

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
RESEARCH OFFICER
(Fixed Term 4 Months)

Southasia Institute of Advanced Studies (SIAS) – a rapidly growing Kathmandu-based research organization and Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences at University of New South Wales, Australia have been collaborating to advance joint research, policy analysis and capacity building of Nepalese institutions and researchers. The partnership is now focusing on issues related to disaster risk management, which has become a key priority of Nepal following the recent Earthquakes.

As part of this joint initiative, there is now an exciting opportunity for a Research Officer based in Nepal to gather data and undertake preliminary analysis of the data to generate important insights into how subsequent research can better contribute to Nepal's efforts to rehabilitate itself from the devastating effects of the recent Earthquakes. The empirical focus is on gathering information on who is doing what in the post disaster situation in Nepal, and then exploring opportunities for longer term research and strategic development needs where UNSW can contribute. The collection and analysis of information from other South Asian cases of disasters management (via Internet) will enhance insights on this important issue of human security. The Officer will work under the supervision of Dr Hemant R Ojha and Dr Krishna K. Shrestha at UNSW and Mr Kamal Devkota at SIAS.

Duties and responsibilities

- Gather information on who is doing what in rehabilitation works following the earthquakes in Nepal
- Conduct key informant interviews focusing on international agencies, policy makers, and key research institutes based in Nepal
- Conduct review of literature from other disaster cases happened in past few years in South Asia
- Contribute to research proposal based on the analysis thus generated (more intensely from Nepal and through literature review from other parts of South Asia)

Outputs to produce

- Critically review of current disaster responses in Nepal (20 pages report with an annex of responses by organisations)
- A draft of a review paper highlighting the lessons from selected South Asian disasters (Journal Draft)
- Contribute to research partnership building among UNSW, SIAS, CARE Nepal and other agencies based in Nepal
- Contribute to research project proposal - such Australian Research Council (ARC) Linkage Research between UNSW, CARE and SIAS Nepal

Qualifications and selection criteria

- At least Bachelor's degree in social or natural science discipline
- Proven research skills focusing on collection, organisation and analysis of qualitative & quantitative data
- Demonstrated experience or engagement in disaster management, research or policy related works
- Excellent writing and communication skills
- High level of motivation and commitment to high quality, rigorous research
- Ability to plan and work independently

To apply

Please write an email attaching a) your response to the above mentioned selection criteria and b) a recent CV to Dr Hemant R Ojha, h.ojha@unsw.edu.au with a copy to Kamal Devkota, kamal@sias-southasia.org on or before 3 pm Nepal time, September 15, 2015.