

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 registered trademark symbol (®) to its upper right. The logo is set against a dark red rectangular background.

iihs®

INDIAN INSTITUTE FOR  
HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

**JOB DESCRIPTION**

# Senior Consultant– 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 of eminence for research and innovation focused on the challenges and opportunities of India's urban transition. The proposed IIHS University will be an institution of eminence that 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>

## **About the Practice Programme**

IIHS sees practice as deeply connected with its teaching, learning and research agendas, as well as a core part of its mission of urban transformation. The IIHS Practice Programme provides advisory services to national and state governments, public, para-statal municipal agencies, international agencies and private firms in the broad area of human settlements and urbanisation. Across different projects, it focuses on providing cutting edge and integrated solutions to some of India's emerging urban development challenges that draw from and are located in the particular economic, spatial, institutional and political realities of Indian settlements. In addition to institutional projects, IIHS faculty also individually serve on a number of national and state level government committees and policy fora.

## **Job Description**

The position of Senior Consultant – Urban Risk & Resilience will be housed within the Practice Programme at IIHS. The position seeks a person whose research and practice interests are centered around the issues of urban risk, hazard exposure, vulnerability, and institutional and local coping capacities, particularly in the context of Indian policy. The candidate will be expected to join the on-going assignments focused on disaster risk resilience and climate risk, including those pertaining to risk profiling and stochastic assessments of extreme events in different geographies, at various scales (national, state and urban). The job will also entail evaluating implemented projects for a variety of agencies and providing policy guidelines wherever necessary. There will be engagement with multiple projects, as well as leading conceptual framing of new areas of research and practice in the field of risk reduction. There will also be many opportunities for the candidate to engage with other cross-sectoral practice and research work at IIHS, including housing, land, and socio-environmental systems. More detailed duties will be shared with interested applicants.

### **Activities and Tasks**

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

- Generation of Practice proposals in Risk, Resilience and related areas. This shall include identification of prospects, meeting potential clients, writing technical proposals, preparation of presentations, etc.;
- Leading the team in managing projects on risk and resilience through its interim and cyclical progress reviews, including conceptualisation, proposal writing, financial management, and quality review processes;
- Leading and supporting practice and research outputs, such as policy briefs, reports, strategies, evaluation reports, etc.;
- Communicating regularly with the project team and any partners/funders;
- Organising consultations and workshops as required by the projects and IIHS annual policy and research events;
- Teaching and/or assisting in teaching relevant courses on IIHS' academic programmes; training and/or assisting in training on relevant modules in IIHS' executive education (capacity building) programmes;
- Providing support to other IIHS activities including academics, research, operations and other activities;
- Participating in all activities of Institution-building at IIHS; carrying out tasks as assigned by IIHS; and travelling on IIHS work within or outside the country as needed.

### **Structure and Reporting**

The Senior Consultant – Urban Risk & Resilience will report to the Lead - Practice at IIHS and will be required to collaborate effectively with a diverse group of internal teams and external individuals/organizations, and students.

### **Person Specification**

Applicants should hold a Masters/PhD in a relevant field (disaster management, geography, remote sensing, development studies, environmental science/modelling, 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. Relevant work experience of 10+ years is expected.

The candidate should be well versed in several aspects of risk reduction practices including mitigation planning and implementation, vulnerability and composite risk assessment, multi-sectoral event damage and loss assessments, organizing and supervision of GIS assisted scientific hazard risk assessment, probabilistic multi-hazard risk and catastrophe modeling, reconstruction & rehabilitation, monitoring evaluation and impact assessment, risk atlas development, evaluation and establishment of early warning systems, climate change assessment and community level resilience building.

The candidate should demonstrate strong writing skills with at least two publications in noted peer-reviewed academic journals (international or domestic). Ideal applicants will have experience of leading or being part of field research projects in Indian cities or other urban areas across the world. Professional experience must include fieldwork, research and writing, teaching, training and/or consulting work. The candidate should be capable to generate Practice proposals in Risk, Resilience and related areas. 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 the interdisciplinary areas of disaster risk reduction, climate risk and development studies within an urban focused environment;
- Demonstrated attention to detail;
- Excellent communication, relationship management, and interpersonal skills;
- The ability to work individually and in a team, in a fast paced, dynamic environment; and
- Working knowledge of English and at least one other Indian language.

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 position is based in Bengaluru and may entail frequent travel within and outside the country.

### **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@ihs.co.in](mailto:hr@ihs.co.in) (*Subject: Senior Consultant– Urban Risk and Resilience*).



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