

The logo for the Indian Institute for Human Settlements (IIHS), consisting of the lowercase letters 'iihs' in a white, sans-serif font on a dark red rectangular background.

INDIAN INSTITUTE FOR
HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

The IIHS Post-Doctoral Programme A Call for Fellows

Post-Doctoral Fellow in Urban Informality and Urban Economies

The IIHS Post-Doctoral Programme: GCRF PEAK

IIHS seeks Post-Doctoral Fellows to join its vibrant intellectual environment within the Academics and Research programme. IIHS is increasingly recognized in India and internationally as a significant node in urban research and practice on the global South. Its promotion of inter-disciplinary pedagogy, on-the-ground learning, an excellent library on various aspects of the urban, and a convivial place for research make it an ideal location for scholarship.

Post-Doctoral fellowships at IIHS typically have one or two-year terms, and some may be extendable. While Fellows are hired institutionally at IIHS, each is hired into a specific and on-going research-based project, which will be the Fellow's first home within IIHS. *This call is associated with the PEAK consortium, funded by the Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF), UK.*

Led by the University of Oxford, and in partnership with IIHS, Peking University and the University of Cape Town, the PEAK consortium has identified four overarching themes of urban dynamics. Researchers will work across natural sciences (including mathematics, medicine, transport and engineering), the social sciences (including anthropology, development, migration) and humanities (including law, history). The PEAK framework synthesises traditional urban studies disciplines with emergent new urban sciences in a programme of research and capacity building across the humanities, social, sciences and natural sciences. PEAK is grounded in the logic of urban complexity to develop an array of disciplinary perspectives that will address the challenges of the 21st century city. More details on the PEAK consortium are available here: <http://gtr.rcuk.ac.uk/projects?ref=ES/P011055/1>

Project-related research will account for up to half of the Fellow's time, though this can vary for different projects. The remaining time is equally split between the Fellow's own research and writing as well as their participation in IIHS institutional roles. These roles include: teaching in on-going academic or capacity building programmes, participating in the internal conference and seminar series, and supporting institutional processes.

The focus of the PEAK project is particularly on developing a new cohort of interdisciplinary urban researchers, and therefore offers multiple opportunities for young scholars to develop research, teaching, and writing skills. Opportunities exist for individual scholarship, collaborative work with scholars at partner institutions including the University of Oxford, and the University of Cape Town, as well as potential travel to partner institutions through summer schools and internships.

Post-Doctoral Fellow in Urban Informality and Urban Economies

This research focuses broadly on how cities in developing countries can generate equitable growth trajectories and broad-based employment opportunities with decent wages in light of “premature deindustrialisation” (Rodrik 2016) and persistent informality (Chen 2012). By focusing on manufacturing enterprises in Bangalore, a megacity with a substantial services-based economy, we propose to address the following questions. Is formal manufacturing moving further away from the city, as land prices escalate and due to demands for better environmental management within city boundaries? At the same time, what is happening to informal manufacturing in the city of Bangalore? In addressing this question, we will also attempt to build a new base of evidence about enterprises along the formal-informal continuum at the city scale.

We seek a person whose research interests broadly align with issues of informality, livelihood, economic growth and development in the Indian urban context. We are particularly interested in candidates whose work focuses on studying formal and informal manufacturing and employment trends, and is interested in experimenting with empirical & mixed methods – such as integrating spatial datasets and exploiting alternative sources for economic data besides primary surveys – for example the relationship between land use change and industrialization transformation, an analysis that includes but also goes beyond conventional data bases.

The candidate will be part of the process of expanding ongoing research at IHS on urban economies, informality, and livelihoods. There will also be opportunities for pursuing existing and individual work as well as generating new research opportunities within these themes.

Field work: *This position is based in Bengaluru, with travel for fieldwork. This is a one-year position, extendable. Working knowledge of Kannada and/or Tamil would be an advantage.*

Qualifications: Applicants should hold a PhD in a relevant field (including but not limited to economics, economic geography, development economics, geography, urban planning), and an interest in the spatial aspects of the urban economy with a proven research and publication record in or across urban studies, urban planning, economic development, public policy, urban economics, development economics, and at least one publication in a noted peer-reviewed academic journal. A background or knowledge of urban data science, urban informatics, mathematics, or statistics will be a plus. Ideal applicants will have experience of leading or being part of field research projects in Indian cities.

Diversity Policy: IHS 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.

To Apply: Please email a detailed and updated Curriculum Vitae (must include at least two possible references), along with a cover letter addressing how you meet the above requirements, to hr [at] iihs dot co dot in (Subject: Post-Doctoral Fellowship in Urban Informality and Urban Economies).

Deadline: 31 March 2018

Note

All offers are 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.



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