



Academic Engagement Associate

Overview

Does scientific advancement make you feel hopeful about the future?

The Academic Engagement team at Swissnex in India is passionate about science, and we feel strongly about the power that it has to address complex global challenges. Your role, as an Academic Engagement Associate, would be to help us leverage this power across borders and disciplines.

India offers Swiss researchers and institutions an ideal environment for collaboration at scale. Diverse user contexts, rapid innovation and strong digital infrastructure creates opportunities for joint research, field validation and long-term academic partnerships.

To that end, we connect scientific communities in India and Switzerland by actively engineering dialogues, designing collaborative projects and facilitating academic and research exchanges that address areas such as biodiversity, climate change, health, sustainability, digital transformation and emerging technologies. In practice, this means shaping conversations and workshops to target specific topics, co-creating or co-hosting programmes with partner institutions, and supporting opportunities like mobility and fellowship schemes to ensure that knowledge, ideas and talent flow effectively between both countries.

Our engagement goes far beyond researchers and students, however. We work across sectors and geographies, designing formats that go beyond traditional academic exchange. For example, our engagement with the vocational education training sector is creating novel formats for Swiss stakeholders in education, research and innovation to experience other cultures and continents. Every initiative we are a part of builds on long-term partnerships and supports Swiss priorities.

This role is suited to individuals with a background in science, an eye for detail and a deep interest in learning, discovering and developing beyond their subject matter expertise. Our work thrives on creative, proactive and inclusive thinking—collaborating closely with the team to serve the broader Swissnex community.

If this sounds like you, apply to join our team! This is a great opportunity for highly motivated, open-minded graduates to advance a forward-thinking diplomatic mission with a focus on science, technology and innovation.



Responsibilities

Programme Execution & Management:

- Lead and manage a programme on a theme related to Swissnex's core areas, fostering cross-border collaboration.
- Develop novel methods of cross-border collaboration, including targeted online workshops or in-person engagements.
- Assist the team to design and coordinate larger dialogues, collaborative projects and exchange initiatives.

Communication & Outreach:

- Develop content for Swissnex in India's outreach to academics and researchers, including proposals, brochures and other materials.
- Represent Swissnex at events in India to strengthen partnerships.

Stakeholder Management & Ecosystem Mapping:

- Support Swiss researchers in exploring opportunities in India through mobility programmes. Act as a bridge between Swiss researchers and relevant Indian partners, facilitating meaningful connections that enable collaboration and corporate innovation.

Experience and qualifications:

- You are graduating before September 2026 or have graduated within the last 12 months.
- You are either a Swiss citizen or have a valid Permit C.
- You are fluent in English and have an eye for detail.
- You have a Bachelor's or Master's degree in natural sciences / social sciences / engineering or other related fields.

Desirable attributes:

- You are curious, eager and comfortable to engage with topics that might not be your core expertise.
- You enjoy working with stakeholders ranging from innovators in the private sector, in industry, government or startups, as well as students or established researchers.
- You can follow an independent workstream while multitasking and sticking to deadlines.
- You have experience in proposal writing and/or fundraising, including the preparation of pitch decks.
- You are quick to respond to emerging demands, proactively engage in projects and pick up different types of work quickly whenever needed.
- You genuinely enjoy working and connecting with other people. We like to share a good laugh at the office!



How can this role add to your profile?

Over 10 months in Bengaluru, you'll be able to:

- Develop and demonstrate intercultural competence.
- Gain international work experience in India, the world's fourth-largest economy.
- Build a strong professional network across India and Switzerland.
- Become comfortable with uncertainty and ambiguity.
- Learn what it takes to support science diplomacy in different sectors.
- Learn to build partnerships, ideate and execute projects independently.
- Improve your public-speaking and communication skills.

What we offer:

- An open culture in the context of a diplomatic mission.
- A unique opportunity to experience India.
- A high level of camaraderie within the team and with the other associates.
- The opportunity to take on responsibility and (co-)lead projects in the Academic Engagement team.
- This internship presents a prospect for a 10-month period, commencing from September 1st, 2026 and concluding on June 30th, 2027.
- Assistance in housing and the visa process.
- Monthly living allowance of CHF 1'600 converted into INR. Living allowance is subject to AHV / AVS and the Swiss pension fund.
- 16.5 days of paid leave and up to 15 days of a mix of Indian and Swiss public holidays.

About Swissnex in India:

At Swissnex in India, Consulate General of Switzerland in Bengaluru, we foster forward-looking collaboration between Switzerland and India by connecting researchers, academic institutions, startups and innovation ecosystem players. We promote the exchange of ideas, knowledge and talent while also fulfilling the official representation, coordination and reporting functions of a Swiss Consulate General. We are a diplomatic anomaly, accelerating positive transformations at the frontiers of knowledge.

Based in Bengaluru, we operate at the heart of a dynamic hub of creativity, technology and entrepreneurship. From here, we link Swiss excellence in science and innovation with India's fast-evolving research and startup ecosystems, creating opportunities for meaningful partnerships and shared growth. We work in close collaboration with the wider Swiss network in India, including representations in New Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata.



We work across disciplines and are active in a broad variety of fields ranging from tackling [antimicrobial resistance](#) to [rapidly decarbonising large sectors of the economy](#) and [empowering physically disabled people in their digital life](#).

To apply:

<https://swissnex.zohorecruit.eu/jobs/Careers/76605000000812436/Academic-Engagement-Associate?source=CareerSite>