NISHITA KARUN

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WORK EXPERIENCE

ENERGY POLICY INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO   **Chicago, IL**
Research Assistant   September 2023 – Present
- Published data visualization and annual reports for AQLI (Air Quality Life Index) and Top 10 Energy Charts 2023

HARRIS SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY, UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO   **Chicago, IL**
Head Teaching Assistant (Microeconomics); Teaching Assistant (Leading with Innovation)   September 2023 – June 2024
- Microeconomics course I and II: Head TA managing an 18-member team to deliver the course for 400+ graduate students
- Coached 8 teams in Leading with Innovation course developing HCD solutions for LISC's Business Inclusivity Plan (IL gov)

WORLD BANK (DEVELOPMENT IMPACT AND MONITORING EVALUATION)   **Washington, D.C.**
Summer Research Fellow   June 2023 – September 2023
- Designed the Government Analytics Handbook with Dr. Daniel Rogers and wrote case studies to highlight best practices
- Analyzed surveys and designed data visualizations on Health facilities admin of Madagascar Govt. in Bureaucracy Lab
- Replicated paper on 'Management of Public Servants in Nigeria' (Economic Journal) during Bank Fund replication games

INDEPENDENT CONSULTANT   **Multiple Cities, India**
Policy Design Consultant   January 2021 - August 2022
- Developed curriculum on 'Design Thinking in Governance' taught to 2M+ academics & gov officials for UpGRAD Ed
- Policy researcher for YSR Congress, drafted 60+ zero hours and 15+ bills for MPs in the Monsoon parliamentary session
- Led 1000+ team in 500 Bihar villages (BCC) strategy, resulting in 160k COVID vaccine doses for vulnerable populations
- Systemic behavior analysis on child adoption process with Ministry of Women and Child Development mentored by Designit
- Led state-wide pilot (1B+) program in 10+ schools in Jharkhand to encourage 'Good Gossip' around health as BCC product

NITI AAYOG – NORTHEAST VERTICAL   **New Delhi, India**
Policy Fellow   July 2021 – December 2021
- Built growth opportunity reports for the Chief Minister's Office of 8 NE states for possible state-level investments
- Published the 'Ease of Doing Business Report' facilitating micro-finance in North-East India with the IDFC Institute

LOPEZ DESIGN   **New Delhi, India**
Senior Design Consultant   July 2018 – December 2020
- Led a team of 15+ to deliver end-to-end products with User Research, Strategy, and Design Deliverables: Key Projects
- Conducted 10+ Design Thinking workshops for foundations in Human-Centered Design for start-ups & businesses
- Initiated a Design thinking forum with 50 + industry professionals & key speaker Mr. Amitabh Kant (NITI Aayog)

EDUCATION

Harris School, University of Chicago   **Chicago, IL**
Master's in Public Policy; MPP (STEM)   June 2024
Select Courses: Econometrics (R & Python), Social Network Analysis, Program Evaluation, RCT Design, Cost-Benefit Analysis
Activities: Co-President, HarrisTech; Grad Affiliate, Chicago Center on Democracy; Podcast Editor, Root of Conflict (Pearson Inst.)

Projects & Publications
- RCT proposal on Digital Grievance Redressal in India, selected by the Democracy & Society Journal at Georgetown University
- At UNDP, conducted multi-component analysis on local poverty and perceptions of governance in Burkina Faso | Harris Lab
- Published research on data-led administration to build capacity of local governments in Social Innovation Journal, UPenn
- Social Network Analysis (SNA) on Political participation in rural India using India Human Development Survey (IHDS) dataset
- System Analysis of Farmer Suicides in India, Global Semi-Finalist out of 100+ Universities, for Oxford Map the System

National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT)   **Mumbai, India**
BA in Communication Design | All India Rank 103 | Premier Design Institute | Student of the Year   May 2018
Select courses: Design thinking, Press Writing & Branding, Qualitative Behavioral methodologies, Graphic and Service design

SKILLS

- **Programming**– R, Python, Stata & Microsoft Excel: Precision Tools (Decision Tree), Tornado (Sensitivity), AutoCAD
- **Survey Research:** SurveyCTO | Research Methods **Design:** Adobe Suite, Figma | **Visualization:** Tableau, Flourish, QGIS