



Call for Research Papers

MEDALS FOR RESEARCH ON DEVELOPMENT

The [Global Development Network \(GDN\)](#) invites researchers from developing and transition countries to submit **completed Research papers** for the **Medals for Research on Development**.

THE MEDALS

The **Medals for Research on Development (Medals)** is a competitive grant program administered and supported by the **Global Development Network (GDN)** for completed research papers that have engaged path-breaking approaches in addressing contemporary development issues in the theme of Inequality, Social Protection and Inclusive Growth. The authors of the paper should be researchers from developing and transition countries.

The two top ranked finalists will get the opportunity to showcase their completed research papers in the **plenary sessions** at the **14th Annual Global Development Conference** to be held in Manila, Philippines from 19-21 June, 2013. Experts and well-established scholars from each theme will be discussants and panelists at these plenary sessions.

The winning research papers in each theme (described below) will receive a grant prize for **US\$ 10,000**. The runner-ups will receive **US \$5,000 each**. Travel and other related expenses for finalists to attend this conference will be borne by GDN. The Medals will be awarded based upon the originality of the research topic, the innovativeness of the methodology, quality of content, the relevance of the research in the context of the specific theme and clarity and significance of the policy implications for addressing specific development issues. The deadline for submitting the online registration form, abstract, completed paper and CVs of applicants (team members) is **March 11, 2013 (Indian Standard Time 6:00 PM)**.

RESEARCH TOPICS

Completed research papers for the Medals will be considered in the following three themes:

1. **Inequality**
2. **Social Protection and Social Policies**
3. **Inclusive Growth**

The descriptions of each theme are given page 4 onwards.

COMPETITION RULES AND GUIDELINES:

*Please review carefully. Any application that does not follow the below mentioned guidelines will **NOT** be considered.*

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- The Medals competition is open only to **researchers in developing countries and transition economies** with the requirement that they need to be citizens or permanent residents of these countries.
- Citizens of developing and transition countries temporarily residing in a developed country for no more than five years are eligible to apply. This will be verified through CVs and the scanned copy of **an Identity Card** that has legal standing in your resident country. Please note that all personal information details as provided in the application (and CV) should be factually correct, else the application will be liable for disqualification. The information on the Identity Card will remain strictly confidential with GDN.
- The upper age limit for applicants is **45 years as of March 11, 2013**.
- Staff members of multilateral and bilateral organizations (The World Bank, IMF, IADB, UN agencies, DFID, AusAID, etc.) are not eligible to apply. Previous employees of the Global Development Network are also not eligible to apply.
- Past Medal winners and finalists are not eligible to apply with the same or similar completed research work.
- Papers resulting as products from other GDN funded activities (Global Research Projects/Regional Research Competitions and other competitions etc.) may not be submitted for the competition.

HOW TO APPLY

Follow the steps given below:

1. Logon to GDN's **Online Proposal Appraisal** system (OPA) using the following internet link; <http://opa.gdn.int> and fill in the online application form for Medals (i.e. Call for Proposal: (CFP-3) Medals for Research on Development) and submit it. (On completion of this step, you would receive an automated response from OPA via email (at the address that you provided in the application form) confirming successful submission of your application. Please note here, however, that your application is not yet complete. You have to follow the rest of the steps given below).

Uploading the Completed Research Paper

2. Click **'Next'** and then press on **'Add Document'**
 - In the **'Title'** field, typewrite the words *'Research Paper'*.
 - Put the **'Authors' names'**.
 - **Browse** and locate the paper on your computer that you would like to upload.
 - Write an **'Abstract'** about the paper.
 - Under document type, choose **'Research Paper'**
 - Click **'Submit'**. On completion of this step, an on-screen message would say 'Document Successfully Added!'

Uploading the CV

3. Click on **'Add Document'**
 - In the **'Title'** field, typewrite the *'Applicant's name'*.
 - **Browse** and locate the CV on your computer and click 'open'.
 - Under document type, choose **'CV'**
 - Click **'Submit'**. On completion of this step, an on-screen message would say 'Document Successfully Added!' Repeat this step for uploading CVs of co-researchers.

The last date for of the online registration form, a 200 to 300 word abstract, completed research paper and CVs of the applicants (all team members) is **March 11, 2013 (Indian Standard Time 6:00 PM)**. **Please note that the submission of all documents is mandatory for your application to be treated as complete and eligible.**

Note: For a paper with more than one author, only the principal author should submit an application. However, the institutional affiliation, position/designation, e-mail address, citizenship and current residence of each co-author must also be included in the application along with their CVs.

THINGS TO REMEMBER:

- All applications and documents must be submitted as electronic files at GDN's Online Proposal Appraisal System (OPA) (<http://opa.gdn.int>). **PLEASE NOTE THAT GDN ACCEPTS APPLICATIONS THROUGH OPA ONLY.**
- Applications must clearly state the theme under which the paper is being submitted. Research papers that can not be categorized under one of the three themes identified for this year's competition will **NOT** be considered.
- If you are not able to submit your application through OPA, please contact us at awards@gdn.int, with the subject line: 'Medals – Application Request'. For all other queries, please refer to Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs).

- Only one research paper can be submitted under one theme. However, more than one research paper can be submitted by the same applicant(s) if the topics correspond to different themes.
- Research papers authored individually, or, co-authored can be submitted. In case of papers written by more than one author, all authors must meet the eligibility criteria.
- Papers must be between 6,000 to 12,000 words. Format should be in Times New Roman, 11-point font with single line spacing and one inch margins
- Papers for all themes must be submitted in the English language only.
- Incomplete applications, for example, only the abstract and/or the outline without the completed research paper will not be considered.
- Papers for the Medals competition must not have been published in an internationally published journal or book before March 11, 2012.
- Please note that all forms of academic dishonesty are unacceptable to GDN, plagiarism being one of them. Plagiarism is unauthorized use of other people's work, ideas and/or writings (in part or in full) and presenting or giving notion of these work (s), ideas and/or writings being one's own work, idea (s) and/or writing(s). GDN takes plagiarism very seriously and will take immediate and appropriate action including and not limited to withdrawal of awards for any such awardees found guilty of plagiarism.

THE SELECTION PROCESS

Once the submission of papers is closed, the following process is used to select the winners:

- After a preliminary assessment by GDN, the applications will be reviewed by independent experts in each category. For each category, the corresponding experts will submit a short list of 2 candidates to the GDN along with an explanation of the underlying selection criteria for each short listed candidate. The finalists will be announced by **May 2013**.
- Short-listed candidates for the Medals will present their work at plenary sessions at GDN's 14th Annual Global Development Conference in June, 2013. Travel and other expenses for one principal researcher of each short-listed paper will be covered by GDN.
- A selection committee will select and announce the Medals winners at the GDN conference. In selecting the winners, the selection committee will take into account substantive contribution of the research to a particular aspect of development, innovativeness of the research topic and the methodology, academic quality, relevance of the research in the context of the specific theme and the clarity and significance of the policy implications for addressing specific development issues. The selection committee reserves the right not to award one or both medals in any category.

SELECTION COMMITTEE

The selection committee for this year's competition has not yet been determined. The Selection Committees in the past have included representatives from The World Bank, UNFPA, Texas

A&M University, USA; Charles University, Czech National Bank, Czech Republic; Veolia Environment Institute, France; National Agricultural Research Institute of Tunisia, Tunisia; Institute of Social Studies, The Netherlands; Ateneo de Manila University, Philippines; South Eastern European University, Republic of Macedonia; CEDLAS - Universidad Nacional de La Plata, Argentina.

SPONSORS

Funding for the medal prizes in the past has been provided by AFESD, Department for International Development (DFID), UK, Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs (DGIS), The Netherlands, Ministry of Finance, Luxembourg; Ministry of Foreign Affairs, France; Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Spain; Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Italy; Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Czech Republic, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Spain; The World Bank, IDRC, Canada; AusAID, Australia; Government of St. Petersburg, Russia; and MERCK, USA.

DESCRIPTION OF 2012 GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT AWARDS AND MEDALS COMPETITION THEMES

Theme 1: Inequality

There is overwhelming evidence which suggests that recent years have witnessed concentration of wealth at the very top of the population (see top 1%) at the global level. And this new phenomenon is related to a much broader rise in disparities all along the income distribution; what is also interesting is that these disparities appear to be stronger in emerging economies and developing countries. Needless to say, inequality trends do seem to vary substantially across regions but the overall rise in inequality at the global level seems to be the overall dominant trend. High and growing inequality in access to basic social services such as health and education, exacerbated by income inequality, is particularly a major problem in many low-income countries resulting in undesirable social outcomes. It is also well documented that high levels of inequality could delay substantially the narrowing and elimination of income gaps by complicating reforms, reducing the quality of institutions and policies, undermining social cohesion, endangering social and political stability and making growth unsustainable in the long run. At the same time, conceptual and measurement issues have dominated the inequality debate for many years. Whether inequality is defined in terms of inequality of outcomes or inequality of opportunities has important implications for social policies to be implemented in this crucial area. Inequality can also be measured in various ways such as by the distribution of wealth, income or consumption, or between races, sexes, regions or individuals. Furthermore, issues related to other forms of inequality such as spatial inequality and horizontal inequality have been the subject of discussion and debate in the vast inequality literature in recent years. Finally, it has been also argued that inequality (at least in terms of inequality of outcomes) may further be accentuated by the demand for positional goods by the rich, which are time-saving and resource-using, and which in turn may crowd out demand to meet the basic needs of the poor.

Under this theme, we are inviting submissions from all social sciences disciplines that will broadly address (but are not limited to) the questions and the topics below. Case studies and comparative case studies are particularly encouraged.

1. Discuss the recent trends in inequality across different regions in the world and at the global level along with the factors allowing (substantial in certain cases) degree of variation across regions.
2. How conceptual and measurement issues in the inequality literature have been handled over the years and how the various approaches adopted may affect the final overall inequality picture in the developing world?
3. What do we know about the various forms of inequality including spatial inequality and horizontal inequality? Do we need more eclectic as well as multidisciplinary approaches beyond economics to capture inequality issues in the developing world (and beyond)?
4. Discuss the view that the huge changes that have dominated the world economy in the last three decades such as globalization, deregulation, the information-technology revolution and the associated expansion of international trade, capital flows and global supply chains, have narrowed income gaps between countries and widened them within them at the same time.

Theme 2: Social Protection and Social Policies

Social protection¹ issues are becoming very crucial in the aftermath of the recent global financial crisis but also in view of growing inequality in the developing world. In Asia and the Pacific in particular, the 1997/98 financial crisis and the more recent triple crisis related to food, energy and the financial sector revealed that most countries in the region have inadequate systems of social protection. A recent ADB Social Protection study in the region concluded that public expenditure on social protection is lower than in any part of the developing world except Sub-Saharan Africa, a region with also inadequate social protection policies to protect the most vulnerable. Perhaps the rich Latin America experience in terms of social protection policies can help us to learn more from the success of social programs such as *PROGRESA/Oportunidades* and *Bolsa Familia* implemented in many countries in the region for many years and currently in other countries in other regions (such as the *Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino* program of conditional cash transfers in the Philippines). Although social protection and insurance mechanisms can provide some protection to the most vulnerable parts of the population, in many cases the effectiveness as well as the final overall impact of these instruments remains limited. Along these lines, there is a growing need to expand access to social protection and insurance, and for governments, the broad donor community, civil society and the private

¹ We use a rather eclectic definition of social protection here based on the European Report on Development (ERD) 2010, i.e. social protection is defined as the specific set of public actions to address the vulnerability of people's life *via social insurance*, offering protection against risk and adversity throughout life; *via social assistance*, offering payments to support and enable the poor; and *via social inclusion* efforts that enhance the capability of the marginalized to access social insurance and assistance.

sector to invest in protection against shocks, drawing on the lessons emanating from other areas (such innovations in technology and disaster risk management) in order to build resilience. A crucial policy issue in this regard, is how to build sustainable social protection systems and policies during non-crisis years so they can be effective and sustainable during crisis and post-crisis periods.

Under this theme, we are inviting submissions from all social sciences disciplines that will broadly address (but are not limited to) the questions and the topics below. Case studies and comparative case studies are particularly encouraged.

1. What are the mechanisms through which social safety nets and social protection can protect the most vulnerable in the developing world to cope with external as well as domestic shocks outside their control?
2. What can we learn from the experience of social protection policies and schemes in Latin America (and Asia) and how similar policies can be implemented in sub-Saharan Africa?
3. Issues like health insurance and health care delivery are also crucial. What is the best way to go on that front? Need to compare good experiences with less good ones in this area; evaluating these experiences is equally important.
4. Discuss the view that on the policy front, it is absolutely crucial to move away from ad hoc social protection programs towards comprehensive social policy.

Theme 3: Inclusive Growth

Inclusive growth is by no means a new concept in the international development discourse. At the same time, it is fair to argue that there is no widely accepted definition of inclusive growth. For some, inclusive growth is defined as growth associated with equality of opportunity while for others it is growth related to declining inequality of opportunity. In this context it is important to stress that inclusive growth based on equal opportunity differentiates inequality due to individual circumstances from that due to individual effort. And distinguishing inequality related to effort from that related to individual circumstances leads to an important distinction between inequality of outcomes and inequality of opportunity. Important also to stress that inclusive growth differs from the concept of “pro-poor growth” since the latter predominantly targets people living below a specific poverty line whereas the former is concerned with a broader population, including the poor, people living just above the poverty line and the non-poor but disadvantaged in a society, thus moving beyond strict economic definitions of “inclusiveness”. It has also been argued that given the focus of inclusive growth on both creating economic opportunity and ensuring equal access, an effective inclusive growth strategy should have at least three main policy pillars, namely (1) high, efficient and sustained growth to create productive jobs and economic opportunity, (2) social inclusion to ensure equal access to opportunity and (3) social safety nets to prevent extreme poverty. Finally, it is well documented that the exogenous shocks and related instabilities of economic variables have a detrimental effect on the economic growth of developing countries and the rate of poverty

reduction; these are both short term and long term effects. In this context, economic vulnerability is the risk for a country to see its development hampered by these shocks and instabilities; and as long as vulnerability is not the result of current or recent policies but rather depends on persisting factors and features it is considered as “structural”. In view of the above, addressing structural vulnerability issues are of paramount importance for social policy and inclusive growth in the developing world.

Under this theme, we are inviting submissions from all social sciences disciplines that will broadly address (but are not limited to) the questions and the topics below. Case studies and comparative case studies are also encouraged.

1. What we know about the determinants of inclusive growth? What are the conceptual challenges regarding the overall definition of inclusive growth?
2. What are the challenges in measuring “structural economic vulnerability”?
3. Crises seriously undermine the whole process of inclusive growth, particularly for those most vulnerable. Do we need a “socially responsible macroeconomics” to deal with the overall nexus between crises and the poor?
4. Discuss regional perspectives on inclusive growth vis-à-vis overall global perspectives.