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INDIAN INSTITUTE FOR
HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

The IIHS Post-Doctoral Programme
A Call for Fellows

THE IIHS POST-DOCTORAL PROGRAMME: A CALL FOR FELLOWS

IIHS is seeking Post-Doctoral Fellows to join its vibrant intellectual environment within the Academics and Research programme at IIHS.

While Fellows are hired institutionally at IIHS, each is hired into a specific and on-going research-based project. These projects are the Fellow's first home within the institution. They are thus expected to account for up to half of the Fellow's time, though this can vary for different projects. The remaining time is equally split between the Fellow's own research and writing as well as their participation in IIHS institutional roles. These roles include: teaching in on-going academic or capacity building programmes, participating in the internal conference and seminar series, and supporting institutional processes.

IIHS has created an internationally-recognised programme that allows Post-Doctoral Fellows to grow and be mentored for their future careers. All Fellows are thus paired with specific mentors within IIHS (within or outside their core research project). A Fellow's mentorship and progress is tracked through quarterly performance reviews that help Fellows attain their individual and institutional goals during their time at IIHS.

A select set of Fellows have been drawn into the IIHS faculty over the last few years. Others have gone on to take up positions in leading international universities.

Post-doctoral fellowships typically have one or two-year terms, and some may be extendable. This current call is for **ten** positions. They are detailed below.

The Fellowships 2017-18

1. Post-Doctoral Fellow in Social Security and Economic Development

The position seeks a person whose research interests broadly align with issues of urban welfare regimes, social security and protection, and inclusive development in urban India. We are particularly interested in candidates that work on these themes within the sectors of health and/or labour.

The candidate will be expected to join on-going research at IIHS on urban welfare, health systems and informal work. Current foci within this are to look at the impact on working informally on both health status as well as care-seeking praxis. The core project location for the Fellow seeks to examine the impact of working informally on breast-feeding and infant care for women in street vending, home-based work, garments, and/or solid waste management. Field work will be in New Delhi. Through the fellowship, there will be opportunities for pursuing existing and individual work as well as generating new research opportunities within these themes.

Qualifications: Applicants should hold a PhD in a relevant field (economics, development studies, public health, urban studies, geography, sociology, anthropology, among others), with a proven research and publication record in or across urban studies, poverty, livelihoods,

economic development, health and human development, or social protection, and at least one publication in a noted peer-reviewed academic journal. Ideal applicants will have experience of leading or being part of field research projects in Indian cities.

Working knowledge of English and Hindi is required for this position. This position is based in Bengaluru, with travel for fieldwork. This is a one year position, extendable.

2. Post-Doctoral Fellow in Urban Health

The position seeks a person whose research interests broadly align with issues of health systems, urban governance, and public policy. We are particularly interested in candidates that are interested in ethnographic work on governance and health systems in cities.

This research area at IIHS seeks to explore how public service delivery systems – particularly those tasked with delivering basic citizen entitlements – should be designed for effective and equitable delivery in urban areas. The current project focuses on the urban health system. The Fellow will join a core project that is a large-scale intervention in home-based primary health care in low-income urban communities in Delhi. The Fellow will be responsible for an immersive, ethnographic study that seeks to assess the efficacy of such home-based care.

There will be opportunities for pursuing existing and individual work as well as generating new research opportunities within these themes. Future work need not be limited to work within health, and may extend to looking at governance of public systems in urban areas more broadly.

Qualifications

Applicants should hold a PhD in a relevant field (development studies, public health, medicine, urban studies, geography, sociology, anthropology, among others), with proven research and publication histories in or across urban studies, governance, poverty, livelihoods, economic development, health and human development, or social protection, and at least one publication in a noted peer-reviewed academic journal. Ideal applicants will have experience of leading or being part of field research projects in Indian cities. Candidates with ethnographic research experience will be strongly preferred.

The candidate must be fluent in English and Hindi. This position is based in New Delhi. This is a two-year position, extendable.

3. Post-Doctoral Fellow in Gender and Health

The position seeks a person whose research interests centre on feminist and gender research in urban contexts. For the current call, we are particularly interested in candidates that are interested in ethnographic work on the intersections of gender and health.

The candidate will be expected to join on-going research at IIHS on understanding intra-household gender dynamics as they relate to health and nutrition in low-income urban settings in New Delhi. We are particularly interested in using new, inter-disciplinary and innovative approaches to try and understand the impact of intra-household gender dynamics on women's health, understood more broadly than just maternal and child health.

There will be opportunities for pursuing existing and individual work as well as generating new research opportunities within these themes. Future work need not be limited to work within health, and may extend to looking at gender and human development in urban areas more broadly.

Qualifications

Applicants should hold a PhD in a relevant field (development studies, medicine, public health, urban studies, geography, sociology, anthropology, among others), with proven research and publication histories in or across gender and feminist studies, urban studies, poverty, livelihoods, economic development, health and human development, or social protection, and at least one publication in a noted peer-reviewed academic journal. Ideal applicants will have experience of leading or being part of field research projects in Indian cities. Candidates with ethnographic research experience will be strongly preferred.

The candidate must be fluent in English and/or Hindi. This position is based in New Delhi. This is a two-year position, extendable.

4-5. Post-Doctoral Fellows in Land Management and Governance

Two postdoctoral fellows shall be a part of an IIHS Team working on land records management and associated e-governance support initiatives. The research area at IIHS includes working on planning-related aspects of land governance and administration, and is seeking Fellows across a set of specific sub-themes:

- Planning and policy questions on the specifics of land ownership, use, transfer, informality, varied tenure systems and other related issues, especially in urban and periurban areas; legal aspects of land administration;
- Legal aspects of land administration, including legal, institutional, policy and implementation issues on the specifics of land ownership, use, transfer, registration, titling, informality, varied tenure systems and other related legal-policy issues.
- Land economics aspects of land governance and administration, including detailed studies on economics of land, its linkages to legal, policy and institutional issues in the context of national and state level initiatives.
- Geographic Information System (GIS) and Information Technology-based improved management of land including data, maps and systems of ownership, use, and

transfer of land. This includes institutional and legal-political issues around eGovernance, and on the ground outcomes as a part of the national and state level initiatives.

The postdoctoral fellowships will involve carrying out detailed evidence based and interpretative analysis within one or more of these sub-themes with a focus on the legal, institutional and on-the-ground situation in the context of national and state level initiatives. There will be opportunities for pursuing existing and individual work as well as generating new research opportunities within these themes.

Applicants should hold a PhD in a relevant field (planning, law, public policy, economics, information-technology, urban studies, geography, sociology, anthropology, history, among others), with proven research and publication record around land based themes, and at least one publication in a noted peer-reviewed academic journal. Ideal applicants will have experience of leading or being part of field research projects in Indian cities.

The candidate must be fluent in English and/or Hindi. These positions will be based either in Bengaluru or New Delhi. These are two-year positions, extendable.

6-8. Post-Doctoral Fellows in Climate Change

IIHS is looking to fill **three** Post-Doctoral positions in the area of climate change: vulnerability, impacts and adaptation, including addressing challenges of climate science and exploration of linked co-benefits, particularly in the context of rural and urban settlements. Climate change is one of the defining existential and developmental challenges of our time and IIHS is building cutting-edge scientific, policy and implementation capacity to address these challenges in India, South Asia and across the globe. The core project for this call is the ASSAR (Adaptation at Scale in Semi-Arid Regions) project which is part of CARIAA (Collaborative Adaptation Research Initiative in Africa and Asia), a 5-year IDRC/DFID funded frontier international research programme. The meta question that we are trying to address within the ASSAR project is around barriers and enablers to effective, widespread and sustained climate adaptation. All three prospective Post-Doctoral Fellows will be joining this project.

The project, presently, is in its Research Phase (RP) that emphasizes the dynamics of i) ecosystem services ii) social differentiation and iii) governance and the importance of their interaction in the development of robust and resilient development pathways. Dimensions of gender and knowledge systems serve as cross-cutting themes. The Post-Doctoral fellows are expected to build on the findings of the RP towards producing high-quality and high-impact research. In doing so, prospective fellows are expected to emphasize research impact through exploring robust avenues for putting research into use and understanding the conditions under which implementation of solutions can be institutionalized and scaled. The fellows will be responsible for research, policy analysis, publication and teaching.

Further detail on each of the positions are as follows:

- 1. Transformative pathways for a 1.5 C world:** Building on the science and momentum of IPCC's Fifth Assessment Report and findings from the ASSAR project, fellows in this position will be encouraged to examine deepening climate challenges, and ways of addressing them through robust and resilient policy pathways. A broad area of work is within the landscape of integrated assessment: climate change drivers, exposure, risks and impacts, that help define the potential and opportunity for transformation, as an approach for limiting the global temperature rise to 1.5 deg C; particularly in the context of what this means for India. Of particular attention would be the development of transformative pathways in the 2015-2030 time-frame, co-inciding with the period that defines achievement of Sustainable Development Goals, to be developed through deep policy engagement, at national, regional and local levels, and around related implementation and practice challenges. This stream also requires fellows to link international climate policy discourse with situational realities in the Indian context and work towards developing synergistic responses, particularly examining contested spaces.
- 2. Climate change adaptation:** Building on the first two phases of the ASSAR programme, fellows are encouraged to build their research around development and adaptation issues across the urban, peri-urban and rural continuum of India. They are encouraged to innovate around existing investigative streams to deepen social science in relation to climate change, by identifying a range of drivers, risks and impacts at urban and regional scales. Such drivers and impacts can be geographic, economic, political or cultural, and can be investigated by using a combination of spatial and socio-economic research tools. Fellows are encouraged to apply ethnographic methods, in combination with expert engagement, in their work. Knowledge generated in this stream will assist in gauging the status of societal readiness in India, as studied at the scale of settlements, to new climate risks, as they interact with existing, non-climatic risks. The principal meta question within this stream would emphasize examining of potential adaptation strategies in the short to medium term (2015-2030) and understanding the potential of those strategies for widespread, sustained uptake (beyond 2030).
- 3. Climate change governance:** The role of institutions and policies is critical to help define and enable transformative pathways. Within this stream, fellows will be encouraged to outline and apply a framework for engaging with local, regional and national governments, key city networks and climate research institutions. It must be emphasized that this framework should potentially be actionable, with the fellows encouraged to test its viability and understand conditions under which it can be made viable. The fellows would consolidate on the findings from the 'Governance'

workstream of the ASSAR project, which is examining the role of institutions and policy in ensuring transformation that is able to address climate challenges at multiple scales. This should contribute to a greater understanding of the viability of adaptation and linked co-benefits pathways; fiscal and financial instruments; and institutional, social and technological innovation that may be required to enable change.

The Post-Doctoral Fellows in climate change are expected to work within a multi-disciplinary team that includes development practitioners, climate scientists, ecologists, economists, hydrologists, social scientists and urbanists across multiple field sites, help investigate and test new approaches, tools and methods to assist in responding to the climate change challenge, co-author journal articles, policy briefs and disseminate research findings via multiple channels, participate in developing teaching material on issues related to climate change and be able to lead an independent research plan across the agreed research agenda.

Qualifications

Applicants should hold a PhD in a relevant field (Energy Studies, Environmental/Resource Economics, Technology, Ecology and Natural Resource Management, Hydrology, Agriculture Science, Political Science, Sociology, Sustainable Development or relevant related areas). Ideal applicants will have at least one year of post-qualification research, typically at the interface of climate change and a relevant research theme. They must have a proven record of publication and a strong grasp over recent climate change related academic literature, policies and adaptation/mitigation practices, especially in South Asia.

Candidates must have fluency in English and at least one of Marathi, Kannada or Tamil. All three Fellows in this sub-theme will be based in Bengaluru

9-10. Post-Doctoral Fellows in Disaster Risk Policy and Governance

IHS has two positions in the areas of disaster risk policy in urban India and its leadership histories. The candidates will have the opportunity to lead new innovative ways to engage with trans-disciplinary field of disaster risk reduction, as well as get teaching and training experience.

The first position seeks a person whose research interests broadly align with issues of urban risk and exposure, vulnerability, institutional and local coping capacities, particularly in the Indian policy context. This candidate will be expected to join on-going research on disasters risk resilience and climate risk, particularly the research on socio-economic and political implications of extreme events in coastal areas. The particular focus will be on tsunami risk and engaging with models and scenarios, focusing on the implications of political economy of the decision-making processes. Field work will be in second tier cities on the west coast of India. There will be opportunities for the candidate to engage with other cross-sectoral research space, particularly with housing and economic development.

Qualifications: Applicants should hold a PhD in a relevant field (geography, development studies, 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, and at least one publication in a noted peer-reviewed academic journal. Ideal applicants will have experience of leading or being part of field research projects in Indian cities. Working knowledge of English and Hindi is required for this position. This position is based in Bengaluru, with travel for fieldwork. This is a one-year position, extendable.

The second position seeks a person whose research interests include disaster risk practices in urban areas and/or theories of leadership. The candidate will be expected to join on-going process of building case studies and ethnographies of key individuals and organisations that have played a key role in changing debates and practice on the ground on risk reduction and resilience in India. The scope of work will be diverse, and will involve interviewing key informants across the country. There will be opportunities for the candidate to engage with other cross-disciplinary research, practice and teaching.

Note

All offers are 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.

Diversity Policy

The 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.

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 for research and innovation focused on the challenges and opportunities of India's urban transition.

The proposed IIHS University 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>

Application Process and Deadlines

Please email a detailed and updated Curriculum Vitae (must include at least two possible references) and a cover letter addressing how you meet the above requirements to hr@iihs.co.in (*Subject: Post-Doctoral Programme: [Name of Relevant Fellowship]*). In addition to detailing your fit for the fellowship, please include a brief description of your current and future research foci.

Short-listed candidates will be called in for an interview, and full letters of reference will be requested only at that time.

The call is only open to Indian citizens.

The call will remain open until all positions are filled. Applications will be reviewed 15th of every month.



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