

The logo for the Indian Institute for Human Settlements (iihs) is located in the top left corner. It consists of the lowercase letters 'iihs' in a white, sans-serif font, with a small 'TM' trademark symbol to the upper right of the 's'. The logo is set against a dark red rectangular background.

iihsTM

INDIAN INSTITUTE FOR
HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

JOB DESCRIPTION

Practice Associate – Urban Risk & Resilience

About Us

The Indian Institute for Human Settlements (IIHS) is a national education institution committed to the equitable, sustainable and efficient transformation of Indian settlements.

IIHS aims to establish an independently funded and managed national university for research and innovation focused on the challenges and opportunities of India's urban transition. The proposed IIHS University will host an integrated programme of quality campus-based education and research, training and lifelong learning for working professionals, distance and blended learning, as well as a whole array of practice and advisory services. The university will have a strong interdisciplinary orientation bringing together theory and praxis that is grounded in the South Asian context and also engages with and draws from knowledge across the globe.

For more information, please see <http://www.iihs.co.in>

Job Description

This Practice Associate – Urban Risk & Resilience will be housed in the Practice Programme. The position seeks a person whose research interests broadly align with issues of urban risk and exposure, vulnerability, institutional and local coping capacities, particularly in the context of Indian policy context. This candidate will be expected to join the on-going research on disasters risk resilience and climate risk, particularly the research on socio-economic and political implications of extreme events in coastal and hilly areas. There will be engagement with multiple projects focusing on assessing preparedness of several select second-tier cities in India, some particularly focusing on tsunami risk and engaging with models and scenarios, assessing the implications of political economy of the decision-making processes. There will be opportunities for the candidate to engage with other cross-sectoral research work, particularly with housing and economic development. More detailed duties will be shared with the interested applicants.

Activities and Tasks

The responsibilities would include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Supporting the team in managing projects on risk and resilience through its interim and cyclical progress reviews;
- Supporting and conducting field work in India (across multiple cities in India), engaging and interviewing various key stakeholders and community groups;
- Supporting research outputs;
- Providing project support including keeping minutes, organizing contacts, financial planning, preparing letters, presentations and reports and coordinating logistics;
- Communicating regularly with the project team, the host organization and any partners/funders;
- Organising consultations and workshops as required by the projects;
- Other duties as assigned.

Structure and Reporting

The Practice Associate – Urban Risk & Resilience will report to the Consultant – Practice at IIHS and collaborate effectively with a diverse group of internal teams.

Person Specification

Applicants should hold a masters in a relevant field (geography, development studies, public

policy, urban studies, economics, sociology, anthropology, among others), with a proven research and publication record in or across disaster risk reduction, urban studies, poverty, economic and human development, and at least one publication in a noted peer-reviewed academic journal. Relevant work experience of 4-7 years is expected. Ideal applicants will have experience of leading or being part of field research projects in Indian cities. Professional experience may include fieldwork, research and writing, teaching and/or consulting work. The candidate must demonstrate an ability to engage with and across multiple disciplines central to the IIHS.

Other skills required for this role, include:

- Demonstrated research and consulting skills in an urban focused environment;
- Excellent knowledge of survey design and experience in primary fieldwork, particularly within socially sensitive environments;
- Demonstrated attention to detail;
- Knowledge of GIS is an asset;
- Excellent communication, relationship management, and interpersonal skills;
- Experience with the research community is an asset;
- Expertise in using MS Office (Excel, Word, PowerPoint, etc.)
- Able to work individually or in a team, in a fast paced, dynamic environment; and
- Able to work flexible hours from time to time.

Working knowledge of English and at least one Indian language is necessary. Knowledge of Odiya, Telugu and Kannada may get preference.

This offer is on an exclusive basis, which implies that other professional assignments (whether compensated or not) that bear a potential conflict of interest with IIHS cannot be undertaken.

The search will remain open until the position is filled.

Location

This is a paid position with a competitive salary, located in Bengaluru, with frequent travel for fieldwork.

Review and Assessment

The role and performance of the incumbent shall be subject to normal review and assessment systems at IIHS.

Diversity Policy

IIHS is an equal opportunity employer that encourages women, people with disabilities and those from economically and socially excluded communities with the requisite skills and qualifications to apply for positions.

Contact

Please email an updated resume, along with a cover letter addressing how you meet the above requirements, to hr@iihs.co.in (Subject: *Practice Associate – Urban Risk and Resilience*).



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