

## Saumitra Sinha

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## EDUCATION

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May 2024    **University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC-CH)**  
                 **Dept. of City and Regional Planning | Doctor of Philosophy**  
                 *Title: "Muddling Through to Uphold the Right to Water? An Examination of Delhi's Free Water Policy,"*  
                 *Committee: Dr. Dale Whittington (Chair), Dr. Meenu Tewari, Dr. Aaron Salzberg, Dr. Joseph Cook, Dr. Noreen McDonald*

Aug 2017    **Cornell University**  
                 **Dept. of City and Regional Planning | Master of Regional Planning**

May 2012    **School of Planning & Architecture, New Delhi, India**  
                 **Dept. of Architecture | Bachelor of Architecture**

## RESEARCH APPOINTMENTS

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Nov 2024 –    **University of Notre Dame**  
Present        **Keough School of Global Affairs | Postdoctoral Research Associate**

June 2024 –    **University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill**  
July 2024       **Dept. of City and Regional Planning | Research Associate**

Nov 2018 –    **TARINA - TCI (Tata-Cornell Institute for Agriculture and Nutrition)**  
Jun 2019       **New Delhi | Research Consultant**

Aug 2017 –    **Cornell University, Dept. of Applied Economics and Management & Dept. of Landscape Architecture | Research Associate (part-time)**

## PUBLICATIONS

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Radin, M., Wong, B., McManus, C., **Sinha, S.**, Jeuland, M., Larbi, E., Tuffuor, B., Biscoff, N. K., & Whittington, D. (2020). "Benefits and costs of rural sanitation interventions in Ghana." *Journal of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene for Development*, 10(4), 724–743.

Weinstein, L., Rumbach, A., & **Sinha, S.** (2019). "Resilient Growth: Fantasy Plans and Unplanned Developments in India's Flood-Prone Coastal Cities." *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, 43(2), 273–291.

## UNDER REVIEW

**Sinha, S.**, Carson, R.T., Cook, J., Whittington, D., "Assessing Preferences for Reforming Water Subsidy Eligibility Rules in Delhi"

## IN PREPARATION

**Sinha, S.**, "Eliciting People's Preferences for Tradeoffs between Water Subsidies and System Improvements in Delhi. Implications for Upholding the Human Right to Water"

**Sinha, S.**, Tewari, M., "Typologies of Water Sharing and Payment Arrangements between Landlords and Renters in Delhi."

## REPORTS

Cook, J., Whittington, D., **Sinha, S.**, Flagship Report on Subsidies, Chapter 6.2 Water and Sanitation Subsidies, *World Bank (Forthcoming)*

Radin, M., McManus, C., **Sinha, S.**, Jeuland, M., Larbi, E., Tuffuor, B., Biscoff, N. K., Wong, B., & Whittington, D. (2020). "Cost-Benefit Analysis of Rural Sanitation Interventions in Ghana." *National Development Planning Commission, Copenhagen Consensus Center*.

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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**Sinha, S.**, Whittington, D. (2024) "Determinants for the Adoption of Household Water Conservation Strategies" *Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning*, Seattle

**Sinha, S.** (2024) "People's Preferences for Getting Water Subsidies Compared to Subsidies in Other Public Sectors," UNC Water and Health Conference: Science, Policy, and Practice, Chapel Hill

**Sinha, S.**, Whittington, D. (2024) "Eliciting People's Views on the Fairness of Alternative Municipal Water Subsidy Policies in Delhi, India" *Urban Affairs Association*, New York

Fuente, D., Cook, J., **Sinha, S.**, Whittington, D. (2024) "Water Tariff Design in the Anthropocene: Eight Problems with the World's Most Popular Water Tariff Structure (Increasing Block Tariffs)" *Society of Benefit-Cost Analysis*, Washington D.C.

**Sinha, S.** (2023) "Eliciting People's Preferences for Water Subsidies as Compared to System Improvements in Delhi" *Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning*, Chicago

**Sinha, S.** (2023) "Understanding Water Sharing and Payment Arrangements between Landlords and Renters in Delhi through a Property Rights Framework" *Institute for Human Development*, Delhi

**Sinha, S.** (2023) "Exploring Water Payment Arrangements between Landlords and Renters in Delhi, India" *Urban Affairs Association*, Toronto

**Sinha, S.** (2022) "Evaluating Delhi's Free Water Policy" *Society of Benefit Cost Analysis*

Safi, A.G., Vanucchi, J., **Sinha, S.** (2020) "Climate Change, Planning, and Social Vulnerability: Better Preventing and Mitigating Riverine Flooding" *American Public Health Association*

Stock, J. & **Sinha, S.** (2019) "Planning the Monsoon Municipality: Toward a Practical Ecological Urbanism for India's Monsoon Cities" *Research Committee 21*

Vanucchi, J., **Sinha, S.**, et. al. (2018) "Assessing Relocation as a Strategy for At-Risk Populations and Municipalities in the Susquehanna Watershed" *Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture*

## TEACHING

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Aug 2019 – May 2023	<b>University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill</b> <b>Dept. of City and Regional Planning   Teaching Assistant</b>
3 semesters	<i>ENVR/PLAN 685: Water and Sanitation planning in developing countries</i> <i>Graduate and undergraduate (online and hybrid) average class size: 10</i>  Graded essays and provided detailed feedback. Assisted with class presentations and moderated class debates.
3 semesters	<i>PLAN 710: Microeconomics for Planning and Policy</i> <i>Graduate (online and in-person) average class size: 24</i>  Prepared and conducted applied group exercises on the economics of housing and zoning, transportation planning, and environmental planning. Held weekly review sessions and graded weekly assignments.
2 semesters	<i>PLAN 720: Planning Methods</i> <i>Graduate (in-person) average class size: 30</i>  Prepared and held weekly labs on hypothesis testing and regression analysis in Excel. Developed four class assignments and graded weekly assignments.
Aug 2015 – May 2017	<b>Cornell University</b> <b>Dept. of City and Regional Planning   Graduate Teaching Assistant</b>
2 semesters	<i>CRP 5080: Introduction to Geographic Information Systems for Planners;</i> <i>Graduate (in-person) average class size: 30</i>  Guided students during bi-weekly lab sessions and graded weekly assignments

## MENTORING

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Feb 2025 – Present	Mentoring three undergraduate students with Dr. Ellis Adams as part of the Kellogg Developing Researchers Program, University of Notre Dame  Teresa Majkut, <i>Neuroscience and Behavior, Minor in Business Economics</i> William Pater, <i>Biological Sciences, minor in Poverty Studies, Theology</i> Connor Mulligan, <i>Neuroscience and Behavior, minor in Scientific Computing</i>
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## AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

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2024	Best Student Paper on International Planning, <i>Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning Conference, Global Planners Education Interest Group</i> , “Eliciting People’s Preferences for Water Subsidies as Compared to System Improvements in Delhi”
2023-2024	Dissertation Completion Fellowship, <i>Royster Society of Fellows, UNC-CH</i>
2024	Conference Travel Grant, <i>Modern Indian Studies Program, UNC-CH</i>
2022	Graduate Summer Research Grant, <i>UNC-CH</i>
2021	Best Teaching Assistant in the Dept. of City and Regional Planning, <i>UNC-CH</i>
2019	Druscilla French Graduate Student Fellow, <i>UNC-CH</i>
2016	Research Travel Grant, <i>Einaudi Center for International Studies, Cornell University</i>

2012	Travel Fellowship to attend visiting school, "Campaigning Architecture," at the University of Illinois Chicago, awarded by <i>the international Berkeley Undergraduate Prize for Architectural Design Excellence</i>
2009	Sustainable House Design Competition, joint 3 <sup>rd</sup> Position with Shoma Matthew, <i>Indian Green Building Council</i>

### CONSULTING & PROFESSIONAL WORK

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Aug 2024 – Sep 2024	<b>The World Bank, Macroeconomics, Trade &amp; Investment Global Practice   Consultant</b>
Feb 2022 – Jun 2022	<b>The World Bank, Water Global Practice   Consultant</b>
Jun 2020 – Aug 2020	<b>Institute of Water Policy, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy   Consultant</b>
Dec 2016 – May 2017	<b>Cornell University, Center for Sustainable Global Enterprise, Johnson Graduate School of Management   Student Consultant</b>
Jun 2016	<b>NYC Dept. of Parks and Recreation, Freshkills Park   Planning Intern</b>
Nov 2014 – Jun 2015	<b>Space Matters, New Delhi   Research Associate</b>
May 2013 – Nov 2014	<b>Archi Platform, New Delhi   Architect</b>

### INVITED TALKS & ROUNDTABLES

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Cal Poly Pomona, URP 5070: Planning for Environmental Sustainability (Apr 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025), Incorporating Public Input for Sustainable Water Management

UNC-CH, PLAN 667: Perspectives on Equitable Economies (Oct 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024), Roundtable on Conducting Interviews

Confab, Duke University (July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024) "Elicitation of People's Views on Alternative Municipal Water Subsidy Policies in Delhi."

Confab, Duke University (May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024) "An application of Best-Worst Scaling Case 2 to Municipal Water Budget Allocation Decisions."

The Water Institute, UNC-CH (Nov 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023) "Eliciting People's Preferences for Water Subsidies as Compared to System Improvements in Delhi."

The Water Institute, UNC-CH (Nov 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023) "Identification of Informal Water Sharing and Payment Arrangements between Landlords and Renters in Delhi using a Property Rights Framework."

The Royster Society of Fellows, UNC-CH (Sep 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023) "Do People Want Water Subsidies? Eliciting People's Preferences for Delhi's Free Water Policy."

## SERVICE

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2025 Award Committee Member for Best Student Case Study Award, *Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP) Conference, Global Planners Education Interest Group (GPEIG)*

2025 Working Group Member to Assess *Royster Society of Fellows, UNC-CH*, fellowship structure, visibility, and policies

2022, 2023 Participated in two workshops organized by *GPEIG at ACSP* conferences to prepare strategies for improving the experience of international students and to integrate planning topics from the Global South into core courses

Aug 2019 – May 2023 PhD Policy Committee Member, *Department of City & Regional Planning, UNC-CH*

2022, 2023 Reviewed applications to the doctoral program *Department of City & Regional Planning, UNC-CH*

2017 Reviewed applications to the Master of Regional Planning, *Department of City & Regional Planning, Cornell University*

2016 Vice president of the International Planning Students Organization (IPSO), *Department of City & Regional Planning, Cornell University*

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (TEACHING AND MENTORING)

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2024 Effective Mentoring ([Credly Link](#)), UNC-CH

2023 Supporting Neurodivergent Students. University of Illinois Chicago, CIRTL

2023 Professional Communication Workshop. Activate to Captivate ([Credly Link](#))