

SHANTANU is an Urban Development Specialist and Architect with an Advanced Master's in International Cooperation in Urban Development from the Technische Universität Darmstadt, Germany.

He has gained valuable international urban development experience through diverse projects, collaborating with interdisciplinary partners and teams from international development organizations. He has been part of the International Passive House Association in Darmstadt, Germany, where he has supported and researched Passive House building design policies, project development, and stakeholder communication and engagement. He has also collaborated with Geoffrey Payne and Associates on several occasions as an independent researcher on several urban development projects funded by the World Bank, GIZ, UN-Habitat, and several international development agencies.

As an intern with the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) in the Policy, Legislation, and Governance section (PLGs), he has contributed to the Smart City Governance Action Framework report. Furthermore, he also supported the coordinated and organized local stakeholders' public participation workshop for a sustainable master planning project in Minna and Suleja in Niger State, Nigeria, in collaboration with Niger State Urban Support Program (NSUSP).

He has also interned at Geoffrey Payne and Associates, a London-based consultancy specializing in Urban Development and Housing. There, he supported research on urban land management and housing and contributed to the publication of the book 'Somewhere to Live: Rising to the Global Urban Land and Housing Challenge' by Geoffrey Payne in 2022.

He worked as a research assistant at the Technical University of Darmstadt in Germany, focusing on Smart Cities and energy poverty in the urban context, particularly among university students.

His expertise lies in conducting research on sustainable urban development issues concerning smart cities, land management, housing, and community-led urban development in the context of the global south. Shantanu remains dedicated to creating innovative solutions and promoting inclusive urban development practices that positively impact communities worldwide.