CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

EARLY-CAREER WORKSHOP ON GEOSPATIAL ANALYTICS AND URBAN PLANNING

Date: April, 2022 (Tentatively) | Duration: 5 Days

Host Institution: Centre for Geographical Studies, Aryabhatta Knowledge University, Patna, Bihar (India)

INTRODUCTION

India is striving to recast its urban landscape to make cities safe, sustainable and future ‘pandemic proof’. The new urban transformation strategies of India are guided by the twin objectives of addressing the challenges of unplanned urbanisation in the country, following the policy recommendations of futuristic Smart Cities (100 Smart Cities Programme), and more recently ensuring equitable access to basic health and urban infrastructure a sine qua non for sustainable urban development (500 Healthy Cities Programme, AMRUT). A high-level committee on urban planning recently lamented that there is a dire need for human resources in urban planning, urban design and related urban governance sectors to meet the urban transformation strategies. In this context, it becomes extremely timely and important for the new generation of urban scholars and practitioners to develop macro perspective of urbanisation and multi-faceted skills that can meet future strategies and decisions related to urban planning in a holistic and sustainable manner.

In this context, the Centre for Geographical Society (CGS), Patna in partnership with University of Wolverhampton (UK), National Institute of Urban Affairs (India) and Kermanshah University of Medical Sciences (Iran) is organising a one-week capacity building workshop for early career researchers and professionals in the urban sector. The workshop is part of a Seminar Series Project - “Recasting the City, Lives & Livelihoods, and Inequality in the post-COVID world (ReCLIC)” - funded by the Urban Studies Foundation (USF). The programme will provide early career researchers and professionals a hands-on experience and knowledge – about the urbanisation challenges and urban planning strategies; to undertake evidence-based research and policy development in the urban sector; on the new technological dimension in urban studies; and to use geographical information science and spatial data analytical tools to support urban planning policy, industry and practice.

THE TENTATIVE TOPICS OF WORKSHOP INCLUDE:

• Introduction to Global Discourse on Geospatial Analytics and Urban Planning
• Emerging Urbanisation Patterns and Urban Growth
• Contemporary Urban Governance Strategies and Urban Planning Approaches
• Application of GIS and Remote Sensing in Urban Sector
• Visualising Small (conventional) and Big Urban Data
• Block-Chain, Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning in Urban Planning & Management
• Contemporary City Analytical Tools: City GML, Google Earth Engine
• Urban Spatial Programming Tools: Rhinoceros and Grasshopper
• 3D Modelling Using Geospatial Analytical Tools
• Project Management, Paper Writing and Presentation

The course content will involve a combination of conceptual sessions, case studies and applied hands-on training, and focuses on contemporary urban studies and planning. Distinguished scholars, academicians, and practitioners from India and overseas will deliver key classroom sessions and specialist sessions with hands-on training on geospatial analytics in urban planning and management.
ABOUT THE HOST INSTITUTION
The Centre for Geographical Studies, Patna is an autonomous institution established by Government of Bihar in 2018 and it started to function in 2020. It is the first Geographical research Centre in India which is established and fully financed by the Govt. of Bihar. Now, Centre for Geographical Studies is fully a part of Aryabhata Knowledge University. It will serve as a public planning and policy-research Centre contributing towards the state and eventually towards national development policies and strategies. The focus of the Centre is to develop quality knowledge and skills comparable to any leading research institution of the world.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA
The target group of the programme are early career researchers - PhD scholars (atleast PhD synopsis should be approved by research committee and those who have submitted their thesis and awaiting for defense), and all early career researchers and scholars (within 5 years of PhD completion). Urban planning professionals and practitioners with two years of working experience may also be considered. The total number of participants will be limited to 25. On the completion of the workshop, the participants should finalise the research paper within one month time. Selected papers will be published in an edited book by a publisher of international repute (e.g., Routledge or Palgrave MacMillan).

HOW TO APPLY
Expression of interest is through an online form available at https://forms.gle/AmSEfPw2ufkqzRRb9
Interested candidates should also upload their CV, a full draft research paper on topics related to the theme of the workshop, and a recommendation letter from supervisor (for PhD scholars) or head of the department or any competent authority of the university/institute/organisation.

The last date for the submission of application is 30th January 2022.
All selected candidates will be informed by the end of February 2022.

FUNDING SUPPORT AND CONFIRMATION FEES
Travel, accommodation and food for all selected participants (outside Patna) will be borne by the organisers (CGS). A confirmation fee of Rs. 1000/- (non-refundable) would be charged from all the outstation (outside Patna) selected candidates.

NATIONAL COORDINATORS
Prof. Poornima Shekhar Singh  
Director, Centre for Geographical Studies, Aryabhatta Knowledge University, Patna, Bihar

Dr. Gaurav Sikka  
Assistant Professor, University Department of Geography, L.N. Mithila University, Darbhanga, Bihar

INTERNATIONAL COORDINATOR
Dr. Komali Yenneti  
Lecturer and Program Leader ‘Geography, Urban Environments and Climate Change’ School of Architecture and Built Environment, University of Wolverhampton, United Kingdom

FOR QUERIES CONTACT:
Ms. Kanchan, CGS, Phone: 08544047784 | Dr. Gaurav Sikka, Phone: 09210021110
Email: cgsusf.uk@gmail.com

Project Partners
- UNIVERSITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON
- Kermanshah University of Medical Sciences
- National Institute of Urban Affairs

Knowledge Partners
- IGU Young & Early Career Geographers Taskforce (YECG)