



Lead Specialist – Water Sector Resilience Expert

June 2025

About CDRI

The **Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI)** is a global partnership of national governments, UN agencies, multilateral development banks, private sector, and academic institutions. It aims to promote the resilience of infrastructure systems against climate and disaster risks to ensure sustainable development.

Strategic Work Plan 2023-2026

With the strategic work plan for 2023 – 2026, CDRI has set out the following strategic outcomes.

- **Strategic Outcome 1:** A strong Coalition that has the membership, resources, and global leadership to drive global, national, regional, and local DRI action.
- **Strategic Outcome 2:** Global DRI research, Coalition-led peer engagement, and CDRI-curated and generated knowledge promote risk-informed policy and practice.
- **Strategic Outcome 3:** Enhanced capacities of government, private enterprises, and communities to implement post-disaster recovery and DRI action at scale.

The CDRI **Secretariat**, based in New Delhi, coordinates and implements the Coalition's strategic priorities and activities.

The Role

Role: Lead Specialist – Water Sector Resilience Expert

Location: New Delhi, India



Grade & No. of Positions:	Lead Specialist (1)
Salary & Benefits:	Competitive
Contract:	Fixed Term Contract (3 years), extendable up to another 3 years; Full-Time; Open to both International/National Hire

Role Purpose

The **Lead Specialist – Water Sector Resilience Expert** will lead the formulation, design, and implementation of water sector resilience initiatives under CDRI's Critical and Social Infrastructure Programme. The expert will support technical assistance and capacity-building efforts to strengthen climate and disaster resilience in water-related infrastructure systems across member countries.

Key Responsibilities

Program Development

- Design and implement water resilience projects across supply, sanitation, stormwater, and integrated water resource systems.
- Align initiatives with global frameworks: Paris Agreement, Sendai Framework, SDGs.
- Develop adaptive pathways and technical roadmaps for disaster-prone regions.
- Drive cross-sectoral collaboration with transport, power, and urban development.

Technical Assistance

- Provide technical leadership for resilience planning, design, and assessments.
- Lead studies, promote innovation, and address gaps in codes/standards.
- Mobilize experts to support national and subnational efforts.
- Embed lifecycle and resilience considerations into infrastructure planning.

Capacity Building

- Support communities of practice and develop training modules.
- Partner with academic and policy institutions.
- Document and disseminate case studies and policy guidance.



Management

- Manage programmes and reporting, contribute to strategic planning.
- Represent CDRI in international forums and stakeholder consultations.
- Oversee program execution, KPIs, and project milestones.

Candidate Profile

Essential Skills

- Expert knowledge in water systems planning and design (e.g., flood, stormwater, sanitation, WSUD).
- Experience with water continuity planning and emergency systems.
- Familiarity with nature-based solutions, smart systems, GIS, and spatial tools.
- Collaboration with institutions like UN-Water, IWA, ADB, World Bank.
- Strong leadership, stakeholder engagement, and cross-sectoral coordination.

Qualifications

- Master's in water resource engineering/management, environmental science, hydraulic engineering, infrastructure or urban planning, or related fields.
- International education background preferred.

Experience

- Minimum 10 years of relevant professional experience, with at least 4 years in a leadership role.
- Demonstrated experience in water infrastructure resilience, DRR, and climate adaptation.
- Proven work experience in multiple geographies across at least two UN regions.
- International project experience across at least 5 countries and 2 UN geographic regions is required for international hire eligibility*.

Languages

- Fluency in English (oral and written).
- Proficiency in another UN language is an asset.

**International Hire = 10 years of international work experience in at least 5 countries across 2 UN geographic regions (from Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, North America, and Oceania) would be considered for international positions (International hire).*



How to Apply

All correspondence, at this stage, should be via Oxford HR. To apply for this post, click on the “Apply” button on the job advert page, complete our online application form, and submit your CV and cover letter as two different documents, which should be prepared before applying as they will be considered in the application process.

The cover letter should be no more than two pages long and explain why you are interested in this post and how your skills and experience make you a good fit.

The document should be saved in PDF in the following format: Your First Name-Your Last Name-Documents Name-Date (mmyy)-Organisation e.g., Pat-Jones-CV-0625-CDRI or Pat-Jones-CoverLetter-0625-CDRI.

Timeline

Closing Date: 5th July 2025

First Stage Interviews: TBC

Final Interviews: TBC

Selection Process

All candidates will receive an update regarding their application after the closing date. We advise candidates to add the role email to their safe senders list and regularly check their spam folder.

Equality Statement

Equality and diversity are at the core of CDRI's values. Staff are expected to work collectively and individually to promote a constructive and sensitive approach to others from a variety of backgrounds, where the work of others is valued and respected.

Queries

If you have any queries on any aspect of the appointment process, need additional information, or would like to have an informal discussion, please email at roshea@oxfordhr.com in the first instance.



About Oxford HR

Oxford HR is a B Corp certified leadership consultancy. Having worked within a diverse range of institutions, from not-for-profits and charities to governments and corporate environments, we've seen the powerful impact that the perfect team can have.

Finding innovative leaders can be a challenge; and yet their transition into leadership is vital to an organisation's mission and success. We work across the globe to search for and support remarkable leaders and teams, improve their board effectiveness and support on a range of leadership functions.

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