



HEALING MINDS. INSPIRING LIVES

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✉ [contactus@sangath.in](mailto:contactus@sangath.in)

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## AN EXCITING OPPORTUNITY IN AUTISM RESEARCH PROGRAMME

### Position Overview

**Role:** Research Associate – Community Engagement & Involvement

**Number of Position:** 01 (One)

**Project:** NAMASTE

**Location:** Porvorim, Goa, India

**Reports to:** Director - Community Engagement & Involvement

**Time:** Full time (5 days a week)

**Remuneration:** 3.36 – 4.80 LPA (All staff benefits including EPF, health insurance and gratuity will be additional as per organizational policy)

**Grade:** E1 – Senior Officer

### About Sangath

Sangath ([www.sangath.in](http://www.sangath.in)) is one of India's leading mental health research non-profit organisation. It was founded in 1996 with its headquarters in Goa; major hubs in Delhi and Bhopal, and programme sites in many parts of the country. Sangath's mission and expertise lies in developing and evaluating mental health interventions to be delivered through existing public systems. Its major thematic areas are: Child development and disability; adolescent health; mental disorders; and ageing. Sangath was awarded the prestigious MacArthur Foundation International Prize for Creative and Effective Institutions in 2008 and the WHO Public Health Champions Award for India in 2016. It has completed a number of randomized controlled trials for mental disorders in India, including the only two autism trials in the country.

### About the Project

Neurodevelopment and Autism in South Asia Treatment and Evidence (NAMASTE) is an exciting new program which will be implemented by Sangath, an Indian not-for-profit working in the field of public health research for over 25 years. NAMASTE will aim to design and implement a flexible evidenced pathway towards universal health coverage for children with Autism, through a programme of research, training and capacity building across India, Sri Lanka and Nepal.

NAMASTE is the result of a 10-years collaboration, Sangath, and the University of Manchester that have carefully adapted the 'Parent-mediated Autism Social Communication Intervention for non-Specialists Plus (PASS Plus)', which has shown real-world effectiveness in two initial randomised trials, with large-scale evaluation now within the New Delhi health system. NAMASTE will leverage Sangath's extensive experience with digital training and supervision, which can support both health workers and researchers. NAMASTE will also be collaborating with the World Health Organisation's 'Caregiver Skills Training' (CST) for more general neuro-disability. Care pathway components will include a novel, flexibly staged, digitally enabled, detection protocol (for neurodevelopmental difficulties and autism); combined with a complimentary and evidenced intervention protocol consisting of CST training for general delays and the PASS Plus intervention for autism. In each region and at each stage, community partners and co-applicants will help co-design awareness materials and advise on tool and protocol development.

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### Registered Office Address

**Headquarters:** 451 (168), Bhatkar Waddo, Socorro, Porvorim, Bardez, Goa – 403501, India



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## **About the Role**

Sangath is looking to recruit **Research Associate - Community Engagement & Involvement** for the **NAMASTE** programme. The Research Associate will be responsible for supporting both primary and secondary research activities related to child development and neurodevelopmental conditions. The role involves working closely with community representatives and facilitating the engagement and participation of families of children living with Neurodevelopmental and Autism Spectrum Disorders.

**The ideal candidate will be expected to:**

## **Roles & Responsibilities**

### **Training and Supervision**

- Lead data collection activities at Anganwadi Centres and with families to assess the use and impact of community awareness tools.
- Compile and manage data using the REDCap platform.
- Collaborate with the detection team lead to conduct awareness sessions on child development at public health centres.
- Travel across Anganwadi Centres in North Goa for field data collection related to the research study.
- Administer surveys to document the distribution and utilization of project materials across all Anganwadi Centres.
- Maintain and regularly update the project material monitoring sheet to track progress in distribution.
- Coordinate with Anganwadi Workers (AWWs) to provide reminders and distribute project materials as required.

### **Documentation**

- Prepare consolidated district-level reports, newsletters, and social media engagement content in Marathi and English.

### **Other Responsibilities**

- Participate in weekly or fortnightly meetings with the project team and designated working groups.
- Contribute to organizational activities, including learning webinars and Town Hall meetings.
- Support project implementation to ensure quality, efficiency, and effectiveness in all activities.
- Undertake any additional tasks assigned by the senior programme management team within CDG group projects.
- Participate actively in all Sangath activities, particularly those organized by the Child Development Group (CDG).

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## **Qualifications & Experience**

### **Essential:**

- Master's or Bachelor's degree in Social Work/ Public health/ Science subjects.
- Minimum experience of 2 years of working in field projects
- Familiarity with qualitative data collection and analysis.
- Fluency in English, Hindi, Marathi & Konkani-oral and written communication.
- Proficient in using digital tools (Mobile phones, laptops and audio/video recorder etc.).
- Proficient in MS-Office with excellent MS-Excel knowledge, internet, outlook and email.
- Excellent interpersonal and organizational skills.

### **Desirable:**

- Experience or training in data collection and survey.
- Previous experience of field based or community-based mobilization.
- Willingness to travel to field sites within Goa.
- Previous experience of working with participant population (autism spectrum disorders other neurodevelopmental disorders).
- Fluent in Marathi and Konkani.

## **How to Apply**

Interested candidates should complete the online **Job Application Form** no later than **5:30 PM on November 20th, 2025**. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for the next stage of the selection process.

Online Application Form: <https://forms.gle/hrARacB7qTu3rrkB6>

Please scan the QR Code:



## **Equal Opportunity**

Sangath is an equal-opportunity employer committed to building a diverse and inclusive team. We value all employees, regardless of gender, caste, religion, disability, or sexual orientation, and encourage applicants from all backgrounds to apply. For this position, we strongly encourage applications from people with disabilities, and these applications will be prioritized given the participatory nature of the project.

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