

The logo for the Indian Institute for Human Settlements (iihs) is displayed in white text on a dark red rectangular background. The letters 'iihs' are in a bold, lowercase sans-serif font, with a registered trademark symbol (®) to the upper right. Below the letters is a thin white horizontal line.

iihs®

INDIAN INSTITUTE FOR
HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

JOB DESCRIPTION

Research Impact and
Communications Specialist - School of
Environment and Sustainability (SES)

About Us

The Indian Institute for Human Settlements (IIHS) is a national educational 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 Environment and Sustainability (SES)

The School of Environment and Sustainability at IIHS examines and answers questions around sustainable development and the environment, ecological restoration and nature-based solutions, and adapting to climate change impacts and risks. The School focuses on human settlements and socio-ecological systems across a continuum from semi-natural ecosystems to mega cities in India and the Global South.

SES has one of the largest concentrations of IPCC authors in a single South Asian institution with leadership positions in chapters across three major reports over the AR5 and AR6 cycles, and two SR1.5 derivative reports – the Summary for Urban Policymakers and GCF-supported Summary for Financial Decision Makers.

Job Description

The research impact and communications specialist will be part of an interdisciplinary team of researchers working on climate change and migration, and responsible for anchoring multimedia research impact strategy, project-level public engagement activities, strategic communication of project outputs, and anchoring project brand design. As part of the team, the incumbent's involvement will include the creation and implementation of a strategic communication and dissemination plan with a focus on driving impact through narrative change (i.e., using communications and evidence-based outreach on climate change and migration to translate research into impact). The role will require working in close coordination with the IIHS Communications and Design team, Word Lab and Media Lab to ensure that project communications are harmonised with the core communication strategy and design at the institutional level.

There are two positions open for this role, one focussing on urban areas and one on rural areas. These are contractual positions for an initial term of 11 months, renewable on mutual consent, with the potential to turn into a regular position over time.

Activities and Tasks

- Leading overall strategic communication and dissemination planning including, but not limited to, a communications strategy for the project period differentiated by stakeholder groups, diversity of communications outputs including multimedia material and communication of findings for wide uptake;
- Working closely with multiple local and internal partners in co-anchoring research impact tasks including developing a strategy to design and disseminate knowledge products and anchoring public-facing national and international events and workshops;
- Working closely in and with the research team to co-develop a research impact strategy including planning and implementing activities for narrative change around climate migration; this will involve working with multiple stakeholders, designing and conducting participatory workshops, and understanding and anchoring need-based, evidence-based knowledge products;
- Supporting the research team in creating tailored outputs and research-to-action activities at community, (sub-)national, and international levels in various formats including written content, multimedia outputs, stakeholder engagement activities and network building;
- Providing support to the research team in identifying the need for, and organizing, project events such as workshops and stakeholder consultations at multiple locations in India as needed;
- Identification of appropriate avenues and design of relevant material for amplifying communication on project findings and increasing impact;
- Collaborating with the IIHS Media Lab, Word Lab, and Communications & Design teams to create audio-visual content, and to develop material for wider dissemination; this will include supporting website development and website updates;
- 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 impact and communications specialist will report to the Senior Consultant – School of Environment and Sustainability (SES) at IIHS and will be required to collaborate effectively with a diverse group of internal teams and network partners.

Person Specification

An ideal candidate should have:

- An advanced degree (master's degree or equivalent) in communication, design, journalism, or development studies, with demonstrated knowledge/experience of climate change, environmental change, human geography or related fields;
- 3-5 years of work experience in design, communications, journalism, or related areas;
- Ability to develop, design, and implement a creative and evidence-based approach to communications and dissemination aimed at multiple audiences, while ensuring ideals of inclusion and equity of multiple voices and ideas;
- Ability to connect with people and liaise with researchers from partner organisations and assist them in translating knowledge generated through projects into action;
- Experience of working with multilateral or bilateral agencies, donor-funded research projects, INGOs, think tanks, foundations, or consulting firms, on their outreach programmes would be an added advantage;
- Excellent command of English; experience in writing for media or designing for multiple platforms; and the ability to write with precision and attention to detail; knowledge of regional languages like Odia/Malayalam/Kannada/Bengali would be an added advantage;
- Understanding of the basic principles of design and the ability to suggest design requirements for various types of content, as the candidate will be working closely with graphic designers to create communication products.

This is a contractual position for an initial term of 11 months, renewable on mutual consent, with the potential to turn into a regular position over time. 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 will entail travel to other locations in India and possibly abroad.

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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