



CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR RESEARCH GRANTS

CIGI's Africa Initiative (AI) announces a call for proposals for its research grants competition. The deadline for receipt of applications is May 31, 2011. Winners of this competition will be notified by August 1, 2011. A subsequent competition is planned for 2012.

Applicants must submit a completed application form, research proposal, and CV to airesearch@cigionline.org on or before the deadline. Application forms can be downloaded from the following website: www.africaportal.org/research

Background

The Africa Initiative (AI) is a multi-year, donor-supported program, with three components: a [research program](#), an [exchange program](#), and an [online portal](#). AI aims to contribute to the deepening of capacity and knowledge in the thematic areas of conflict resolution, energy, food security, health, migration, and climate change. The core of AI's work is supporting innovative research and researchers, and developing policy recommendations for policymakers in Africa. By incorporating field-based research, strategic partnerships, and online collaboration, AI is taking interdisciplinary and multi-institutional approach to Africa's challenges.

Priorities

The proposed research must be field-based and it should seek to address substantive policy-relevant challenges facing African policymakers in one or more of AI thematic areas of conflict resolution, energy, food security, health, migration, and climate change. Special consideration will be given to proposals that aim to develop innovative policy to address development challenges in Africa, seek to collect data that can be used by policy-makers in Africa, and involve questions that are especially amenable to cross-national comparison.

Eligibility

Applications are encouraged from relevant fields in the physical and social sciences. Priority will be given to African-based scholars, and early- to mid-career Canadian-based researchers. Applicants must have a post-graduate degree or be in the advanced stages of a doctoral program.

Guidelines

Applications for grants must be submitted in English and should include the following:

- Proposed title for the research proposal/paper
- Statement of the policy challenge and its significance
- Description of methodology and/or conceptual framework
- Outline of potential findings and their policy implications
- Review of relevant academic and policy literature
- Research sites and duration of the study
- Itemized budget for the proposed research excluding honorarium
- Plan for dissemination of results and identification of target audience
- Bibliography of materials used to write the proposal

The main text (excluding budget, bibliography, tables, etc.) of the proposal must not exceed 2,500 words.

Selection Process

Applications and research proposals will be pre-screened by AI Management and assessed by an international review panel of distinguished physical and social sciences scholars. All decisions relating to this competition and the size of awards will be made by AI Management, taking into account assessments by external reviewers.

Requirements

Successful applicants will be required to produce on completion of their field research (1) a discussion paper of up to 8,000 words showing key findings of the research; and (2) a policy brief of up to 3,500 words outlining policy implications of the research.

Researchers will be free to publish the findings from their research in formal peer-reviewed publication at their own initiative. Any published work that is derivative of the research supported by the grant must acknowledge the financial support received from CIGI and AI. A copy of the final publication may be provided for CIGI and AI archives.

Awards

Awards will include an honorarium of CAD\$5,000 and reimbursement for bona fide research costs of up to CAD\$10,000 such as travel, food, accommodation, research materials, telecommunications and computing expenses. The honorarium will be paid after satisfactory completion of all requirements. Expenses will be reimbursed against receipts. An advance for expenses will be considered if necessary.

Timeline

May 31, 2011	Application deadline
August 1, 2011	Selected applicants will be notified
January 31, 2012	Deadline for submitting all requirements

Contact

Inquiries can be addressed to:

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More information is available at the following website: www.africaportal.org/research