

Education

- PhD **City and Regional Planning**, School of Design, University of Pennsylvania, USA (2017-Expected 2023)
- MPhil. **African Studies**, University of Delhi, India (2006-2008)
- MSc. **Development Studies**, School of Oriental & African Studies, University of London, UK (2003-2004)
- B.A. **Sociology & Anthropology**, St. Xavier's College, University of Mumbai, India (1998-2001)
- GNIIT **System's Management**, National Institute of Information Technology (NIIT), Mumbai, India (1998-2003)

Work Experience

- **Senior Researcher**, Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi Aug. 2014 – Jul. 2017
[Policy research for the "Scaling City Institutions-For India" (SCI-FI) Project to build a strong policy and research evidence base for achieving sanitized cities & the India Urban Rural Boundaries and Basic Services (IND-URBBS) Project to understand how outcomes in urban settlements are affected by the interaction between citizens and state governance mechanisms]
- **Social Development Specialist**, Support to National Policies for Urban Poverty Reduction, A DFID & Government of India partnership Oct. 2010-Jul. 2014
[Social development and policy inputs for a £14.5 million project on urban poverty reduction covering affordable housing, basic services, and livelihoods promotion programmes of the Government of India]
- **Social Development & Knowledge Management Specialist**, National Strategy for the Urban Poor (NSUP), A UNDP & Government of India partnership Feb. 2008 – Sep. 2010
[Social development, policy and knowledge management inputs to support the development of a national strategy for urban poverty reduction for the Government of India]
- **Research Associate**, Centre for Civil Society, New Delhi Jul. 2007 – Dec. 2007
[Research focusing on advocacy of school choice for poor Indian parents]
- **Project Officer, Project Access & Project X-Sight**, Xavier's Resource Centre for the Visually Challenged Jan. 2005 – Aug. 2006
[Programme management lead on projects focusing on advocacy, rights and life skills of the visually challenged youth]
- **Assistant Manager, Projects**, Marcus Evans (India) Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai Dec. 2001 – Jul. 2003
[Conducted market research on general management, finance and IT in industry and conducted conferences and training programmes]
- **Editor, Journal of the Department of Sociology & Anthropology**, St. Xavier's College, University of Mumbai Jun. 1999 – Mar. 2001
[Reviewed and edited submissions for the student peer-review journal]
- **Volunteer Tutor**, Garden School, Mumbai (NGO) Jun. 1998 – Mar. 1999
[Provided supplementary tutoring for slum and homeless children]

Teaching Experience

- **Course Instructor, Undergraduate Urban Research Colloquium**, School of Design and School of Arts and Sciences, University of Pennsylvania Jan 2020 – May 2020
Jan 2021 – May 2021
- **Teaching Assistant, Introduction to City & Regional Planning: Past and Present**, with Prof. Domenic Vitiello, City & Regional Planning, School of Design, University of Pennsylvania Fall 2019
Fall 2018
(Sep – Dec 2018 & 19)
- **Teaching Assistant, Issues in Global Sustainable Development: Adapting Formality and Informality in Rapidly Urbanizing Places**, with Prof. Eugenie L. Birch, City & Regional Planning, School of Design, University of Pennsylvania Spring 2019 (January – May 2019)
- **Teaching Assistant, Transport, Livelihoods and Road Safety and Productivity: Stresses and Strains in a Rapidly Urbanizing City, Woodrow Wilson School of Public Policy, Princeton University**, with Prof. Eugenie L. Birch, City & Regional Planning, School of Design, University of Pennsylvania Fall 2018 (September 2018 - January 2019)

- **Teaching Assistant, Urban Development & Infrastructure Finance**, with Prof. John Landis, City & Regional Planning, School of Design, University of Pennsylvania Spring 2018 (January – May 2019)
- **Visiting Faculty, Social Anthropology of Human Settlements**, Bachelors of Business Administration (BBA) in Real Estate & Infrastructure Programme (REUI), RICS School of Built Environment, Amity University, New Delhi Dec. 2014 – May 2015
- **Visiting Lecturer in Contemporary Social Issues**, Department of Mass Media Studies & Journalism, St. Xavier's College, University of Mumbai Oct. 2005 – Apr. 2006
[Taught contemporary social issues such as environment and sustainability, tribal rights and the gender movement for the undergraduate degree of Mass Media]
- **Lecturer in Sociology & Anthropology**, Department of Sociology & Anthropology, St. Xavier's College, University of Mumbai May 2005 – Sep. 2005
[Taught Classical Sociology and Anthropology Theory, Current affairs and social research methodology to undergraduate students of Sociology & Anthropology]

Research Conducted

- **Study on "Slums in India, 2011"**, for the World Bank, India to analyse the trends of slum population in India as reported by the Census of India, 2011 Dec. 2013 – Jun. 2014
- **Analysis of household-level data of the Socio-Economic & Slum Census, 2011** for the Expert Group of the Planning Commission to recommend the detailed methodology for identification of families living below the poverty line in urban areas May 2011 - Nov. 2012
- **Study of Social Housing in Singapore and China (Shanghai & Wuhan)** for the Ministry of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation, Government of India to explore learnings and suggestions for implementation in the Indian context. Nov. 2011 – Dec. 2011
- **National Identity and Refugees: A Case Study of Rwanda**, Dissertation for MPhil in African Studies, University of Delhi Jun. 2007 – Jun. 2008
- **Study on Prospects for Making India's Manufacturing Sector Export Oriented** for St. Xavier's College, Mumbai and Research & Information Systems (RIS), New Delhi Dec. 2005 – Feb. 2006
- **Study on industrial behaviour of diamond merchants in Mumbai** for St. Xavier's College, Mumbai and Metric Knowledge Management Services, Pune Oct. 2005 – Dec. 2005
- **Refugees & National Identity: A Case Study of Eritrean Refugees in the Sudan**, Dissertation for MSc. In Development Studies, School of Oriental & African Studies, University of London May. 2004 – Sep. 2004

Publications

- **Shatkin: Cities for Profit: The Real Estate Turn in Asia's Urban Politics.** *Journal of the American Planning Association*. pp. 175–176. DOI: 10.1080/01944363.2018.1560830. 2019
- **Monitoring Open Discharge-Free India: A Comprehensive Sanitation Matrix.** CPR Research Report. New Delhi: Centre for Policy Research. Available from: <http://cprindia.org/research/reports/monitoring-open-discharge-free-india-comprehensive-sanitation-matrix>. [DOI: 10.13140/RG.2.2.33228.41607] (With Shubhagato Dasgupta) 2016
- **Leveraging National Schemes to Support a Heritage Agenda in India.** Context: Special Issue on Asia and Urban Heritage XII:79-81. (With Mukta Naik) 2016
- **Swachh Bharat: Industry Engagement – Scope & Examples.** SCI-FI: Sanitation Initiative, Research Report. New Delhi: Centre for Policy Research [DOI: 10.13140/RG.2.1.4724.3287] (With Shubhagato Dasgupta, DTV Raghu Ramaswamy, Smitha Rao, Seetharaman R., Nikhil George, Amandeep Singh, Tripti Singh, Swati Dhiman, Aditya Bhol) 2015

Publications managed

- O. P. Mathur [Ed.]. 2014. ***Inclusive Urban Planning: State of the Urban Poor Report, 2013***. New Delhi: Ministry of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation, Government of India & Oxford University Press.
- A. Kundu [Ed.]. 2009. ***India: Urban Poverty Report, 2009***. New Delhi: Ministry of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation, Government of India & Oxford University Press.
- Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (MCGM). 2009. ***Mumbai: Human Development Report, 2009***. New Delhi: Oxford University Press

Conferences, Seminars, & Presentations

- **Moving from Pandemic adaptation to a mainstream method: Lessons from an experiment in remote photovoicing in one settlement in Accra, Ghana** – Presentation at the 5th World Planning School Congress, and 16th Asian Planning School Association Congress Upcoming
Sep. 2022
- **Encountering landscapes of urban informality through the practice of everyday life** Presentation at the Shifting Landscapes Conference at the London School of Economics & Political Science Upcoming
Jun. 2022
- **Who are the (urban) poor? Why do they work? And why should that matter to planners?** Guest Lecture for “Introduction to Housing, Community and Economic Development City and Regional Planning (CPLN) 520-001” at the Weitzman School of Design, University of Pennsylvania Nov. 2021
- **How has informality been defined, and why is this important to us as planners?** Guest lecture (virtual) for “Introduction to City and Regional Planning: History, Theory, and Contemporary Practice” (CPLN 500-401 / URBS 440-401) at the Weitzman School of Design, University of Pennsylvania. Oct 2021
Oct 2020
- **Moving informality from paper to praxis: A case study of street vendors and planners in Accra, Ghana.** Presentation at a pre-organised session at the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP), 2019 titled “Is defining informality as a problem, a fallacy for planning?”. (Session Organiser + Presenter) Oct. 2019
Presentation at the Effective States and Inclusive Development Conference on “Rethinking the politics of Development”, University of Manchester Sep. 2019
- **Case Studies: Policies and Programs incorporating informality (Moderator)** Roundtable on “Informality as a way of Life: Challenges to Sustainable Urban Development”. Penn Institute for Urban Research and Perry World House, University of Pennsylvania Apr. 2019
- **Contrasting two experiences of urban villages in India: Sikanderpur and Ekta Vihar** – Presentation at the Urban China Collective session on Unveiling China’s informal settlements with a global perspective, Weitzman School of Design, University of Pennsylvania Apr. 2019
- **What happens when villages get swallowed by cities?** Poster presentation at the Annual Conference of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP), Buffalo, NY, USA. Sep. 2018
Presentation at the University of Pennsylvania Exhibition booth, part of the “Penn: Current Research on Sustainable Urban Development” series at the 9th World Urban Forum, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia Feb. 2018
- **The city in India: [How] does planning take place?** – Guest lecture for the “Globalization and the City” (URBS 457/SOCI 435) class at the University of Pennsylvania Oct. 2017

Policy Documents

- **Odisha Urban Sanitation Policy & Strategy, 2017-27** – For the Government of Odisha (India) for an outcome based strategy and policy on urban sanitation for the 110 urban local bodies (ULBs) in the state. Dec. 2016
- **Promoting Equity and Productivity in Indian Cities** – Report for the Government of India, Ministry of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation, prepared for the 24th Session of the Governing Council of UN-HABITAT, Nairobi, 15-19 April 2013 Apr. 2013
- **Possible alternative options for determining the BPL households in urban areas** – Discussion paper prepared for the Sub-Group of the Expert Group of the Planning Commission to recommend the detailed methodology for identification of families living below the poverty line in urban areas Jan. 2012
- **Report on Social Housing in Singapore and China (Shanghai & Wuhan)** for the Ministry of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation, Government of India to explore learnings and suggestions for implementation in the Indian context Dec. 2011
- **Report of the Working Group on Slums, Urban Poverty and Basic Services** in the context of the formulation of the 12th Five Year Plan constituted by the Planning Commission Sep. 2011
- **Strategy Paper of the Ministry of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation**, Government of India for 2012-2017 Apr. 2011
- **Health & the Urban Poor in India** – Policy paper prepared to explore collaboration between the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) and the proposed National Urban Health Mission (NUHM) Jun. 2010
- **Cities Development Index- Proposal & Presentation** to the Ministry of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation for benchmarking and monitoring service provision in urban areas for the urban poor across programmes and schemes of the Government of India Apr. 2010

Project Design & Management

- **Centre for Policy Research** Aug. 2014 - ongoing
 - Management of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) funded project “Scaling City Institutions for India: Sanitation” (2012-2015) including budgeting, implementation, evaluation and monitoring
 - Project design and proposal for a 3-year Project for a city-wide sanitation service delivery and research project in two small cities of Odisha in partnership with Practical Action (NGO) funded by BMGF for US\$ 3.78 million
 - Project design and proposal for a 3-year expansion of the project “Scaling City Institutions for India: Sanitation” (2015-18) funded by BMGF for US\$ 3.1 million
- **Ministry of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation, Government of India** Feb. 2008 - Jul. 2014
 - Project Management
 - Management of the DFID-assisted project Support to National Policies for Urban Poverty Reduction (SNPUPR) including support to Log-Frame Development, budgeting (Technical and financial assistance), implementation, evaluation and monitoring through the Programme Management Board and Steering Committee mechanisms
 - Management of the UNDP assisted project, National Strategy for the Urban Poor (NSUP) including Annual Work Plans (AWPs), budgeting, implementation, evaluation and monitoring through the Programme Management Board and Steering Committee mechanisms.
 - National Government Scheme design:
 - National Urban Livelihoods Mission (NULM), a Rs. 64,050 million (US\$ 1,067.48 million) Government of India Programme for livelihoods’ enhancement of the urban poor: Scheme

design, proposals (for Finance department and Union Cabinet approval), budgeting, main scheme and operational guideline formulation, annual planning with the national and state governments, roll-out and monitoring and evaluation of state government performance.

- Design, negotiation and approval of technical and financial support to the Government of India on issues of urban poverty, inclusive urban development, capacity development, and slum-free city planning from the following donors:
 - o UK-Aid from the Department for International Development (DFID) for a technical and financial support project of £14.5 million
 - o World Bank (IDA support and loan negotiation) for two projects of US\$ 20 million and US\$ 500 million
 - o Asian Development Bank (technical support for US\$ 1 million), and
 - o GIZ or German Society for International Cooperation (direct technical cooperation at the city level for slum-free city planning in select cities)

Membership

- International Sociological Association (ISA), Member since 2014
- American Sociological Association (ASA), Member since 2014
- African Studies Association (ASA), Member since 2014
- American Planning Association (APA), Member since 2017
- International Planning History Society (IPHS), Member since 2019

Fellowships

2021-2024	Presidential PhD Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania
2021-2022	Centre for the Advanced Study of India (CASI) Sobti Family Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania
2021-2022	Mellon Humanities, Urbanism and Design (H+U+D) Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania
2017-2021	Weitzman School of Design Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania
2020	GAPSA Provost Fellowship Award for Interdisciplinary Innovation, Summer 2020, University of Pennsylvania
2020	Centre for Experimental Ethnography (CEE) Graduate Student Summer Research Grant, University of Pennsylvania
2020	Centre for the Advanced Study of India (CASI) Summer Research Funds Award, University of Pennsylvania
2020	Mellon Humanities, Urbanism and Design (H+U+D) Graduate Student Research Award, University of Pennsylvania
2019	Centre for the Advanced Study of India (CASI) Summer Travel Funds Award, University of Pennsylvania
2019	Mellon Humanities, Urbanism and Design (H+U+D) Graduate Student Research Award, University of Pennsylvania