

**Swastik
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Expertise

Capacity development programmes on urbanization

Focus on public sector institutions, governments and practitioners

Research and policy advisory for urban development

Focus on affordable housing and housing submarkets

Architecture for development

Focus on healthcare and education infrastructure

Experience

Indian Institute for Human Settlements (IIHS) / Senior Lead

Aug 2010 - Dec 2020; Bengaluru

Capacity Development: I developed the Urban Practitioners' Programme (UPP), the capacity building function at IIHS, and led it for four years (2017-2020) to reach more than 7,500 public, private, academic and civil society participants from hundreds of cities in 32 states of India. I was responsible for portfolio, partner and revenue diversification and had creative control on course design, management and (in-person and online) delivery. I built, led and mentored a dozen-strong capacity building team at IIHS and demonstrated the impact of our training programmes at scale.

- Capacity building programmes for nearly 2,500 municipal and state leadership and middle management, on town planning, engineering for public health, basic services in urban areas and affordable housing, under Central government schemes such as the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT), Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM), the Rajiv Awas Yojana (RAY) and the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana - Urban (PMAY-U).
- Capacity building programmes for hundreds of All-India Service (IAS, etc.) officers on urban development, basic services, housing and land records management in urban areas, as part of their career-linked training programmes under the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) and the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNAA).
- Cross-cutting programmes for a diverse set of researchers and practitioners from the public, private and civil society sectors on research methods, data analysis and data visualization for the development sector, with a focus on geospatial data.
- Upgrade programmes on town planning, land and housing for Community-based Organizations (CBO) and Non-governmental Organizations (NGO); on SDGs for school students; and on disaster resilience leadership for entrepreneurs and civil society.
- Admissions, academic and assessment procedures for IIHS' 9-month interdisciplinary Urban Fellowship Programme (UFP); co-anchored the fellowship's Housing Policy and Practice module.

I believe taking a Theory of Change approach to designing and implementing capacity building initiatives.

This allows us to assess and address individual and institutional development processes, as well as enable change in the ecosystem of practice.

Research and Housing Policy Support: I co-led the housing team at IIHS from its inception. I led several research and policy advisory projects on slum development, affordable housing, rental housing and environmental sustainability for diverse clients

and donors. Several of these studies included suggestions on institutional development for housing delivery.

- Formulation of suggestions to the National Rental Housing Policy framework with the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, for the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India.
- Drafting a major revision of the Karnataka Affordable Housing Policy, 2016 and the formulation of the Karnataka Slum Areas Development Policy, 2016, for the Government of Karnataka.
- Process maps and pilot implementation for community-led slum upgrading programmes under the JAGA mission of the Government of Odisha, with a focus on ease of procurement and implementation.
- Knowledge partnership on the policy pillar of the Sustainable Housing Leadership Consortium, with the International Finance Corporation (IFC).
- Study on sustainable municipal finance in small towns in Karnataka and studies on the feasibility of Central and state government housing schemes in Bengaluru's housing submarkets, for the Government of Karnataka.
- Data-driven, comparative and case-based studies on the commercial viability of national housing schemes such as the Affordable Rental Housing Complex (ARHC) scheme and *In-situ* Slum Redevelopment (ISSR) vertical of the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana - Urban (PMAY-U) in Indian cities.

I articulate housing as a process, through a conceptual tool I call the 'housing ladder' - that includes dimensions of tenure, investment and capital formation, de-risking, adequacy of built-form, and social mobility - relevant at household and policy levels.

Architecture and Design Practice: I started and led the Design Lab at IIHS that works at the intersection of design and the development sector. I was responsible for design leadership and the development of design implementation frameworks for enhanced public service delivery.

- Evidence-based process redesign and architectural revamp of the Out-patient Departments (OPD) and Emergency Departments (ED) of 10 District Hospitals in the state of Uttar Pradesh. Our suggestion for the incorporation of 'filter clinics' to streamline patient load was implemented in several hospitals.
- Guidelines for the development of Primary Health Centres (PHC), Community Health Centres (CHC) and Auxiliary Nurse and Midwife (ANM) Sub-centres for the Government of Karnataka, incorporating climate-responsiveness and incremental retrofit process flows.
- Guidelines for the development of Covid Care Centres (CCC) and Dedicated Covid Health Centres (DCHC) in resource-constrained settings.
- Strategic and physical development plan for the Tamil Nadu Institute for Urban Studies (TNIUS), Coimbatore, integrating programmatic, physical infrastructure and financial phasing.

With a focus on research-based design, I believe it is critical to tie up the three phases of the design process more closely and cogently—research, design and assessment of outcomes—in order to develop comprehensive strategies for design in the development sector.

Architecture/Design Consultant and Faculty / Independent Practitioner

Jun 2000 - Jul 2010; Various Locations

I led and supported projects on architecture, art and design. These were residential, industrial, institutional and art installation projects. I was core and visiting faculty at several architecture schools.

- Architecture and design advisor to Tokai Rubber Auto-parts India Pvt. Ltd.; I advised the company on land acquisition from the Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board (KIADB) and assisted in the design and development of their key manufacturing unit, along with several warehouses and office spaces

in Bengaluru, Karnataka.

- Independent residential buildings, apartment buildings and institutional campuses for several clients in Delhi and Bengaluru, Karnataka.
- Architecture design studios at Sushant School of Art and Architecture, Gurugram, BMS College of Engineering (Dept. of Architecture), Bengaluru and the School of Planning and Architecture, Vijayawada.
- Art direction and support for design and art studios, as well as film and television productions.

Publications, Articles and Media

Harish, S. (2021). [Affordable rental housing complexes and private rental housing in indian cities](#). Economic and Political Weekly, LVI(16).

Harish, S., & Lala, R. (2020, May 6). [Rent control amidst pandemic](#). The Hindu.

Harish, S. (2019, October). [Building the next superpower: India's urban growth](#). Domus Italy.

Harish, S., & Vasudev, E. (2019, Oct 1). [Housing crisis, untouched](#). The Hindu.

Harish, S. (2019). [Urban development, housing and 'slums'](#). In O. Goyal & S. Patel (Eds.), The Contemporary Urban Conundrum. Routledge.

Harish, S. (2016). [Public social rental housing in India: opportunities and challenges](#). Economic and Political Weekly, 51(5).

Harish, S. (2016, Dec 16). [Mind the gap: Indian cities need 18 million houses – even as nine million houses lie vacant](#). scroll.in.

Harish, S. (2015). [Case study on the MMRDA Rental Housing Scheme](#). IIHS and Rockefeller Foundation.

Harish, S. (2015). [Making rental housing work: a case for slum households and ULBs](#). Administrator, 65(2).

Harish, S., Bhan, G., Arakali, A., Deb, A., & Anand, G. (2014). [Exclusions in access to urban housing](#). In Center for Equity Studies (Ed.), India Exclusion Report 2013-14. Books for Change.

Harish, S., Bhan, G., & Anand, G. (2014). [Policy approaches to affordable housing in urban India: problems and possibilities](#). IIHS and Rockefeller Foundation.

Harish, S. (2009). [Dholavira: ancient water harnessing system](#). Context - Built, Living and Natural, VI(1).

[Short films] [Public housing typologies in Mysore, Karnataka \(link\)](#), [Rental housing in India \(link\)](#) and [Medieval rainwater management systems in six cities of Rajasthan \(link\)](#)

I have authored several policy briefs, as well as capacity building and consultancy project reports, that can be made available on request.

Education

School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi / Bachelor of Architecture
Aug 1995 - May 2000; New Delhi