MOVHERS.
  - Designated as an '**Ocean Conservation and Policy**' Fellow.
  - Collaborated with experts to increase Ocean literacy and set up a Climate Action and Equity focused Advisory Board for impacted coastline communities.
5. Selected to give recommendations to the 'Energy Conservation Sustainability Building Code' of India.

## RESEARCH & PUBLICATIONS:

### 1. Book

- Chapter on “Building Institutional and Governance Resilience” in the book “Sustainable and Climate Resilient Development Challenges for India”.

Other chapters are written by Mr Ejaz Ghani (former Economic advisor at the World Bank) and Padmashri awardee Prof. Amitav Mallik (Founder Director, Laser and Technology Center, Ministry of Defense, India)

## 2. Research Articles:

- “Assessing Environmental Jurisprudence in India: An analysis of the National Green Tribunal’s judicial structure and institutional effectiveness”, International Journal of Environmental Protection and Policy
- “The Indian Adaptation of Constitutional Mercy Provision”, International Journal of Law Management and Humanities
- “Animal Experimentation- Origin, Challenges, and Developments”, Abhivyakti Law Journal
- “National Adaptation Plans: an Indian perspective”, International journal for legal research and analysis
- “Regulating Artificial Intelligence systems”, International journal of advanced legal research

## 3. Policy Papers:

- “Redesigning Urban Local Bodies for Climate Action”, Pune International Center
- “Urban Carbon Sequestration of Pune Municipal Region”, Pune International Center

## 4. Paper presentations:

- “CBDR- from the TWAIL Perspective”, paper presented at S.P. Sathe 16th International Conference 2022 on ‘Politico-Legal Dimensions of Climate Change: Past, Present, and Future’.
- “ Designing sustainable waterholes for wildlife at Nagzira Wildlife Sanctuary”, statistical advisory project report presented at Homi Bhabha Young Scientist examination

## 5. Op-eds (In newspapers)

- “Harnessing youth potential to steer conversations on climate crisis”, The Times of India

## 6. Blogs:

- “Spicing up Finance: How green masala bonds can help India battle the Climate Crisis, EcoFusion magazine, Climate Collective Pune
- “Saving the Wetlands”, ILS Hariyali Environmental Law cell newsletter
- “Unboxing the IPCC Synthesis Report: What makes it so special”

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## CERTIFICATIONS:

1. Global Youth Climate Training Program, Oxford University (Net Zero)
2. Climate Vulnerability Assessment & Resilience Building for Urban and Semi-urban Communities, INECC
3. Constitution of India and Environmental Governance, Government of India (IIT Madras and IISC Bangalore)- **All India Rank 1**
4. Circular Economy and Resource Efficiency workshop, IIT Bobmay, Indian Youth Climate Network
5. Climate Change Litigation Course, We the Humans
6. Understanding the nuances of Climate Change in the Indian subcontinent, IMPRI
7. International Climate change: Law and Policy, Newcastle University

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## AWARDS & HONOURS:

- 1st Prize at National Essay Writing Competition, Vidhi Sanhita. (2021)
  - Member of **MENSA** International (99 percentile rank on Intelligence test) since 2012.
  - Selected by the **Ministry of Science & Technology India** for DST Inspire Internship Camp (top 1% of meritorious students in India) 2018.
  - Government of Maharashtra State scholarship for securing maximum marks in 10th and 12th board exams.
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### **COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT & VOLUNTEERING EXPERIENCE:**

- Community Organiser at Forengers organisation(conducted weekly public awareness drives regarding sustainability and environmental conservation. Helped in growing a community of 400+ youngsters)
  - Participated in Human-wildlife interaction & bird counting drive by Dr Dhanashree Paranjpe at Morachi Chincholi.
  - Conducted an Environment Awareness and fundraising program at Balgandharva Rangmandir.
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