

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 Research Associate – Urban Planning Education

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>

IIHS seeks a Senior Research Associate to join its vibrant intellectual environment within the Academics and Research programme. IIHS is increasingly recognised 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.

This call is associated with the KNOW (Knowledge in Action for Urban Equality) consortium, funded by the Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF), UK.

About the KNOW project

The KNOW (Knowledge in Action for Urban Equality) project is led by the Development Planning Unit (DPU) at University College London (UCL) and a range of partner institutions including IIHS, Polytechnic Uni Jose Antonio Echeverria (Cuba), Sierra Leone Urban Resource Centre (Sierra Leone), Asian Coalition for Housing Rights (Sri Lanka), Makerere University (Uganda), Catholic University of Peru (Peru). It seeks to develop research capacities in developing countries and in UK institutions that deliver ODA research, SDG11 and the New Urban Agenda. Recognising that cities are inherently unequal places, being home to immense prosperity and extreme poverty, KNOW focuses on the major knowledge gap in global policy agendas: delivering urban equality for inclusive cities of opportunities for all.

The work programme focuses on three key challenges: achieving prosperity; building resilience to disasters and a changing climate; and addressing the persistent problem of extreme poverty. The work programme is divided in six work packages. IIHS co-anchors Work Package 5, which focuses on the education of urban practitioners and planners in the Global South. The IIHS team will also be working on city-relevant research in Jaipur as well as the larger region around it.

More details on the project website: <https://www.urban-know.com/>

Job Description

This position will involve research on urban planning education and its role in preparing practitioners to deal with questions of urban equality in their professional practice, and will be carried out in close cooperation with our partners at UCL (University College London). The researcher will work closely with the KNOW project team at IIHS on a range of research activities.

Activities and Tasks

Responsibilities would include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Conducting an assessment of the curriculum for higher education programmes in urban planning and related disciplines in India and more broadly in the Global South, as well as an assessment of continuing education, training and capacity building efforts;
- Interviewing senior educators in urban planning and related fields, members of professional planning associations, and alumni of planning programmes as well as capacity building and training courses to identify concerns related to planning education;
- Documenting innovative case studies of urban planning education across cities of the Global South, as well as tracking the alumni trajectories of learners from these programmes;
- Performing preliminary work to map educational institutions and civil society organisations in Jaipur and Rajasthan, and to build partnerships to test and deliver pedagogical interventions in urban planning.

Over the course of the project (2018-2021), this research will result in an identification of gaps in urban planning education, which will be addressed through a series of curriculum design interventions that will be implemented in partnership with local universities and other organisations. The programme also hopes to develop content in multiple forms, such as online courses, training workshops, summer/ winter course, etc. to build knowledge across audiences.

Structure and Reporting

The Senior Research Associate will report to the Senior Consultant – Academics & Research at IIHS. They will be required to collaborate effectively with a diverse group of internal teams and external individuals/organisations, and students.

Person Specification

Applicants should have:

- A Master's degree or higher in urban planning, geography, civil engineering or related disciplines with an interest in planning pedagogy and planning practice; or a degree in education with an emphasis on the pedagogy of higher education or continuing education; or a degree in public policy with experience in urban issues;

- A minimum of 5 years of professional experience in urban planning or urban policy, or in education and pedagogy (or 2 years of professional experience with a PhD);
- An ability to work as part of inter-disciplinary teams in a flexible work environment;
- Prior professional experience in Rajasthan will be an advantage;
- Teaching experience in urban planning or related disciplines will be an advantage;
- Fluency in Hindi.

This is a contractual position for an initial term of 11 months, renewable on mutual consent. 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, with travel for fieldwork to Jaipur and other smaller cities / towns in Rajasthan.

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.

To apply

If you are interested to explore this opportunity with us, please fill the online application form by clicking [here](#). (You can also click on the “Apply Now” button at the end of the Job Description displayed on the website).

Contact

Please write to us at hr@iihs.co.in if you need any clarifications while filling the online application form.



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