

Okapi is looking for a dedicated research associate with experience in water and disaster management! The new hire will be working on exciting interdisciplinary and collaborative projects with expert guidance from Okapi and IIT Madras faculty.

Please reach out to [info@okapia.co](mailto:info@okapia.co) with your **CV and an Application letter** elaborating on your experience and expertise in this broad area by 5<sup>th</sup> February. Some specific requirements we are looking for are as follows:

#### **Essential Requirements:**

- **Ph.D.** or 2–4 years of post-Master’s experience in climate adaptation, disaster research, or related disciplines such as urban planning, environmental science, public policy, or disaster management, with at least one research paper published in a Science Citation Indexed (SCI) journal.
- Demonstrated expertise in working on governance challenges and community-based system dynamic understanding that can support model building exercise in managing water-related extreme events, including flooding and droughts.
- Capability to understand and analyze governance/policy aspects at the intersection of water-waste management. Demonstrated experience in grassroots-level fieldwork, leading stakeholder engagement, and collecting unbiased data using rigorous qualitative approaches.
- Ability to integrate social, organizational, and governance factors into ecosystem-level flood risk management strategies.
- Fluency in **English** with excellent writing and communication skills. Working Knowledge of **Tamil** is required (essential for fieldwork and stakeholder engagement).
- Competence in primary and secondary data collection, collation, and coding along with the ability to perform both quantitative and qualitative data analysis.
- Proficiency in spatial analysis using **QGIS/ArcGIS**.

#### **Job Duties**

- Conducting extensive desk reviews, designing field studies, visiting field sites, interacting with various stakeholders, collecting unbiased data, and analyzing data by integrating perspectives from multiple stakeholders to contribute to the development of a digital twin of water.
- Contribute to research in areas such as urban resilience, climate change adaptation, and disaster impact assessment.
- Provide technical support to other project activities, including reviews, assessments, analyses, and presentations of findings to local partners.
- Coordinate and oversee project activities to ensure targets are achieved. Support the development of high-quality documentation and ensure timely reporting of projects.
- Organize meetings and consultations with multiple partners, including relevant departments, technical experts, local NGOs, and civil society groups.
- Develop training materials and lead capacity-building and training workshops.
- Regularly collaborate with a large, international, interdisciplinary team of researchers and technical staff.

**Duration:** Long-term (2-3 years). The first 3 months will be a probationary period, with extensions based on regular review of performance.