

## **Volunteering Opportunity: Drive a community-oriented storytelling initiative while living in the Uttarakhand Himalayas!**

Voices of Rural India began as a pandemic project, to build digital storytelling skills among rural communities who had lost their tourism-related livelihoods. In the process, we created perhaps India's first platform to host stories told by rural storytellers, in their own voices. Our website currently hosts 50+ stories, across 10 states, in 7 different languages.

For the next phase of VoRI, we're looking for someone passionate about storytelling and connecting with local communities, to drive our storytelling, partnership and social media efforts. The volunteer will need to be based out of Sarmoli, a beautiful village in the Munsiyari tehsil of Uttarakhand, and work closely with one of the VoRI's co-founders. The volunteer will be expected to cover their own subsidized cost for lodging and food, though we can help fundraise if necessary.

### **Responsibilities**

- Drive VoRI's storytelling efforts, including working closely with community-based tourism organizations and non-profits, and sometimes directly with rural storytellers, to develop, flesh out, translate, edit and publish stories. The volunteer will receive guidance from the VoRI team as well as support from VoRI's network of volunteers when needed, but will need to take ownership to drive the process.
- Manage VoRI's social media channels (primarily Instagram and Twitter, with a bit of Facebook), especially to enable stories to reach a wider audience.
- Build a network of remote volunteers to receive support for translation, editing, social media, SEO and other tasks.
- The volunteer is welcome to develop modules and conduct storytelling sessions in local languages to support community storytellers.

### **Desired skills / experience**

- Past experience in storytelling, translation, editing and/or publishing

- Past experience in working respectfully with rural communities
- Ability to build relationships with partner organizations, community storytellers and existing / new volunteers
- Familiarity with Wordpress, social media channels and tools like Canva
- Patience to cope with what can sometimes be a long process from the birth of a story to its publishing – especially for people who haven't traditionally been exposed to the digital world
- A passion for VoRI's mission – to create a digital space for voices that have long been unheard

### **The offer**

- Live in one of India's most beautiful mountain villages – Sarmoli, in the lap of the snow-capped Panchachuli
- Bond with a rural community and experience their organic, earthy, sustainable way of life
- Be part of one-of-a-kind initiative to challenge the status quo of storytelling

**Expected period of commitment:** Minimum 6 months

**Expected cost:** 15,000 per month (including accommodations and all meals). We can help you raise funds if needed.

To apply, please send an email to [voicesofruralindia@gmail.com](mailto:voicesofruralindia@gmail.com), with your motivation, past experience, period of commitment, and what makes you the best person for this role. Shortlisted applicants will be contacted for an interview.

This is a rolling application, and will remain open till the right person has been found. All the best!