

Seeking a Technical Lead to Work on a Berkeley & Stanford Student-Founded
Startup that Addresses Water Issues in Urban India

[NextDrop](#), a social enterprise that provides water delivery timing information to residents in urban India, seeks a candidate to serve as the technical lead to work on developing the NextDrop IVR/SMS platform, as well as custom dashboarding technologies for urban water utility clients. Founded in 2009 by graduate students from UC Berkeley's Civil Engineering Dept., Public Policy School, Information School, and Stanford Business School, NextDrop is working to create a sustainable and scalable solution to intermittent water in India and in developing countries around the world.

Background:

"Will I get water today?" Hundreds of millions of people around the world ask this question every day. In communities with intermittent water—where piped water is available only for short and unpredictable intervals—people spend hours waiting next to dry taps, and are forced to buy water from private suppliers at high cost or use water from unsafe sources.

NextDrop solves this problem by partnering with water utilities to provide timely, reliable information on water delivery to residents via text message. When utility employees open valves at the neighborhood level, they call into our interactive voice response system. These updates are turned into messages for residents subscribed to the NextDrop service and live data for utility engineers, enabling them to identify and resolve problems as they come up.

In 2011, NextDrop was selected as the grand prize winner of the [Global Social Venture Competition](#) and a winner of the [Knight News Challenge](#).

Current Status:

In September 2011, after 16 month of research and field work, we officially launched our first product, a water notification system for urban households in Hubli. To date, we have over 1000 paying customers, and anticipate offering our service in all of Hubli (a city of 1 million people) by December 2012.

We plan to roll out our service in two more Tier II cities over the next year, and we are working to rapidly design and iterate new products for the utility, including a live dashboard which shows the status of areas valves, tanks, and reservoirs, as well as targeted SMS & IVR notifications for utility employees informing them of non-compliance with the set schedule.

Responsibilities:

The technical lead will be responsible for:

- Creation of web-based dashboard technology for urban water utilities.
- Maintenance of NextDrop water information database.
- Maintenance and expansion of NextDrop SMS/IVR system.

Skills Requirements:

- Web development experience, particularly with Python (Django web framework), HTML, CSS, Javascript.
- Experience with Google Maps API and the nginx web server preferred.
- Creation of and consumption from REST APIs.
- Basic sysadmin and server management skills.

Compensation: Commensurate with experience

For more information, contact Anu Sridharan: anu@nextdrop.org

