

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

Consultant/ Senior Consultant
– School of Environment and
Sustainability (SES)

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 distinct national university of eminence focused on the challenges and opportunities of India's urban transition. The proposed IIHS University will be a unique and distinct institution that will host quality campus-based education and cutting-edge research and innovation. The university will have a strong interdisciplinary orientation bringing together India-centric knowledge and applied research that 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 (SES) at IIHS and its Long-term Urban Ecological Observatory (LTUEO), the first such mega-city observatory in the world, focus on the sustainable transformation of diverse human settlements and the social-ecological-technical systems they are part of in the face of global change, especially urbanisation and climate change. The SES and LTUEO work on cutting edge scholarship and knowledge, education, and practice focused on solutions to wicked and complex environment and sustainability problems within the context of a rapidly urbanising India.

Job Description

The School of Environment and Sustainability (SES) at IIHS is looking for a qualified and committed professional to anchor its practice and research work in sustainable agroecology and agroforestry, hydrology, water systems, land management, and other areas related to natural resource management. The ideal candidate will be a practitioner with experience in planning implementation projects with government and corporates, along with a strong foundation in research and scholarship based on field work in catchment hydrology and agroforestry.

The role will involve working with faculty (researchers, scientists and practitioners) within the SES and LTUEO as well as other schools at IIHS, building on ongoing and emerging work at multiple scales of governance and management. It will also require collaborating with other teams, including IIHS's cutting-edge Geospatial Lab, Urban Informatics Lab, Word Lab and Media Lab.

Activities and Tasks

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

Research and evidence based practice (70%)

- Evidence-Based Analysis: Leading research on sustainable agroecology and agroforestry, focusing on nature-based solutions to enhance climate resilience for small and marginal farmers; this involves developing frameworks, strategies and practices to reduce barriers and promote biodiversity conservation and ecosystem restoration;

- Land Resource Protocols: Designing and implementing land resource inventory protocols to guide landscape conservation efforts, integrating hydrological and agroforestry components;
- Hydrology and Water Budgeting: Collaborating with experts to develop models and algorithms that analyze water budget components at various scales using spatial and temporal data;
- Policy and Regulation Analysis: Assessing policies, identifying key partners, and analysing barriers affecting the implementation of regenerative agriculture and land-water restoration; conducting extensive literature reviews and engaging with stakeholders for data collection and analysis;
- Knowledge Dissemination: Producing high-quality reports, policy briefs, and working papers to communicate research findings effectively, targeting a diverse audience to advocate for policy support and economic incentives for sustainable practices;
- Stakeholder Engagement: Organising and supporting government-led 'Restoration Dialogues' to foster cross-sector collaborations and convergence of public funding for ecosystem services integration;

Partnerships, Engagement, and Communication (30%)

- Cross-Sector Collaboration: Working with IIHS's Environment, Sustainability and Campus Development team to incorporate ecosystem service models into food systems and scale up regenerative agriculture;
 - Network Building: Establishing and maintaining relationships with key partners, including government bodies, research institutions, civil society, and the private sector to drive sustainable land-use practices;
 - Citizen Science: Enabling the development of practitioner and citizen science-led initiatives in the above areas;
 - Communication: Assisting in developing communication materials, including web content, brochures, blogs, and op-eds, and publishing research findings in peer-reviewed journals; communicating research outcomes across different cultural and scientific disciplines;
 - Capacity Development: Providing training and support to partners on tools and frameworks for ecosystem service assessment, emphasizing practical application in sustainable agriculture;
 - Event Management: Coordinating and supporting events like workshops, seminars, and roundtables focused on nature-based solutions and water management, fostering mentorship and knowledge exchange.
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- 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 traveling on IIHS work within or outside the country as and when needed.

Structure and Reporting

The consultant will report to the Dean – School of Environment and Sustainability (SES) at IIHS and will be required to collaborate effectively with a diverse group of internal teams and external individuals/organizations, and students.

Person Specification

An ideal candidate should have:

- A Ph.D. in Natural Resource Management, Environmental Science, Agroforestry, or related fields with a strong focus on hydrology or land-use change; or a Master's degree in Agroforestry/Forestry with formal training in nature-based solutions to manage land and water quality;
- At least 3-5 years of relevant work experience (for PhDs) or 10 years of relevant experience (for candidates with a Master's degree); a few years of field experience in the monitoring and evaluation of donor-funded projects and or/development programs will be an advantage;
- Strong technical expertise including a deep understanding of landscape hydrology, climate change, agroforestry, and natural resource management; and experience with micro-meteorological instruments, data handling, and model development;
- Skills in GIS and Data Analysis, including proficiency in GIS tools (ArcGIS, QGIS) and spatial models (e.g., SWAT, HYDRUS), and strong statistical skills with software like R and SPSS;
- Demonstrated success in field research, setting up monitoring stations, and developing experimental methods for agro-hydrology; experience in working on large-scale, multi-stakeholder projects;
- Strong writing and presentation skills, with experience in developing policy papers and engaging with technical and non-technical audiences;
- The ability to adapt and/or develop experimental methods/concepts to support research in Agroforestry, Agro-hydrology
- Proven ability in partnership development, with experience in engaging and coordinating with diverse stakeholders, including government agencies, NGOs, and the private sector;
- Willingness to conduct field visits and engage in data collection in rural and remote areas;
- Fluency in English and Kannada; knowledge of Hindi or other regional languages would be an added advantage.

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 IIHS Kengeri Campus, Bengaluru and will 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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