

# SAHITI SARVA

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Washington D.C., United States of America

## EXPERIENCE

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### Data Scientist (Consultant), Development Data Partnership

DECDG, World Bank

12/21 - Ongoing

Washington D.C., USA

*Development Data Partnership helps colleagues from Partner International Development Organizations access pro-bono private sector data*

- Manage and coordinate timely data delivery for proposals received by the Development Data Partnership from project teams across the World Bank.
- Match projects to Partnership datasets based on research questions, data availability and relevance.
- Support activities of the Data Lab including managing requests for support, and managing data and code for [Data Corps](#).
- Analysed alternate, private sector data sources to assess the impact of the earthquake on internet connectivity and business activity in Türkiye. This work was undertaken for the [Türkiye Country Economists' office](#).
- Analysed conflict, demographic and air pollution data for [Syria](#) and [Lebanon Economic Monitors](#).
- Contributed to The Heatwave Data Collaborative, an initiative that brings together international organizations, private companies, government entities and Research Institutes to work on challenges related to [urban excess heat](#).
- Co-authored a successful grant proposal to receive funding from GFDRR. The research aims to understand the impact of excess heat in Filipino cities. Currently working with the Department of Science and Technology and WBG colleagues in Manila.
- Currently facilitating the creation of Data Goods to analyse conflict, nighttime lights and agricultural productivity and their impact on the economy in [Myanmar](#).
- Created 5 Data Products in the [Morocco Earthquake Impact](#) project which analysed open and private sector data.

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### Research Analyst, Disaster Risk Reduction

United Nations Development Programme

11/21 - 09/30

Remote

*The Disaster Risk Reduction team worked on creating knowledge products for use by UNDP Country offices*

- Co-authored exploratory research paper on identifying entry points for the application of Foresight Studies to anticipatory development policy planning. Involves insight gathering from practitioners in Asia Pacific and North Macedonia, desk research and narrative building.
- Conducted research for Regional Bureau of Asia Pacific's 'Horizon Scanning Initiative 2.0' to produce key trends in the region that could impact development policy planning. Involves conducting surveys, handling text data using Natural Language Processing and building narratives to communicate interconnections between trends.

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### Freelance Data Journalist

The Pudding

04/21 - 02/22

*Co-authored a visual essay about representation of women in the news for The Pudding, a digital news publication*

- Gathered, cleaned and analysed 10+ years' worth of English news headlines about women from four countries - India, USA, UK and South Africa.
- Analysed and visualized data to show temporal and spatial differences, biases and polarity in the language used.

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### Research Assistant

The Resilience Lab

04/20 - 08/21

Delft, Netherlands

*Worked on Health Emergency Response in Interconnected Systems (HERoS) project, funded by the European Commission to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of COVID-19 response. ([link](#))*

- Contributed to building a large-scale, agent-based model that simulates the spread of COVID-19 in a city.
- Developed a model that simulates the cities of The Hague and Helsinki and presented the findings at the IC2S2 conference.

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### Business Intelligence (BI) and Analytics Consultant

Thorogood Associates

06/16 - 06/19

Bangalore, India

*Worked at Thorogood Associates, a UK based boutique consulting firm, as a data visualization and analytics consultant across functions of Consumer Product Goods (CPG) conglomerates*

- Designed metrics to analyse Portfolio Complexity for a CPG conglomerate. Identified low margin, slow moving consumer goods that enabled 400+ R&D Managers to save €100M
- Optimized BI system hosting global recipes and finished goods data, improving system maintenance efficiency by 40%.
- Developed BI system to identify sustainable packaging materials to replace existing ones assisting the CPG firm to reduce its carbon footprint in order to reach **UN Development Goals** of responsible production and consumption.

## Freelance Data Analyst

Akshara Foundation

📅 09/18 - 03/19

📍 Bangalore, India

Conducted an exploratory data analysis for Akshara Foundation, an Indian Public Charitable Trust dedicated to ensuring primary education for underprivileged children

- Created 'The Blackboard' - a series of **visual analysis dashboards** that evaluate findings from foundations' mathematics contest conducted pan India for 250,000 students. It enables analysis of existing material and pedagogical techniques

## TALKS, PUBLICATIONS AND ACADEMIC WORK

### Climate change and disaster risk management

- Panelist on the Webinar - 'Enhancing Disaster Recovery and Network Resilience: Insights and Best Practices' conducted by Ookla.
- 'Choosing Your Tomorrows: Using Foresight and Anticipatory Governance to Explore Multiple Futures in Support of Risk-Informed Development', UNDP Development Futures Series, 2023 ([link](#)).
- 'Anticipating Risks and Uncertainties for Asia and the Pacific: A Hybrid Horizon Scanning Report', UNDP RBAP Strategic Foresight Network, 2022 ([link](#)).
- 'Operationalising stability and fairness in transboundary water resource allocations', Masters thesis conducted in Delft University of Technology, 2021 ([link](#)).
- Presented Masters thesis research at the 2022 Decision Making Under Deep Uncertainty conference ([link](#)).

### Gender

- 'When Women Make Headlines', The Pudding, 2022 ([link](#))
- Presented 'When Women Made Headlines' at London School of Economics' JournalismAI community workshop discussing the use of data and AI to analyse women's representation in the news ([link](#)).
- Presented the work published in the Pudding at BBC's internal lunch talk series titled 'Data Date'.
- Shortlisted for Data Visualization Society's Information is Beautiful 2022 Award ([link](#)).

## EDUCATION

M.Sc. Engineering and Policy Analysis (Honours)

Delft University of Technology

📅 09/19 - 08/21

📍 Delft, Netherlands

B.Tech. Civil Engineering

National Institute of Technology, Tiruchirappalli

📅 06/12 - 06/16

📍 Tiruchirappalli, India

## SKILLS & LANGUAGES

Programming and Visualization

Python

R

Javascript (D3.js)

HTML

CSS

C++

SQL

Tableau

PowerBI

Developer Platforms

GitHub

GIS, Simulation, and Modelling

Agent Based Modelling

Discrete Event Simulation

System Dynamics

ArcGIS

QGIS

Languages

English

Telugu (native speaker)

Hindi