



The FLASH project seeks 6 PhDs and 1 Project Manager for Adaptive Delta Management in Bangladesh

The Bengal Delta is the largest delta in the world. It is facing challenges, including unplanned urban growth and inadequate infrastructure and essential services, which are widespread, particularly in peri-urban areas (i.e., the transition zones between urban and rural areas). Given these challenges, the problems of livelihoods in peri-urban areas are complex and multifaceted, shaped by a combination of environmental changes, socio-economic factors, and the actions of various societal actors that evolve through informal processes.

To better address these challenges in an integrated way, under the NWO-ADM-LAB programme, the **FLASH (Facilitating Livelihoods through Advancing Smart Habitats in Peri-Urban Bangladesh)** project employs a “living lab” approach that ensures co-creation and collective management to answer an overarching scientific question: “How to create sustainable, climate-resilient livelihood options for peri-urban populations in Bangladesh?”.

FLASH brings together academic institutes from Bangladesh, (i.e., BUET, DU, KU, BU, JUST, BRAC, IUB) and the Netherlands (i.e., Utrecht University, Wageningen University and Research, IHS/Erasmus University Rotterdam, and TU Delft), Australia (Murdoch University), USA (Ohio State University) alongside key cooperation partners such as Solidaridad Network, Delta Research Initiative (Bangladesh), and Deltares (Netherlands).

FLASH is divided into six interlinked scientific work packages (WPs): WP1 on natural hazards affecting peri-urban livelihoods, WP2 on inclusive economic opportunities for non-migration, WP3 on housing and physical infrastructure, WP4 on WASH services and public health, WP5 on co-governance for just climate adaptation, and WP6 on livelihood systems model.

The FLASH project invites applications for **six PhD positions** and **one Project Manager** to join a multidisciplinary team of 20 consortium partners, including universities, research institutes, government, and non-governmental organizations, addressing the complex challenges of peri-urban livelihoods in Bangladesh’s delta regions.

The deadline for applications is 25 October 2025. Interviews will take place in the first week of November.

Join us to advance knowledge and support transformative change for climate-resilient delta communities. Details of the institutional arrangements and requirements for the PhDs and project managers are presented for the individual work packages below.

WP1: Natural Hazards Affecting Peri-urban Livelihoods in Coastal Bangladesh – 2 PhDs

WP1 aims to understand location-specific climate-related multiple hazards in the context of climate change and urbanization, and how they affect various livelihoods. It also seeks to identify solutions and adaptations,



including nature-based solutions (NBS), that can be implemented to reduce these impacts at the individual and community levels, based on a co-creation approach. WP1 will evaluate this by combining community perspectives on climate-related hazards, impacts on the physical environment, compounding effects, scenarios and (NB) adaptation options to reduce exposure to and impact of key hazards. This will be done by a team of 2 PhD candidates, focusing at the individual to community level in peri-urban areas, working in a living lab setting.

PhD1: Multi-hazard risk assessment and adaptation for peri-urban communities in coastal Bangladesh

In this PhD project, you will evaluate how risk components and multi-hazards have affected recent and current livelihoods in southwest Bangladesh, develop scenarios for the future development of risk components and their impact on communities, and evaluate potential strategies to reduce future risk. You will do this through a combination of data analysis on past hazards and impacts, remote sensing and spatial data analysis, spatially explicit systems modeling of natural environment, hazards, exposure and impacts, scenario development and evaluation of adaptation measures. Models will be based on existing hydro-dynamic models for the river network and polders in SW-Bangladesh, and will be run for critical conditions of hazards to determine exposure and impact in the key regions considered by FLASH. Specific activities and tasks are:

- Exploring recent and past exposure and impact of (multiple) hazards using existing data on hazards and impacts, together with satellite imagery and land use and population data;
- Determining cause-effect diagrams for multiple hazard exposure and vulnerabilities for key regions in SW Bangladesh;
- Developing simple 'fit-for-purpose' (spatially explicit) systems models representing key-dependencies between hazard, exposure and impacts on livelihoods for evaluation of vulnerability to multi-hazards.
- Developing site-specific scenarios for changes in climate, sea level, hydrology, land use and socio-economic development through downscaling IPCC SSP-RCP, BDP2100 scenarios, and IMAGE model output.
- Evaluation of risk and vulnerability under future scenarios, and for different adaptation options derived from participatory workshops at community level, as well as strategies identified in the BDP2100.

PhD2: Multi-hazard risk index for peri-urban communities in coastal Bangladesh

PhD2 will focus on developing a multi-hazard risk index at the peri-urban community level. For this purpose, you will consider different hazard attributes such as magnitude, duration, timing, frequency and extent, and consider spatial variation in indices. You will also explore how vulnerability at community level manifests itself through internal attributes of a community and is influenced by its socioeconomic characteristics such as age, sex, income and education, and the presence of infrastructure and institutional support system. The community-wise vulnerability index would identify the areas in which improvement is needed for each community. Overall, the project results in an integrated assessment of risk at community level.

In this project you will:

- Review the literature on single- and multi-hazard risk indices, especially in peri-urban settings.
- Collect primary quantitative information through household surveys and using participatory tools to identify the essential components of risk and the associated indicators and collect relevant primary and secondary data.



- Identify the major drivers of the hazards, such as natural, infrastructural, socioeconomic, institutional and environmental, and how these influence different hazards.
- Develop a multi-hazard exposure index for each community and livelihood group: identify the livelihood elements exposed to different hazards, explore how multi-hazard exposure differs from individual-hazard exposures, and develop a functional relation between the hazard and exposure index.
- Explore how well each community is performing in terms of different indicators, hazards, and components of risk, and how internal vulnerability varies with hazard types, to improve the decision-making processes of the national and regional governments.
- Publish your research outcomes in scholarly journals as suggested by the supervisors and the consortium.

Requirements

We are looking for enthusiastic, broad-minded and dedicated researchers with a strong interest in climate risk analysis, and resilience and adaptation of communities to multi-hazards. You must have a relevant academic background and eager to contribute to develop solutions for communities in SW-Bangladesh to climate-associated risk.

You demonstrate a combination of scientific curiosity, a reflective mindset, and a strong sense of teamwork. You are comfortable working in interdisciplinary and international settings, and you are motivated to work from time to time in informal settlements under challenging conditions. You value ethical engagement, inclusiveness, and co-creation with local communities.

Qualifications and experience

- An MSc degree in Water Resources / Environmental Engineering, Water Resources / Environmental Management, Hydrology, Physical Geography, or equivalent;
- PhD1: Strong skills in numerical modeling of hydrologic/agricultural systems and their link to exposure and vulnerability, proficiency in using model packages or Python code, or be willing to learn these;
- PhD2: Experience with qualitative research methods, such as development of research guidelines, conducting Focus Group Discussions (FGDs), In-Depth Interviews (IDIs), and Key Informant Interviews (KIIs);
- Strong skills in quantitative data collection and analysis, including designing and conducting surveys, and using statistical software tools;
- Experience or familiarity with risk analysis and/or climate adaptation;
- Experience with or interest in working in informal settlements with low-income communities, ideally in Bangladesh;
- Fluent communication capability (speaking, writing, reading) in Bangla;
- Excellent command of English (spoken and written); TOEFL/IELTS may be required if your MSc was not taught in English;
- Strong presentation and communication skills, for both academic and non-academic audiences;
- Comfortable using digital platforms (e.g. Teams, Zoom, shared folders).

Terms and conditions of employment

PhD1 and 2 are appointed and based at the IWFM at BUET - Dhaka. PhD1 will pay three 5-months visits to Utrecht University during the project. After the first year there will be a formal assessment of the progress of both PhD candidates, resulting in a 'Go' or 'No-Go' decision for further completion of the PhD programme. Upon successful completion of the thesis, PhD1 will be receive a PhD degree from Utrecht University, and PhD2 from BUET.



For further information about the positions, you are welcome to contact by email:

- ## Remuneration:

During the research visits to Utrecht University, PhD1 will be provided with a gross monthly allowance of 2,500 Euro, as well as three economy-class travel grants (Dhaka-Utrecht-Dhaka) and assistance in finding temporary accommodation, courtesy of IHS. Insurance, etc., costs are included in the allowance.

Do you want to apply?

- a CV (max. 3 pages) with names and contact information of two academic referees,
- a motivation letter,
- a sample of your work (journal article or MSc thesis), and
- a short research idea presenting your interpretation of the work package and how your PhD approach fits within it (max 1 page)

This vacancy will be listed up to and including **25th October 2025**. We intend to schedule the first round of interviews by the week of **03rd November 2025**.

WP2: Inclusive economic opportunities for non-migration –
1PhD

You will:

- Develop the root causes and patterns of climate-induced (non-)migration in peri-urban informal settlements of Bangladesh. Ensure strong alignment with the FLASH work package objectives and



broader project themes, with emphasis on the socio-economic and environmental drivers of (non-)migration.

- Conduct both qualitative and quantitative assessments to explore how factors such as environmental degradation, economic insecurity, and social vulnerability influence migration decisions across diverse peri-urban communities.
- Map and analyze settlement typologies in selected peri-urban areas through participatory observations, field surveys, and spatial analysis to understand how physical, social, and infrastructural conditions shape migration patterns and settlement vulnerability.
- Evaluate and compare the performance of existing livelihood strategies, including farming, fishing, informal urban employment, and entrepreneurship. Assess their resilience, effectiveness, and limitations in the face of climate change, and how these shape (non-)migration motivations.
- Collaborate with local stakeholders and Living Lab (LL) partners to co-create knowledge and develop adaptive, context-specific interventions that respond to community needs and priorities, supporting in-situ resilience and reducing migration pressure.
- Work closely with academic supervisors at Khulna University and Utrecht University, while actively engaging with interdisciplinary researchers across the FLASH consortium to refine your analytical approach and ensure methodological rigor.
- Translate research findings into actionable outputs, including policy recommendations, spatial design strategies, and livelihood support models that promote equitable, dignified, and climate-resilient futures for vulnerable urban populations.
- Maintain a strong balance between academic rigor and practical engagement, combining in-depth fieldwork with participatory methods and stakeholder collaboration in a dynamic, international, and interdisciplinary research setting.

Requirements

We are seeking enthusiastic, broad-minded, and dedicated researchers with a strong interest in investigating how communities respond, adapt, and build resilience despite risks by considering the interplay of various climate and environmental risks in shaping human mobility and decision-making.

You demonstrate a combination of scientific curiosity, flexibility, and resilience, a reflective mindset, and a strong sense of teamwork. You are comfortable working in interdisciplinary and international settings, and you are motivated to work in informal settlements and conduct field work under challenging conditions. You value ethical engagement, inclusiveness, and co-creation with local communities.

Qualifications and experience

- An MSc degree in urban studies, development studies, business administration, sociology, human geography, or a related discipline.
- Demonstrated experience in conducting independent research, including fieldwork, data collection, and thesis writing, ideally focused on themes such as entrepreneurship for climate adaptation, migration, informal settlements, or inclusive urban development.
- Familiarity with mixed-methods approaches, combining both quantitative and qualitative techniques for analyzing socio-economic and environmental drivers, particularly in vulnerable urban or peri-urban contexts.
- A strong interest in and understanding of participatory action research, co-design methods, or community-based innovation, with a commitment to ethics, inclusivity, and knowledge co-production.
- Familiarity with tools such as SPSS, R, STATA (for quantitative analysis), NVivo or Atlas.TI (for qualitative coding) and GIS or spatial mapping software (e.g., QGIS, ArcGIS) are significant assets.



- Fluency in Bangla (spoken and written).
- Excellent command of English (spoken and written); TOEFL/IELTS may be required if your MSc was not taught in English.
- Strong presentation and communication skills for both academic and non-academic audiences.
- Comfortable using digital platforms (e.g. Teams, Zoom, shared folders).

Terms and conditions of employment

The PhD candidate will be employed at Khulna University in Bangladesh and will make three 5-month visits to Utrecht University during the project. After the first year, there will be a formal assessment of the progress of all PhD candidates, resulting in a 'Go' or 'No Go' decision for further completion of the PhD programme. Upon successful completion of the thesis, PhDs will receive their PhD degree from Utrecht University.

For PhD, daily supervision will be conducted by Prof. Dr. Md. Nasif Ahsan (Economics Discipline, Khulna University) and Dr Bishawjit Mallick, Dr. S.M. Labib, under overall guidance by Dr. Marco Helbich (UU)(promotor) at the Department of Human Geography & Spatial Planning (SGPL) of the Faculty of Geosciences in Utrecht University, the Netherlands.

You will be well-supported through supervision, training courses, funding to attend conferences and workshops, and involvement in research networks, to ensure your success and the development of your career trajectory.

For further information about the positions, you are welcome to contact us by email:

- Dr Bishawjit Mallick (Utrecht University), Email: b.mallick@uu.nl, Dr Md. Nasif Ahsan (Khulna University) Email: nasif.ahsan@econ.ku.ac.bd

Remuneration:

The positions are available for a fixed duration of 48 months on a non-extendable full-time basis (40 hours per week). The financial conditions will be in line with a PhD appointment in Bangladesh with a monthly salary of 600-800 Euro (in equivalent BDT), when based at Khulna University (for 33 months).

During the research visits to Utrecht University, the PhD candidates will be provided with a gross monthly allowance of 2,500 Euros, as well as three economy-class travel grants (Dhaka-Utrecht-Dhaka) and assistance in finding temporary accommodation, courtesy of Utrecht University, by their respective employers. Insurance, etc., costs are included in the allowance.

Do you want to apply?

You can apply through submitting by email

- a CV (max. 3 pages) with two referees,
- a motivation letter (max. 1 page),
- a sample of your work (journal article or MSc thesis), and
- a short research idea presenting your interpretation of the work package and how your PhD approach fits within it (max 1 page)

to: b.mallick@uu.nl

This vacancy will be listed up to and including **25th October 2025**. We hope to schedule the first round of interviews by the week of **03rd November 2025**.



WP3: Urban Livelihoods and Housing in Bangladesh – 1 PhD

WP3 identifies the peri-urban informal settlement typologies and develops adaptive strategies to enhance housing, physical infrastructure, and related livelihood resilience and policy and governance interventions through a LL approach. The PhD project will determine (1) a typology of settlements are present at the peri-urban locations; (2) identify what policy, governance and spatial-physical (in)adequacies explain the settlements' (trans)formation, (3) how these (in)adequacies contribute to settlements' spatial-physical vulnerabilities, (4) what interventions do inhabitants take themselves to address housing and physical infrastructure (in)adequacy, (5) Which physical, policy and governance interventions/recommendations could be co-created through the LL to improve the ability of physical infrastructure to withstand environmental shocks and support livelihood opportunities and resilience; *and* (6) which approach could help to continuously experiment, plan, design and evaluate the performance of these alternatives?

You will be based at Khulna University and responsible for conducting independent academic research on housing and physical infrastructure policy and practices in peri-urban informal settlements of its climate-vulnerable South-Western delta region in Bangladesh. Using a Living Lab approach, you will engage closely with local communities and collaborate with planning and service/infrastructure providing bodies, as well as policymakers, to co-create innovative solutions that improve the former's living conditions and strengthen climate-resilient livelihoods. Your work directly contributes to the FLASH project's goal of enhancing climate-resilient livelihoods.

As part of your employment, you are expected to:

- Contribute to the design and operation of a Living Lab and stimulate the co-creation of alternative housing solutions together with local stakeholders.
- Map, document and analyse settlement typologies in selected peri-urban sites, using field information, spatial data, and architectural methods and techniques.
- Investigate the role of policy, governance, and spatial factors in shaping the (in)adequacies and vulnerabilities of informal settlements.
- Explore resident-led initiatives to improve housing and infrastructure adequacy, focusing on availability, accessibility, affordability, acceptability, and adaptability (the 5A framework by IHS).
- Translate your research into tangible/applicable outputs, including design options and policy recommendations aimed at enhancing physical resilience and supporting sustainable livelihoods.
- Publish your research outcomes in scholarly journals as suggested by the supervisors and the consortia

Requirements

We are looking for an enthusiastic, broad-minded, and dedicated researcher with a strong interest in housing, livelihoods, and climate resilience. You must have a relevant academic background (specified under qualifications and experience below) and be eager to contribute to meaningful research that bridges academic knowledge and practical application.

You must demonstrate a combination of scientific curiosity, a reflective mindset, and a strong sense of teamwork. You need to be comfortable working in interdisciplinary and international settings, and highly motivated and enthusiastic in conducting fieldwork in informal settlements under challenging conditions. You should also value ethical engagement, inclusiveness, and co-creation with local communities.

Qualifications and experience:

- MSc degree in housing, architecture, urban studies, anthropology, human geography, or a related discipline from a recognized university;



- Interest in participatory and/or community-based research methods;
- Experience with software for data analytics is strongly preferred;
- Experience with or interest in working in informal settlements, ideally in Bangladesh;
- Enjoy working in a collaborative team environment across disciplines and cultures;
- Fluent communication capability (speaking, writing, reading) in Bangla;
- Excellent command of English (spoken and written); TOEFL/IELTS may be required if your MSc was not taught in English;
- Strong presentation and communication skills for both academic and non-academic audiences;
- Comfortable using digital platforms (e.g. Teams, Zoom, shared folders).

Terms and conditions of employment

The PhD will be employed at Khulna University in Bangladesh; you will spend three 11-month periods in Bangladesh and three 5-month research visits at IHS in Rotterdam over the course of the project. Upon successful completion of the thesis, you will receive a PhD degree from Khulna University.

The daily supervision will be done by Prof Dr Sheikh Serajul Hakim (Khulna University) and Dr Maartje van Eerd (IHS) (co-promoters), under overall guidance by Prof Dr Lasse Gerrits (IHS)(promotor).

You will be well-supported through supervision, training courses, funding to attend conferences and workshops, and involvement in research networks, to ensure your success and development of your career trajectory.

For further information about the position, you are welcome to contact:

- Dr Maartje van Eerd (IHS, Erasmus University Rotterdam), email: vaneerd@ihs.nl
- Dr Sheikh Serajul Hakim (Khulna University), email: serajulhakim@arch.ku.ac.bd

Remuneration:

The position is available for a fixed duration of 48 months on a full-time basis (40 hours per week). The financial conditions will be in line with a PhD appointment in Bangladesh with a monthly salary of 800 Euro when based at Khulna University (for 33 months).

During the research visits to IHS in Rotterdam, the PhD candidate will be provided with a gross monthly allowance of 2,500 Euro, as well as three economy-class travel grants (Dhaka-Rotterdam-Dhaka) and assistance in finding temporary accommodation, courtesy of IHS, from Khulna University. Insurance, etc., costs are included in the allowance.

Do you want to apply?

You can apply through submitting by email:

- a CV (max. 3 pages) with names and contact information of two academic referees,
- a motivation letter (max. 1 page),
- a sample of your work (journal article or MSc thesis), and
- a short research idea presenting your interpretation of the work package and how your PhD approach fits within it (max 1 page)

To: Dr M. van Eerd (IHS, Erasmus University Rotterdam): vaneerd@ihs.nl, and Dr Sheikh S. Hakim (Khulna University): serajulhakim@arch.ku.ac.bd

This vacancy will be listed up to and including **25th October 2025**. We intend to schedule the first round of interviews by the week of **03rd November 2025**.



WP4: Access to Water and Sanitation Infrastructure and Quality of Life – 1 PhD

WP4 explores the dynamics of designing appropriate WASH infrastructures that enhance resilience and improve quality of life in vulnerable and rapidly changing in Peri-Urban Communities of Bangladesh. In this project you will investigate (1) how the availability of existing WASH services impacts the healthy living of peri-urban communities under varying hydro-climatic and man-made hazards, (2) the socio-economic impacts of poor WASH services at the household level and the role herein of current health facilities, (3) how individual households and communities make decisions related to WASH services, and to what extent these decisions impact public health conditions, and (4) how adopting and implementing appropriate WASH infrastructure can improve quality of life and enhance resilience against environmental/climate risks.

The PhD candidate will investigate for peri-urban communities of Khulna and Barisal in Bangladesh, particularly in the context of hydro-climatic hazards and man-made stressors. Your research should also contribute to selecting appropriate water and sanitation infrastructure to improve the overall livelihood conditions. Your role will involve mixed-methods fieldwork (quantitative and qualitative), health and WASH service data collection, econometric and spatial analysis, and engagement with local communities and decision-makers. This is an interdisciplinary project embedded within a vibrant team of climate, health, and researchers contributing to the other work packages of the project.

Qualifications

You have a multidisciplinary background and the ability to connect the dots across diverse fields and can work independently and collaboratively. You have experience with both field research and analytical methods, and a passion for research that supports vulnerable communities and sustainable development.

Qualifications and experience:

- An MSc degree in one of the following or a related disciplines from a recognized university:
 - Environmental Engineering/ Water-Sanitation Engineering
 - Environmental Sciences with a focus on WASH
 - Water Resource Management/Engineering with Public Health/WASH focus
- Experience with qualitative research methods, including development of research guidelines, conducting Focus Group Discussions (FGDs), In-Depth Interviews (IDIs), and Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) and Living Labs;
- Strong skills in quantitative data collection and analysis, including designing and conducting surveys, and using statistical software such as SPSS, R;
- A demonstrated ability and willingness to spend a good amount of time in the case study sites to work with low-income communities;
- Proficiency in spatial analysis tools such as ArcGIS/QGIS or willingness to learn;
- Fluent communication capability (speaking, writing, reading) in Bangla;
- Enjoy working in a collaborative team environment across disciplines and cultures;
- Excellent command of English (spoken and written); TOEFL/IELTS may be required if your MSc was not taught in English;
- Strong presentation and communication skills for both academic and non-academic audiences;



- Comfortable using digital platforms (e.g. Teams, Zoom, shared folders).

Terms and conditions of employment

The PhD is appointed at BUET/BRAC University in Bangladesh. A maximum of 15 months spread over 4 years will be spent at Environmental Technology (ETE) department of WUR in The Netherlands. Upon successful completion of the thesis the PhD degree will be awarded from Wageningen University.

Primary supervision will be done by Prof. Dr. Adriaan Mels (Promotor) and Dr. Kamonashish Haldar (Co-promotor & Daily Supervisor) from the department of ETE, WUR with local supervision from Dr. Farzana Misha of BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University.

You will be well-supported through supervision, training courses, funding to attend conferences and workshops, and involvement in research networks, to ensure your success and development of your career trajectory.

For further information about the position, you are welcome to contact Dr. Kamonashish Haldar, email: Kamonashish.haldar@wur.nl.

Remuneration:

The position is available for a fixed duration of 48 months on a full-time basis (40 hours per week). The financial conditions will be in line with a PhD appointment in Bangladesh with a monthly salary of 800 Euro when based at Khulna University (for 33 months).

During the research visits to ETE-WUR, the PhD candidate will be provided with a gross monthly allowance of 2,500 Euro, as well as three economy-class travel grants (Dhaka-Wageningen-Dhaka) and assistance in finding temporary accommodation, courtesy of IHS, from Khulna University. Insurance, etc., costs are included in the allowance.

Do you want to apply?

You can apply through submitting by email:

- a CV (max. 3 pages) with names and contact information of two academic referees,
- a motivation letter,
- a sample of your work (journal article or MSc thesis), and
- a short research idea presenting your interpretation of the work package and how your PhD approach fits within it (max 1 page)

To: Dr K. Haldar (WUR): Kamonashish.haldar@wur.nl.

This vacancy will be listed up to and including **25th October 2025**. We intend to schedule the first round of interviews by the week of **03rd November 2025**.

WP5: Co-governance for just climate adaptation - 1 PhD

WP5 focuses on co-governance for just climate adaptation as essential instrument to facilitate true increase of resilience at community level. WP5 will create awareness and understanding of current (mal)adaptive practices. It will foster community capacity building for designing and negotiating new governance arrangements by sharing knowledge and training people through the LLs. This interaction structure fosters digital app-based, data-driven adaptive solutions for resilient sustainable livelihoods in peri-urban areas. The



PhD will contribute through data and new conceptual and empirical approaches in studying co-governance for just climate adaptation in peri-urban areas. This entails doing a literature review on the concept of climate justice and vulnerable communities; conducting in-depth interviews and focus groups with citizen groups and local policy makers; and contributing to co-creation workshops with NGOs, community leaders, citizens and policy makers.

The doctoral researcher will work closely together under the supervision of Dr Mees and Dr van Laerhoven and Dr. Shanawez.

Qualifications

We are seeking enthusiastic, broad-minded, and dedicated researchers with a strong interest in governance arrangements and community capacity building to create resilient sustainable livelihoods in peri-urban areas. You must have a relevant academic background and be eager to contribute to developing solutions for communities in SW-Bangladesh to mitigate climate-associated risks. You demonstrate a combination of scientific curiosity, flexibility, and resilience, a reflective mindset, and a strong sense of teamwork. You are comfortable working in interdisciplinary and international settings, and you are motivated to work in informal settlements and conduct field work under challenging conditions. You value ethical engagement, inclusiveness, and co-creation with local communities.

Qualifications and experience:

- Master's degree (or equivalent) in environmental social sciences, human geography, local /regional governance, or a related discipline;
- Theoretical knowledge of climate change adaptation governance and social justice;
- Strong qualitative (interviews, FGDs) skills with proven fieldwork experience;
- Strong communication and organizational skills, ability to organising multi-stakeholder workshops;
- Fluent communication capability (speaking, writing, reading) in Bangla;
- Enjoy working in a collaborative team environment across disciplines and cultures;
- Excellent command of English (spoken and written); TOEFL/IELTS may be required if your MSc was not taught in English;
- Strong presentation and communication skills for both academic and non-academic audiences;
- Comfortable using digital platforms (e.g. Teams, Zoom, shared folders).

Terms and conditions of employment

The PhD is appointed at Dhaka University in Bangladesh. During the project you will pay three 5-months visits to the Environmental Governance group of the Copernicus Institute of Sustainable Development at Utrecht University during the project. After the first year, there will be a formal assessment of the progress of the PhD candidate, resulting in a 'Go' or 'No-Go' decision for further completion of the PhD programme. Upon successful completion of the thesis, you will receive the PhD degree from Utrecht University.

The daily supervision will be done by Dr. Shanawez Hossain (IUB, Bangladesh) and Dr. Heleen Mees and Dr. Frank van Laerhoven (UU, Netherlands).

You will be well-supported through supervision, training courses, funding to attend conferences and workshops, and involvement in research networks, to ensure your success and development of your career trajectory.

For further information about the position, you are welcome to contact

- Dr H. Mees (Utrecht University), email: h.l.p.mees@uu.nl
- Dr F. van Laerhoven (Utrecht University), email: f.s.j.vanlaerhoven@uu.nl



- Dr. Sh. Hossain (IUB Dhaka), email: shanawez@iub.edu.bd

Remuneration:

The position is available for a fixed duration of 48 months on a full-time basis (40 hours per week). The financial conditions will be in line with a PhD appointment in Bangladesh with a monthly salary of 800 Euro during stay in Bangladesh (for 33 months).

During the research visits to Utrecht University, the PhD candidate will be provided with a gross monthly allowance of 2,500 Euro, as well as three economy-class travel grants (Dhaka-Utrecht-Dhaka) and assistance in finding temporary accommodation, courtesy of IHS, from Dhaka University. Insurance, etc., costs are included in the allowance.

Do you want to apply?

You can apply through submitting by email:

- a CV (max. 3 pages) with names and contact information of two academic referees,
- a motivation letter,
- a sample of your work (journal article or MSc thesis), and
- a short research idea presenting your interpretation of the work package and how your PhD approach fits within it (max 1 page)

To: Dr H. Mees (Utrecht University): h.l.p.mees@uu.nl and Dr. Sh. Hossain (IUB Dhaka): shanawez@iub.edu.bd

This vacancy will be listed up to and including **25th October 2025**. We intend to schedule the first round of interviews by the week of **03rd November 2025**.

WP7: 1 Project Manager

We are seeking a highly motivated and organized Project Manager to coordinate and support the effective implementation of the FLASH project. The Project Manager will be responsible for:

- Coordinating day-to-day project activities across multiple international partners.
- Managing project timelines, deliverables, and reporting requirements to funding bodies.
- Organizing workshops, seminars, and field visits in Bangladesh and the Netherlands.
- Facilitating communication among researchers, stakeholders, and community partners.
- Assisting in budget monitoring and financial reporting.
- Supporting dissemination of project outcomes through reports, policy briefs, and events.
- Collaborate with the PhD candidate(s) in managing the living labs implemented in the peri-urban areas of Khulna and Barisal

Qualifications

- A Master's degree (or higher) in environmental studies, social sciences, project management, or a related field, and familiarity with climate change adaptation, migration, or development studies is an advantage.
- Demonstrated experience in project coordination/management, preferably in international or multi-partner projects.



- Strong organizational and communication skills, with the ability to manage diverse tasks and deadlines.
- Ability to work independently and collaboratively in multicultural and interdisciplinary environments.
- Fluency in English (spoken and written); knowledge of Bangla is an asset.
- Time-management is key to this position as our team is composed with scholars from different time-zones of the world.

Remuneration:

The position is available for a fixed duration of 48 months on a full-time basis (40 hours per week). The financial conditions will be in line with a project management appointment at BUET, with a monthly gross salary of € 600.

Do you want to apply?

You can apply through submitting by email:

- a motivation letter,
- a CV (max. 3 pages)
- Names and contact information of two referees,

To: Prof. Dr. Mohammad Shahjahan Mondal: mshahjahanmondal@iwfm.buet.ac.bd & Dr. Bishawjit Mallick: b.mallick@uu.nl.

This vacancy will be listed up to and including **15th October 2025**. We intend to schedule the first round of interviews for the week of **27th October, 2025**.

