

# Mashqura Fareedi

**Location:** Darjeeling, West Bengal, India

**LinkedIn:** [Mashqura Fareedi](#)

**Email:** [mashqura@easternhimalayanfoundation.org](mailto:mashqura@easternhimalayanfoundation.org)

**Phone:** +91 9999022576



## Professional Summary

Accomplished social impact leader with 20+ years of experience across governance, grant making and youth leadership. Proven expertise in strategic partnership development, driving collaborations and policy advocacy. Extensive experience with international organisations and national CSOs, mobilising resources and building capacity for large-scale social change. Currently leading the [Eastern Himalayan Foundation](#) to develop youth leadership in north eastern India.

## Experience

### Founder & CEO

[Eastern Himalayan Foundation \(EHF\)](#) — Darjeeling, West Bengal

#### October 2021 – Present

- Innovation in Education & Leadership: Launched the Trailblazer Fellowship and EmpowerED programs, reaching young graduates and college students to build critical skills for personal and community development
- Strategic Scaling: Secured early funding and incubation support from Azim Premji Foundation and IIMB's NSRCEL Impact Orbit program, expanding EHF's footprint to 2 districts in 2 years.

### Consultant

[Azim Premji Foundation](#) — Darjeeling & Kalimpong Districts, West Bengal

#### April 2021 – October 2021

- Needs Assessment & Strategy: Conducted an in-depth situational assessment to identify systemic gaps and potential opportunities for grant making

### Senior Manager/Lead, Strengthening Last Mile Delivery of Welfare

[Azim Premji Foundation](#) — Bengaluru, India

#### August 2017 – April 2021

- Government-Nonprofit Collaboration: Led the creation of a Program Management Unit (PMU) within the Dept. of Tribal Welfare, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh, to enhance welfare service delivery in tribal regions
- Led grantmaking for nonprofits supporting delivery of welfare services

## Senior Campaigner

Amnesty International India — Pune, India

### December 2015 – July 2017

- Human Rights & Advocacy: Designed grassroots interventions to tackle under-reporting of sexual violence, engaging local communities and authorities.

## Program Manager

[Association for Democratic Reforms \(ADR\)](#) — National, India

### October 2010 – November 2015

- Election Transparency & Policy Advocacy: Managed ADR's flagship Election Watch program, coordinated CSOs nationwide to campaign for political & electoral reform

## Additional Experience

### Community Organizing/Research (2004 - 2010)

1. Senior Team Member, [Pragya](#) — Coordinated enterprise development in the Himalayas.
2. Member, [Kalpavriksh Environmental Action Group](#) — Led campaigns on biodiversity and conservation, working with indigenous communities across India and Nepal. Contributed to IUCN's study on Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas (ICCAs) in South Asia
3. Project Officer, [Darjeeling Ladenla Road Prerna](#) — Institutional building of the only small farmers' cooperative in Darjeeling.
4. Program Intern, [Participatory Research In Asia](#) (PRIA) — Supported Panchayat initiatives in Himachal Pradesh.

### Student Activism & Research (1998 - 2002)

- Co-founded Socially Active and Creative Youths' Association (SACYA) while in high school that advocated for social change through street theatre
- Co-authored [Area and Issue profile of Darjeeling](#)

## Skills

- Strategic Leadership & Team Building
- Program Design & Implementation
- Partnership Development
- Monitoring & Evaluation
- Advocacy & Policy Engagement
- Community Mobilization & Capacity Building

## Education

Master of Social Work (MSW)

University of Mumbai, College of Social Work, Nirmala Niketan — Mumbai, India  
2002 – 2004

SP Jain Institute of Management and Research (SPJIMR) — Mumbai, India

## Languages

Fluent in English, Hindi, and Nepali