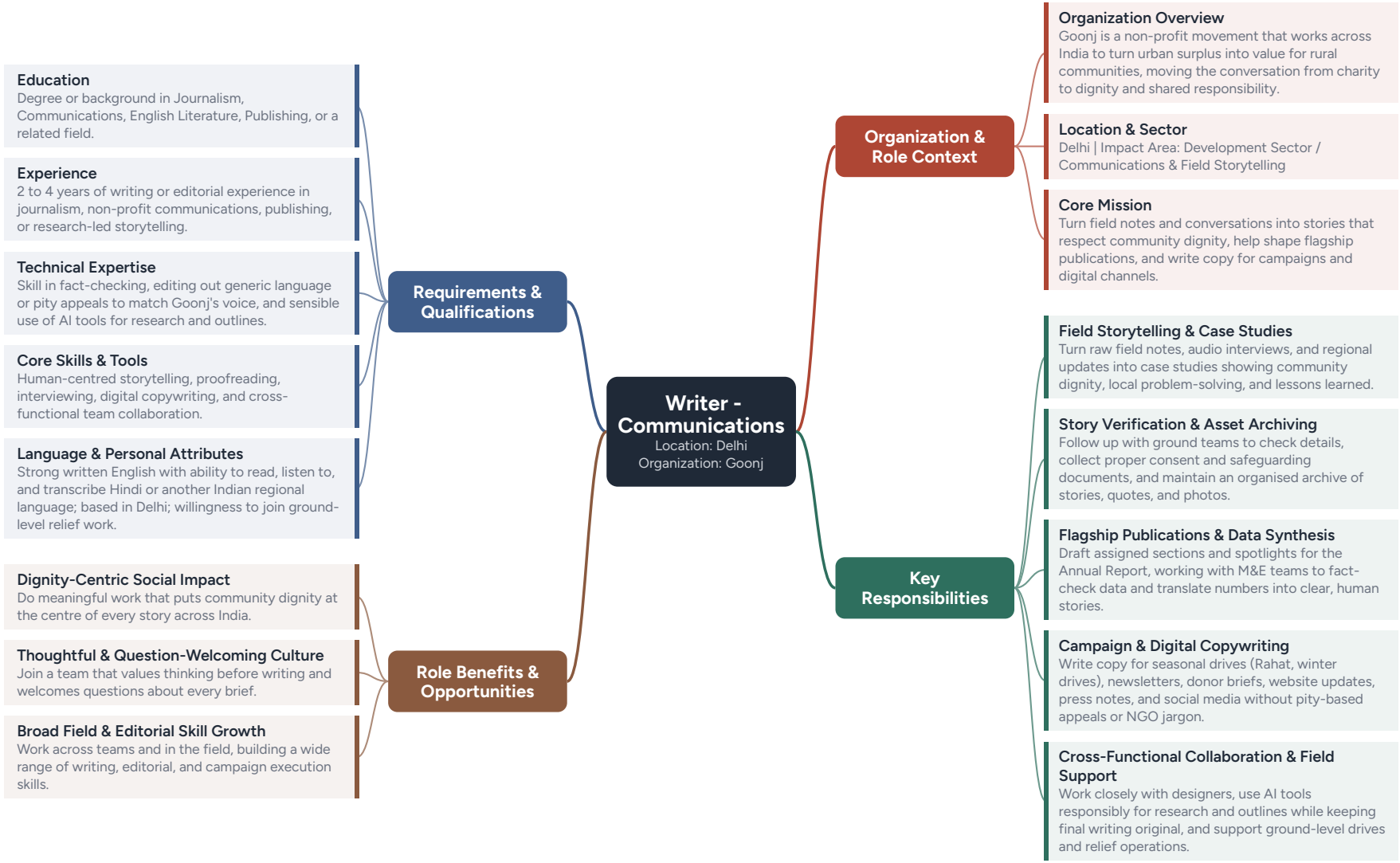
Goonj

Writer - Content & Editorial Development in Delhi | Goonj

Delhi, Delhi · full-time · mid level · Competitive · Closes 31 Dec 2026

Application Assist →

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Skills this role needs

Impact storytelling	Editing and proofreading	Fact-checking	Campaign and social media copywriting	Hindi to English transcription

Job description

Goonj

Goonj works across India to turn what cities throw away into something of value for rural communities. For over twenty years, it has moved the conversation from charity to shared responsibility, and treated the people it works with as equal partners, not passive receivers of help. Its work centres on dignity, the reuse of materials, and community participation, including relief during disasters. At Goonj, communication is not about chasing likes. It is about honouring the people in each story and building real connections between people, materials and purpose. This role sits within Goonj's Communication Team, which shares these stories with donors, partners and the public.

Role

Goonj is looking for a careful, versatile writer who sees writing as clear thinking put on the page. You will turn field notes and conversations into stories that respect communities, help shape flagship publications, and write copy for campaigns and digital channels. Writing is your main focus, but the work is shared and flexible, so you will also step in during campaigns, collection drives and disaster relief efforts.

Responsibilities

- Turn raw field notes, audio interviews and regional team updates into case studies that show community dignity, local problem-solving and lessons learned.
- Follow up with ground teams to check details, understand the human context, and collect proper consent and safeguarding documents.
- Keep an organised archive of verified stories, quotes and photos that the whole organisation can use.
- Draft assigned sections, theme spotlights and case profiles for the Annual Report and other publications, guided by senior editors.
- Work with programme and M&E (monitoring and evaluation) teams to check numbers, dates and places, and turn data into clear, human stories, then fact-check and proofread drafts from different teams.
- Write copy for seasonal drives such as Rahat (disaster relief) and winter drives, as well as newsletters, donor briefs, website updates, press notes, emailers and social media posts, avoiding pity-based appeals and NGO jargon.
- Work closely with designers so words and visuals support each other, and use AI (artificial intelligence) tools sensibly for research, outlines and transcription while keeping the judgment, fact-checking and final writing your own.
- Take part in organisation-wide campaigns, collection drives, relief operations and events where quick teamwork and communication are needed.

Requirements

- 2 to 4 years of writing or editorial experience in journalism, non-profit communications, publishing or research-led storytelling.
- Strong written English, with the ability to read, listen to and transcribe conversations and field notes in Hindi or another Indian regional language.
- A natural feel for human-centred stories that avoid sensational, victim-focused or corporate language.
- Skill in fact-checking, proofreading and editing out generic language to match Goonj's own voice.
- Comfort with changing priorities, field realities and a small team, with humility and initiative.
- Willingness to be based in Delhi and join ground-level drives, relief work and events when needed.

Benefits

- Do meaningful work that puts community dignity at the centre of every story.
- Join a team that values thinking before writing and welcomes questions about every brief.

- Work across teams and in the field, building a wide range of writing and editorial skills.
- Competitive pay.

Apply

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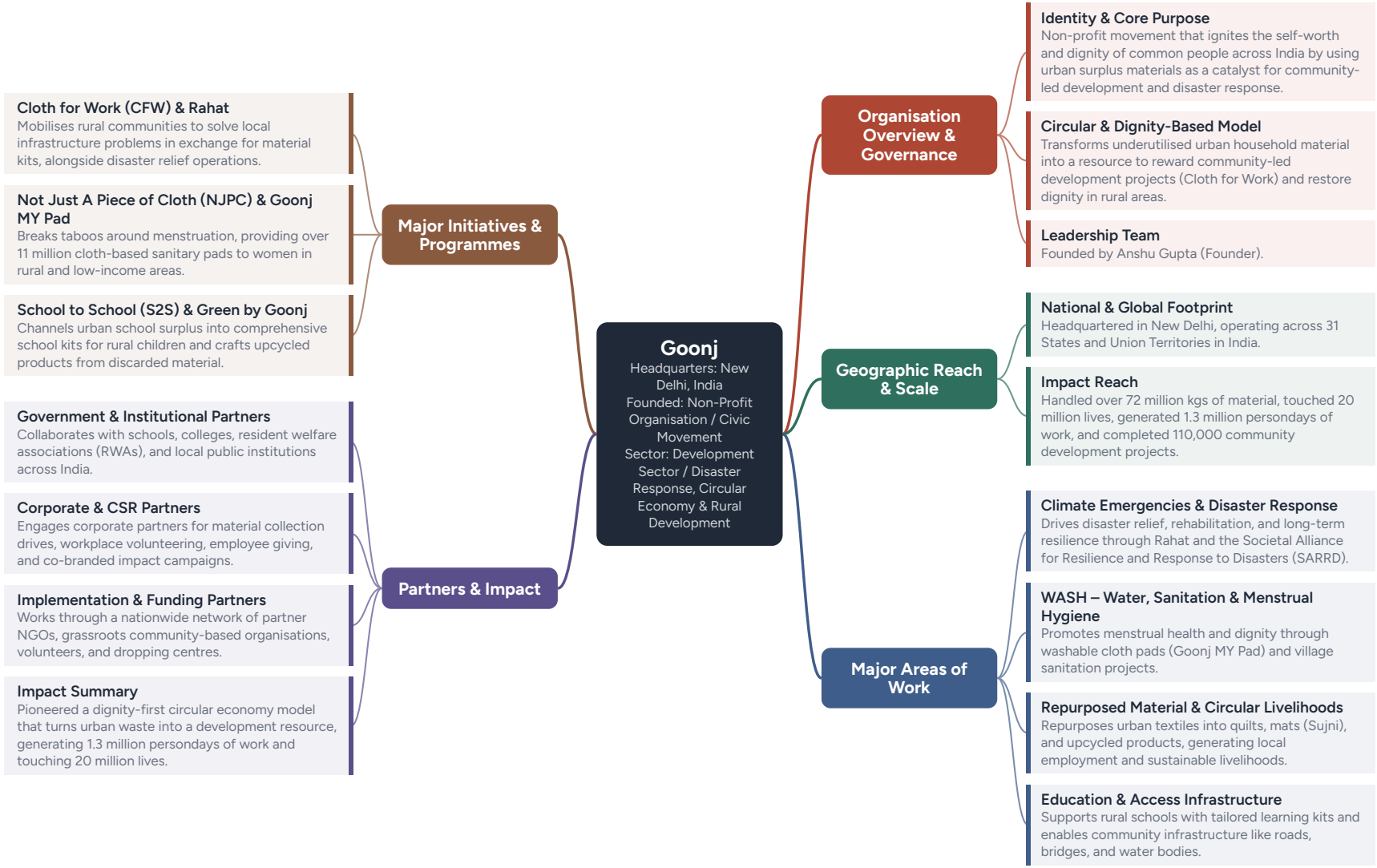
About the organisation

Goonj

Disaster Response and Rural Development

goonj.org ↗

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About Goonj

Goonj is an Indian organisation that uses surplus material from cities as a resource for development work in villages and for disaster relief. Its work rests on two ideas: human dignity and the world's surplus. It says it aims to build the self-worth and dignity of ordinary people in villages and cities across India. It treats rural communities as equal stakeholders who use what they already have to solve their own problems, not as recipients of charity. Goonj collects clothing, household goods and other material through urban drives and processing centres. It then sorts, repurposes and sends this material to communities, often in return for work the community does on its own development.

> *Headquarters: New Delhi, Delhi, India*

Major Areas of Work

- Disaster response and mitigation: Relief, rehabilitation and resilience-building with communities hit by floods, droughts, cyclones and other emergencies.
- Climate and environmental action: Reducing, reusing and recycling surplus material, mostly textiles, to cut waste and support a circular economy.
- Water, sanitation, health and hygiene: Work on water access, sanitation and menstrual hygiene in rural communities.
- Repurposed material based livelihood: Creating paid work and cloth-based employment from surplus and discarded material.
- Education and access to infrastructure: Supplying school material to rural children and supporting community-built infrastructure such as roads, bridges and water sources.

Major Initiatives and Programmes

- Cloth for Work: Goonj's core model, in which communities receive repurposed material in return for work on local development projects they choose themselves.
- Rahat: Goonj's disaster relief and rehabilitation work, which puts communities first in recovery and building long-term resilience.
- Not Just a Piece of Cloth (NJPC): A menstrual hygiene initiative that turns surplus cotton cloth into biodegradable sanitary pads, sold as Goonj MY Pad.
- School to School (S2S): Collects school material from urban schools and the public and puts it together into school kits for rural students.
- Joy of Sharing Month: A yearly pan-India campaign that asks people to share time, skills, material and money through sharing camps, walkathons and fundraising events.
- Societal Alliance for Resilience and Response to Disasters (SARRD): A people-led alliance that Goonj describes as globally adaptable, set up to strengthen disaster response and resilience.

Cloth for Work is the base for most of Goonj's rural programmes. Instead of handing out donations, Goonj gives material in return for work. Villagers build or repair roads, wells, bridges, ponds and other community assets, and receive clothing, household items or other material for that labour. Goonj says this approach respects the dignity of the people receiving material and gets communities to invest in their own development.

Leadership

- Anshu Gupta, Founder
- Meenakshi Gupta, Co-founder

Goonj runs large field operations across many Indian states, through state chapters, processing centres and a nationwide network of partner organisations. Staff work across material management, logistics, disaster response, rural project implementation, urban partnerships, fundraising and communications. Many team members have stayed for a decade or more and moved from field roles into state or functional leadership. The organisation suits people who want hands-on, operations-heavy work that connects cities and villages. It also offers fellowships and internships, including paid urban internships, for people starting out in the sector.

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