

Research Assistant (Pakistan)

AASSREC International Research Project

Part-Time, 3 Months | Department of Management Sciences, COMSATS University Islamabad (Lahore Campus)

About the Project

“Surveillance, Stress, or Support? Examining South Asian Remote Workers’ Well-Being” is an international, mixed-methods study of how digital surveillance, workplace stress, and organizational support shape the well-being of remote workers, with Pakistan and Malaysia as two representative cases. It is funded under the AASSREC International Social Science Collaboration & Development Grant 2025, managed by the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia (ASSA) with the Association of Asian Social Science Research Councils (AASSREC) and the Global Development Network (GDN), supported by IDRC Canada.

Principal Investigator: Dr. Rana Nadir Idrees, Associate Professor, Department of Management Sciences, COMSATS University Islamabad (Lahore)

About the Role

We are hiring a Research Assistant (Pakistan) — the exact role and budget line named in the project's approved AASSREC proposal — to support the Pakistan side of the project through its data collection phase. This is a hands-on, fixed-term role suited to someone who wants real, practical experience on a live, internationally funded study, with a natural path into data analysis work for a strong performer.

Key Responsibilities

Data collection is the primary focus of this role: distributing and following up on the surveys — especially the Pakistan-side survey and, as per the project requirement, the Malaysia-side survey as well, maintaining the response/quota tracker, and scheduling and coordinating interviews and focus group discussions with remote-working professionals.

Alongside this, the role also involves:

- Data entry and basic screening/cleaning of survey responses, and transcription of interviews/FGDs
- Day-to-day coordination: consent records, scheduling, respondent communication, project record-keeping
- Light literature support: helping search and organize academic literature on remote work and well-being (the study is grounded in the Job Demands-Resources and Conservation of Resources frameworks)
- Any other project-related tasks assigned by the Principal Investigator for the smooth and timely execution of the project (e.g., assistance with documentation, progress reporting, and day-to-day project coordination) — within the scope of the Research Assistant role as per the project's approved AASSREC proposal and the Grant Agreement

Strong performers will get direct exposure to the quantitative (SmartPLS/PLS-SEM) and qualitative (NVivo thematic coding) analysis as it happens, working alongside the PI and the project's research coordinators — this is a natural growth path in the role, not the starting scope.

What We're Looking For

- MS/MBA (or final-semester student) in Management Sciences, Business Administration, HRM, Psychology, or a related social science field
- Comfortable with Excel and basic statistics (SPSS); prior exposure to SmartPLS/PLS-SEM or NVivo is a strong plus (willingness to learn quickly is fine too)
- Good academic reading/writing in English; Urdu fluency for local interview work
- Organized and detail-oriented; comfortable doing direct outreach (LinkedIn/WhatsApp/email) to recruit survey and interview participants
- Trustworthy with confidential data; understands basic research ethics (informed consent, anonymization)

Role Details

Location: Lahore (COMSATS Lahore Campus); hybrid — on-campus coordination with some remote work

Duration: Part-time, 3 months (fixed-term, per the approved project budget)

Compensation: Modest monthly stipend from the project's AASSREC research grant, paid via COMSATS in monthly instalments (details shared with shortlisted candidates)

Reports to: Dr. Rana Nadir Idrees, Principal Investigator

Why Join This Project

- Work on a live, internationally funded, cross-country research project (Pakistan–Malaysia)
- Co-authorship opportunities on the resulting journal paper and policy briefs for strong contributors
- Named acknowledgement in the project's technical report to the funder
- A strong, concrete addition to your research CV and a pathway into serious academic research

How to Apply

Send your CV and a short note on your interest and relevant experience to rananadir@cuilahore.edu.pk, subject line *"Research Assistant (Pakistan) – AASSREC Project."*

Deadline to apply: Sunday, 23 August 2026

Shortlisted candidates will be interviewed by the project's selection committee shortly after.