



**National Institute of Advanced Studies,
Indian Institute of Science Campus, Bengaluru-560012**

**Call of Applications: (a) Project Associate (Level 2) / Project Associate (Level 1)
(Two positions)**

Project Title: Develop Natural Resource Utilization Plan for Biodiversity Hotspots

The National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS) was established in 1988 through the vision and initiative of the late Mr. J. R. D. Tata to nurture a broad base of scholars, managers, and leaders capable of addressing complex societal challenges through interdisciplinary approaches (www.nias.res.in). NIAS conducts advanced multidisciplinary research in natural sciences, engineering, humanities, social sciences, as well as conflict and security studies.

NIAS is conducting a research project on “Developing Natural Resources Utilization Plan in Biodiversity Hotspots”. The project aims to assess natural resource availability and utilization patterns in biodiversity hotspots across the Western Ghats (Karnataka) and the Eastern Ghats (Odisha). It focuses on understanding the interactions between ecological systems and socio-economic drivers influencing resource use. The project adopts an interdisciplinary approach that combines ecological and social science perspectives. The research involves analysis of primary and secondary geospatial, ecological and socio-economic data on natural resources availability and utilization patterns in strategically selected sites in Eastern and Western Ghats of India. We are looking for qualified candidates for two Project Associates: one with a background in natural/environmental sciences and another with a background in social sciences. The Project Associates are expected to contribute to fieldwork, geospatial and statistical data analysis, and writing. More information on the qualifications and skills/expertise is provided below.

Qualifications

Position	Minimum Qualifications	Skills/Expertise
Project Associate, Level 1 or 2 (one position)	Master’s degree in Geoinformatics/Remote Sensing, Environmental Sciences, Forestry, Botany, Geoinformatics, Natural Resource Management (NRM), Ecology or related disciplines	Strong GIS/Remote Sensing skills, writing, prior fieldwork experience or willingness to do fieldwork with rural communities in India.
Project Associate, Level 1 or 2 (one position)	Master’s degree in Economics, Statistics, Population Studies, Development Studies, Rural Development, Sociology, Geography, Public Policy or related disciplines	Strong quantitative data analysis skills of primary and secondary socio-economic data in statistical software (Stata/SPSS/R), writing, prior fieldwork experience or willingness to do fieldwork with rural communities in India.

Monthly Emoluments:

- Level 1: ₹31,000 + 30% HRA per month = ₹ 40,300 total
- Level 2: ₹35,000 + 30% HRA per month = ₹ 45,500 total

Mode of Application: Interested and eligible candidates must submit the following documents in a single PDF:

1. Cover letter
2. Curriculum Vitae
3. Copy of Postgraduate Degree Certificate

Deadline: 31 May 2026. Shortlisted candidates will be invited for an online interview.

Email application to: raup2025@nias.res.in