

Job Description for the Position of Research Fellow - Research and Innovation

Centre for Sustainable Urban Livelihoods

ORGANIZATION	National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA)
PROJECT NAME	Centre for Sustainable Urban Livelihoods (CSUL)
FUNCTIONAL TITLE	Research Fellow – Research and Innovation
NO. OF POSTS	Two (2)
DUTY STATION	New Delhi

About the National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA):

Established in 1976, the National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) is a premier institute of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India, for research and capacity building for the urban sector in India. For more than 40 years now, NIUA has been actively working on bringing forth key areas of concern for urban India to build the urban discourse at various urban scales. It has utilised its competencies in research, knowledge management, policy advocacy and capacity building to address urban challenges and continuously striving to develop sustainable, inclusive, and productive urban ecosystems in the country. It has emerged as a thought leader and knowledge hub for urban development in India and is sought after by both Indian and international organisations for collaborations and partnerships in India's urban transforming journey. NIUA is committed towards aligning its efforts towards achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through all its initiatives and programmes. Read more about NIUA at niua.in

About the project:

The Centre for Sustainable Urban Livelihoods (CSUL) will serve as a Centre of excellence under DAY-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (NULM) and PM SVANidhi to provide technical support in effective implementation of urban livelihood component of the mission under the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA). It will also act as a learning partner for the national and state units of the mission and will facilitate cross learning and knowledge dissemination. In addition, it will promote the creation of a sustainable framework for cities and local bodies to support the urban poor, women, and vulnerable groups through the improvements in livelihoods and facilitating entrepreneurship using and intersectional and gender inclusive lens.

The Research and Innovation Unit is an integral part of the Centre for Sustainable Urban Livelihoods (CSUL) and is responsible for supporting all ongoing research initiatives of the mission, support the development, and design of new initiatives with a focus on gender equality, innovation, and entrepreneurship. Additionally, the unit will conduct research studies to identify challenges in urban livelihoods, explore successful models that can be upscaled and replicated, thereby increasing access to financial resources, social security and promoting new livelihood opportunities. The unit will provide high quality research support to state and city level units under DAY-NULM. A Team lead will head this unit who will develop and execute CSUL's Research and Knowledge building on urban poverty alleviation and urban livelihoods for cities and states.

Key Responsibilities:

The Research Fellow will develop and manage the end-to-end research under CSUL. This encompasses the formulation of research strategies and objectives, the design and implementation of research methodologies, and the analysis and dissemination of research findings.

1. Conduct in depth research on various topics within the realm of urban livelihood, poverty alleviation, social and economic inclusion of vulnerable groups.
2. Publish research papers and knowledge products regularly and inform policy debate with good-quality data and analysis.
3. Lead the collection and analysis of social and economic (esp. livelihood) data, from large public data sets, using appropriate methodologies and statistical tools to derive meaningful insights.
4. Manage current knowledge systems of livelihoods development and trends in diversified areas of speciality across the urban ecosystem to support all CSUL research activities.
5. Develop and implement research methodologies and frameworks to address research objectives and produce insightful reports.
6. Collaborate with team members and contribute to the design and execution of research projects.
7. Provide high quality technical guidance to CSUL verticals for all activities and dimensions of policy, partnerships, capacity building, and data management to promote urban poor, women, and vulnerable groups through an intersectional and gender inclusive lens by improving the documentation, evaluation methodology, GESDI indicators, monitoring tools and conceptual research frameworks.

8. Represent the Centre and NIUA at conferences, workshops, and other events to promote our research and findings.

Qualifications:

1. Master's degree (with at least 10 years of experience) or PhD (with at least 5 years of work experience) in Urban Planning, Urban Management/Studies, Social Sciences i.e., economics, anthropology, demographics, sociology; or equivalent degrees from premier institutions.
2. Proven experience in conducting independent research projects, as evidenced by publications in peer reviewed journals or research reports.
3. Proven experience of working on urban centric projects, work with State/Central programs, and CPSEs on livelihood projects will be desirable.

Knowledge and Experience:

1. Proven experience of leading research and/or management of large-scale research communications in the relevant area of expertise or in multidisciplinary research is highly desirable.
2. Proficiency in statistical software such as Stata, SPSS, R, etc. will be an advantage.
3. Strong Analytical skills with excellent written and verbal communication skills in English, Hindi, and any other Indian language with the ability to communicate research findings to a variety of audiences.
4. Ability to guide a team of researchers for undertaking research on a subject.
5. Ability to work flexibly on a range of assignments showcasing strong teamwork and collaboration and adjust to a variety of complex and evolving tasks to meet deadlines.
6. Demonstrated expertise in interdisciplinary approaches, with hands on experience at both policy and field level on action-based research.
7. Proven professional experience working with multiple stakeholders at various levels of government, ministries and inter agencies.
8. Previous work experience with an international organisation or an international setting will be an added advantage.
9. A strong passion for policy research and a commitment to making a positive impact through evidence-based recommendations.

Position Overview:

NIUA is seeking experienced and motivated individuals to join as Research Fellows for the Centre for Sustainable Urban Livelihoods.

Number of Position(s): Two (2)

Location: New Delhi

Term of position: The position is on a contractual basis for 3 years, renewed annually.

References: Name and contact information of two references.

Remuneration: At par with the industry standards, depending on experience and skills. Proof of past remuneration (last received salary/monthly contract payment) will be required.

Last Date of Application: 27 June 2024

Persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply.

Application Process:

Interested candidates should submit a CV and cover letter outlining their qualifications and experience to hr@niua.org. Applications will be reviewed and interviews will be conducted on a rolling basis. NIUA reserves the right to fill this position at its discretion and is not obligated to notify applicants when the position has been filled. We encourage interested candidates to apply promptly.

Note: We are committed to providing equal opportunities for all applicants, including persons with disabilities. If you require any reasonable accommodation during the application process, please contact us at hr@niua.org.