



Many engineering students in University have the opportunity to research and work on a project at some point in their studies. These students are in search of exciting, meaningful projects which give them the opportunity to expand and apply their knowledge while benefiting those in need around the world. Unfortunately, many students lack knowledge of specific, existing problems in developing areas, and may not realize how their skills could be applied to benefit others.

Developing areas, such as rural India, provide a host of engineering problems that could be broken down into a manageable size for a student project. Significant progress could be made on the specific problems of communities in these developing areas through proper application of student skills and knowledge.

The engINdia team is made up of a dedicated group of engineering students from Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the United States and the University of Cambridge in England. We are organizing an expedition to two communities in Maharashtra, India: Talegaon and Pabal. With the help of local students in India as well as the host community, the team will gather information about the local environment and resources and on specific engineering problems occurring in the community with the goal of producing well-defined projects that students can attempt to solve.

Because engINdia is made up of university students, we have the unique ability to describe problems in terms other students can understand. Contact has been made with organizations within the universities, such as Engineers without Borders at Cambridge and the IDEA Competition at MIT, who can effectively distribute information on these project possibilities to university students. The team is being advised by Professor Deepak Phatak from the India Institute of Technology Bombay (IITB) as well as Professor Peter Guthrie, who is responsible for the establishment of the Department of Engineering's Centre for Sustainable Development at Cambridge University. engINdia is endorsed by the Cambridge University Expeditions Committee and the Royal Geographic Society.

We have the motivation, organizational skills and endorsement that we need to make this expedition a success. However, we also need you -- before engINdia's expedition can become a reality, we need to fundraise a budget of nearly \$20,000. We ask for your help: please help us seize this opportunity to make a significant contribution both to communities in rural India and to students worldwide! You can contribute to an organization that is striving to raise awareness of sustainable development among university students and using engineering to raise the standard of living for communities everywhere. For more information about engINdia and sponsorship details, please see the attached documents and email engINdia@mit.edu with any additional questions. We thank you in advance for your contribution of money or expedition supplies.

Sincerely,

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Mariel John, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Class of 2006
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