

HEAD – INTEGRATED URBAN WATER MANAGEMENT

Location: Bengaluru/ Mumbai/ Delhi, India

Position Type: Regular full-time

Title: Head – Integrated Urban Water Management

Position Overview

The position is located in WRI's offices, based in India. The position will directly report to the Sustainable Cities Director in India, and will be responsible to the Global Director of the Water Program in Washington, DC for strategy and outcomes. The successful applicant will play an important role in helping WRI's Ross Center for Sustainable Cities develop and apply a comprehensive water assessment tool for urban areas. The tool would build on WRI's unique Aqueduct™ toolbox.

WRI's global Water Program strive to provide regional sustainable development approaches for water management in the rapidly urbanizing developing world. The WRI India office is engaged in cities across India to deliver transportation solutions, as well as climate adaptation, energy, forest restoration and other projects. The 15-person global Water Program currently works to develop robust global water risk assessment data and tools as well as analytical tools and guidance for implementing local solutions to reduce water stress and flood risk, improve water quality, and improve resilience to future climate impacts.

This position sits in the WRI's India office and is affiliated with the Sustainable Cities Program and the Global Water Program at WRI. The focus of the position would be too build on the ongoing water assessment tools under development and work with national, state, and city decision-makers to develop water risk assessments and pilot comparative solutions analyses for addressing high-priority water concerns in key metropolitan regions/cities in India, such as Bangalore. Efforts will include applying and extending the tool with locally sourced data, working with business and government leaders to identify critical issues to address, developing an analytical framework for evaluating potential watershed interventions and solutions, and providing input to policy and local decisions affecting water use and water quality. A specific requirement is the development of regional strategies to embed such tools and related services within an appropriate institutional structure of the rapidly urbanizing, regional water management systems.

Responsibilities

Project management & coordination (50 % of time)

- Serve as lead water staff person in India, coordinating with Global Director, Water Program, Director, and Sustainable Cities program India Director.
- Coordinate with relevant national, state, and municipal governments and other stakeholders about WRI's water risk analysis, data, and related work.

- Lead the application of comprehensive water assessment tool and local water risk data, analysis, and development of solutions and recommendations for decision-makers in key metropolitan regions in India.
- Coordinate with Aqueduct and Natural Infrastructure for Water project teams, as well as WRI's Governance Center, to coordinate funded project demonstrating forest-water mapping tool applications in India and provide feedback to the project teams on needed improvements.
- Liaise with local water data and analysis experts in India, as well as researchers developing granular water models for India, such as NASA's SALDAS high-resolution water model.
- Cultivate ideas and tools to integrate relevant data sets from Indian agencies, interalia ISRO, NRSA, DMA, and various ministries, departments, universities and civil society researchers.
- Assist with fundraising proposals and background information and writing for prospective project funders.
- Supervise the work of junior researchers and interns, as appropriate.

Research and Analysis (25% of time)

- Develop analytical framework for assessing regional water risk and use Aqueduct and local data in close collaboration with Water Program staff to apply to metropolitan areas like Bangalore.
- Evaluation and design of institutional mechanisms for the operationalization of the tools, processes and systems for regional and urban water management.
- Work with WRI water and economics experts to develop customized analysis of watershed solutions and economic tradeoffs among potential water risk reduction strategies.
- Help to ground-truth results and conclusions associated with forthcoming forest-water maps in specific watersheds in India.

Outreach and Communication (25% of time)

- Support efforts to communicate about WRI's water-related work in India, including analytical content to non-technical audiences, media, and existing and prospective funders.
- Represent WRI's Water Program and WRI Ross Center for Sustainable Cities work through presentations at relevant conferences and workshops.

Attributes and Credentials

- Master's degree required in hydrology, water resources management or a related environmental science or policy discipline.
- Minimum 7 - 12 years of highly relevant, full-time work experience, dealing in natural water management and how water management can be done in urban planning.
- Excellent academic performance and strong analytical capability. Should had worked in the water related projects, in conservation of natural water bodies.
- Ability to communicate complex concepts clearly both orally and in writing, with excellent demonstrated skills in English.
- Highly organized and detail-oriented; experience managing complex processes or projects.



- Strong interpersonal skills; demonstrated ability to build a strong network of professional relationships.
- Comfort working with staff at all levels of experience.
- Demonstrated ability to work well in a fast-paced environment and to juggle multiple assignments with little supervision.
- International work experience and/or foreign language skills.
- Excellent computer skills, ideally including proficiency in GIS mapping software.

How to Apply

Only Qualified applicants should apply online at www.wri.org/careers. All applications must be submitted online through this career portal in order to be formally considered. Only select applicants will be contacted for interview purpose.

Salary and Benefits

Salary shall commensurate with experience and skills. WRI India offers a generous and comprehensive benefits package.

About WRI

WRI's reputation is grounded in its excellent analysis, non-partisan approach, and high-impact results. We measure our success based on how our work helps to create real-world change on the ground—and approach we call "Managing for Results."

WRI's work is united by and driven by our values: Innovation, Integrity, Urgency, Independence, and Respect.

WRI fosters a culture of innovative ideas, working collaboratively, and thinking independently. WRI employees are driven by the organization's mission and have the satisfaction of helping to create a more prosperous and healthy planet.