

Announce Case Competition on  
**Governance of Commons**

Variously described as “Common Pool Resources”, “Common Property Resources”, “Common Lands”, “Open Ground” etc; “Commons” have been an important and inseparable part of humanity. They have been life support systems and have impacted various cultures, traditions, organisations and environments. They are essential for the livelihood requirements of the poor to be met. It is common knowledge that "Commons" are of ecological, social, cultural, religious, sporting and recreational value. Issues related to “Commons” have drawn attention of the academia, practitioners, policy makers, and researchers. It is significant to note that Prof. Elinor Ostrom, a political scientist, won the Nobel Prize this year for her work on the subject.

In order to encourage and propagate interest among research scholars having focus in this area the case competition is organized as a part of the 13<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference of The International Association for the Study of the Commons, “Sustaining Commons: Sustaining Our Future”, to be held at Hyderabad, India, during January 10 – 14, 2011.

**Theme:** Governance of the Commons

Theme focuses on illustrations of local community initiatives for improved governance and management of natural resources in response to privatization and centralization of government control on natural resources including common lands, forests, grazing lands, rivers, ponds, tanks, lakes etc.

Case should cover the following aspects:

- Context
- Triggers for local community initiative
- Involvement of different stakeholders
- Response of the administrative apparatus
- Enabling or disabling policy initiatives
- Motivation and mechanisms for sustaining the initiative
- Scale up possibilities
- Implications for theory, policy and programmatic action

## **Who can participate?**

This case competition is open to doctoral and post-doctoral research scholar (s) having interest in the theme and registered with any university or institution. The case should be original and should not have been either presented / published or being considered for presentation / publication elsewhere.

## **How to participate?**

Interested participants need to submit a synopsis of the case proposed to be taken up. The synopsis should not exceed 500 words. The synopsis will be reviewed by review committee and short listed for invitation to workshop to be held at IRMA. The workshop will focus on finalization of the framework and the procedure to conduct the case study. The written case needs to be submitted and presented in another workshop to be conducted at IRMA before acceptance.

Synopsis, case proposal for first workshop, and draft case for finalization workshop should be submitted online. The accepted format is MSWord and PDF. Only one submission per contributor is allowed.

## **Conduct of case study**

The researcher should choose local community initiatives anywhere in India. Actual expenses for conducting the fieldwork will be reimbursed to a limited extent of Rs.10,000.

## **Attendance in the workshops at IRMA**

Short listed participants will be reimbursed expenses for local conveyance and AC – 2 tier train fare by shortest route against submission of supporting documents including proof of identification issued by respective university or institution. Hospitality will be extended free of cost to all the participants during the workshops. Participants are required to finalise the case based on the feedback received during the second workshop and submit before leaving IRMA.

## **Outcome of the case competition**

Selected participants will be invited to attend the conference free of registration fee. A compendium of selected cases will be published during the conference. Competition committee will select cases for inclusion in the compendium and three best cases. Invitation for attending the conference will be extended to contributors of the three best cases.

## **Format for submission**

Written submission should be in English, not exceeding 15,000 words (including annexure), double space, Times New Roman (font size 12) (excluding footnotes and references), and A4 size. Annexure may be provided at the end.

## **Dates to remember**

Synopsis submission	– 15 <sup>th</sup> September, 2010
Synopsis acceptance notification	– 16 <sup>th</sup> September, 2010
First workshop	– 6 <sup>th</sup> – 8 <sup>th</sup> October, 2010
Case submission	– 17 <sup>th</sup> November, 2010
Case acceptance notification	– 22 <sup>nd</sup> November, 2010
Case finalization workshop	– 2 <sup>nd</sup> – 4 <sup>th</sup> December, 2010
Acceptance notification for inclusion in compendium	– 10 <sup>th</sup> December, 2010
Invitation to selected participants for the conference	– 15 <sup>th</sup> December, 2010

## **Communication**

Communication related to this case competition should be addressed to [casecompetition@irma.ac.in](mailto:casecompetition@irma.ac.in)

Visit following link on IRMA website for details  
[https://www.irma.ac.in/irmafes/institute\\_13th.php](https://www.irma.ac.in/irmafes/institute_13th.php)