

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 the upper right. The logo is set against a dark red rectangular background.

iihs®

INDIAN INSTITUTE FOR
HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

JOB DESCRIPTION

Research Associate (Planning) –
School of Economic Development
(SED)

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 School of Economic Development (SED)

The IIHS School of Economic Development takes a heterodox approach towards fostering sustainable and equitable economic transitions across different scales of human settlements. The School is interdisciplinary and embedded in the social, political and ecological relations of economic transitions. The SED thematics are informed by the challenges of social and spatial inequality, informality, social determinants of economic marginalisation, ecological unsustainability and gaps in institutional, financial and regulatory capacities to foster sustainable economic transitions in Indian urban regions. The school's work is located across multiple fields of enquiry including political economy, economic geography, regional science, public finance, development economics, labour geography, industrial sociology, political ecology, urban economics, economic history, etc.

Job Description

The School of Economic Development is looking for a research associate interested in economic planning and development. The incumbent will be part of an active practice project with the Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority (CMDA), as part of which IIHS will be providing recommendations for economic planning for the Chennai metropolitan region. We require a dynamic and motivated individual who is capable of working to multiple deadlines, and of working in a large interdisciplinary team.

The core responsibility of the position will be to conduct policy and plan analysis and literature review in the context of economic planning for the project, to undertake spatial analysis of multiple datasets, to organise and be a part of stakeholder consultations and to carry out stakeholder interviews, to work with the team to arrive at recommendations based on primary and secondary data analysis, and to coordinate with the Client as required. The candidate will also be responsible for coordinating across multiple teams and will work towards production of reports and presentations required as part of the project.

This is a contractual engagement for a term of 11 months.

Activities and Tasks

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

- Collecting, analysing and synthesising relevant plan and policy documents, historic documents;
- Conducting literature review and synthesising;
- Carrying out stakeholder interviews and organising stakeholder workshops;
- Conducting primary and secondary research for the project;
- Collecting inputs from relevant team members/ external stakeholders and synthesising it for various outputs;
- Coordinating with the client and with internal team members;
- Report writing and making presentations;
- Providing support in project management;
- Providing support to other IIHS activities including academics, research, training, practice, operations and others;
- 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 and when needed.

Structure and Reporting

The research associate will be an External Consultant coordinating with the Senior Consultant – Practice or with any other person designated by the team leader of the CMDA project, and will be required to collaborate effectively with a diverse group of internal teams and external individuals/organizations, and students.

Person Specification

The ideal candidate should have:

- A Graduate and Post graduate degree in Urban Planning or related disciplines;
- Prior experience of at least 5 years related to Urban Planning, Urban Economy, Economic Development or Labour and Employment studies;
- Experience with report writing; basic familiarity with design is preferred;
- Familiarity with the Tamil language and Chennai region (preferable);
- Ease in working with inter-disciplinary teams, and engaging with external stakeholders.

This is a contractual engagement for a term of 11 months. 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 position is open immediately and candidates available to join at the earliest will be preferred.

Location

This position is based in Bengaluru / Chennai and may entail travel to other locations in India.

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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