

Vacancy: Research Associate/Senior Research Associate

Environmental Governance and Policy

On-site (New Delhi) | Full-Time

Sustainable Futures Collaborative

The Sustainable Futures Collaborative (SFC) is an independent and non-profit research organisation that

- Analyses issues at the frontier of addressing climate change, managing the energy transition, and limiting environmental threats in India and globally;
- Informs policymakers, stakeholders and the public about key policy and governance levers, and their implications; and
- Accelerates the transition to an environmentally and socially sustainable future by enabling strategic action for systemic change.

Work Description

SFC invites applications for the role of a Research Associate/Senior Research Associate for its Environmental Governance and Policy (EG&P) vertical. The candidate will be required to support ongoing work on air quality governance, policy, and institutions in India. Major themes will include the following:

- Building the foundations for health-centric air pollution policy
- Strengthening the institutional processes around air quality and health policy
- Understanding the capacities and constraints of environmental regulators
- Strengthening the scientific foundations of air pollution management
- Helping build resources for shared, coherent public messaging on air quality

For the Research Associate position, candidates will be expected to support the EG&P Coordinator by contributing to ongoing work. This will involve contributing to research design, conducting quantitative and qualitative data analysis, and writing extensively for a variety of audiences. In addition, the candidate may be requested to contribute to our institutional activities and engage in administrative responsibilities from time to time, such as communications and outreach.

In addition to the above responsibilities, candidates for the Senior Research Associate position will also be expected to mentor younger colleagues in developing their research capabilities.

Both positions will require candidates to work across several ongoing projects simultaneously, while developing their own independent research agenda with guidance from SFC leadership. There may also be an opportunity to collaborate with other SFC team members across verticals, should there be overlapping interests.

Key Responsibilities

- Develop deep familiarity with major sectoral contributors to air pollution, ongoing efforts by government and civil society, and track developments closely
- Conduct quantitative and spatial analyses using programming languages such as R
- Undertake original research using quantitative/qualitative data
- Undertake and oversee quantitative and/or qualitative data collection using different research tools
- Conduct thorough and critical reviews of relevant literature

- Contribute to the development of high-quality academic publications, analytical reports, working papers, policy briefs, and other forms of research dissemination
- Building relationships with partners in governments, academia and peer organisations in India or globally
- Contribute to broader SFC activities as required
- Any other related assignments may be entrusted by their supervisor

Qualifications

- Strong quantitative and statistical skills with a Master’s degree (public health, environmental science, public policy, or social sciences, with demonstrable policy engagement, are preferred, or an exceptional candidate with an Undergraduate degree
- Ideally, 2-4 years of relevant work/research experience, with at least one published manuscript
- Training and experience in advanced quantitative research methods, along with proficiency in statistical and spatial data analysis tools, is a must
- Demonstrated interest and experience in air quality governance or environmental policy is highly desirable
- Strong research and writing skills are essential
- Ability to communicate and work with a team that draws from diverse disciplines
- History or comfort with working in a flat organisational structure is desirable
- Ability to participate in SFC’s broader intellectual agenda

We are looking for exceptional candidates and will consider applications that meet that bar, even if they do not meet some of these requirements. The designation offered to the candidates will be aligned with their meeting of these criteria and relevant work experience.

Remuneration

Salary commensurate with experience and designation, in line with development sector standards.

Application Instructions

Please send your application to recruitment@sustainablefutures.org, with the subject line “Application: Research Associate/Senior Research Associate: EG&P”. Applications should include:

- A cover letter explaining your suitability for the position
- Two writing samples (preferably first or sole or first author journal publications or research reports)
- A curriculum vitae
- Two references

Please note that only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. Applications will be reviewed every 15 days until the position is filled.