



Call for Research Proposals

Japanese Award for Outstanding Research on Development

THE AWARD

The **Japanese Award for Outstanding Research on Development (ORD)** is a competitive research grant program administered by the **Global Development Network (GDN)** and supported by the **Ministry of Finance, Government of Japan**. *This program identifies and funds outstanding research proposals in developing and transition countries with high potential for excellence in research and clear policy implications for addressing development issues.*

Since its inception in 2000, GDN has awarded roughly **US\$ 3.6 million** in travel and research grants to finalists and winners. Nearly **7,200 researchers** from developing and transition counties have been awarded such research grants to date to carry on research for excellence in selected themes.

The winning projects will receive grants worth **US\$ 45,000**. Finalists will be invited to travel and present their proposals at GDN's **14th Annual Global Development Conference** in Manila, the Philippines from 19-21 June 2013. The award will be given to the organization/researcher(s) whose proposal to conduct research in any one of the three research themes (described below) holds the **greatest promise for improving our understanding of development issues** and puts forth clear, articulate and well researched policy implications to address relevant development problems.

The first prize winner will receive a grant of **US\$ 30,000**. The second prize and third prize winners will receive a grant of **US\$ 10,000 and US\$ 5,000** respectively. The funds will be used to support the research work proposed by the winners towards the completion of their research.

The last date for submission of the online registration form, full research proposal in the application template and CVs of applicants (research team members) is **March 11, 2013 (Indian Standard Time 6:00 PM)**.

RESEARCH THEMES

Research proposals for the Award will be considered in the following three research themes:

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

The descriptions of each theme are given page 5 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 Award is open only to researchers in developing and transition countries with the requirement that the applicants (researchers) need to be permanent residents of these countries. They could either submit the research proposal individually, or, jointly as a team.
- Citizens of developing and transition countries temporarily residing in a developed country for no more than five years are eligible to apply as part of a team. However, the principal investigator of the research proposal must currently reside and be a permanent resident of a developing or transition country. Citizenship will be verified through CVs and the scanned copy of **an Identity Card** that has legal standing in the resident countries of all researchers on the applying team. 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.
- In case of more than one researcher, at least half of the researchers (including the principal investigator) of the team must currently reside in a developing or transition country and should be affiliated to an organization headquartered in either of these countries.
- The upper age limit for applicants is **45 years as of March 11, 2013**.
- The proposal should not be receiving or scheduled to receive funds from other sources to be eligible for consideration for the Award unless it is clearly explained how the additional funds provided by the Award would reinforce the existing funds for successful completion of the research.
- Staff members of multilateral and bilateral organizations (World Bank, IMF, IADB, UN agencies, DFID, AusAID, etc.) and previous employees of the GDN are not eligible to apply.
- Past finalists and winners are not eligible to apply with the same or similar research proposal. Additionally, winners are not eligible to apply for a period of 3 years subsequent to their submission of a successful proposal.

HOW TO APPLY

Follow the steps given below:

1. Download the proposal template by [clicking here](#); fill it in and save it on your computer.
2. 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 ORD (i.e. Call for Proposal: (CFP-2) Award for Outstanding 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 Research Proposal

3. Click '**Next**' and then press on '**Add Document**'
 - In the '**Title**' field, typewrite the words '*Research Proposal*'.
 - Put the applicant's name as its '**Author**'.
 - **Browse** and locate the proposal on your computer that you had fill in during step one and click 'open'.
 - Write an '**Abstract**' about the proposed research.
 - Under document type, choose '**Research Proposal**'
 - Click '**Submit**'. On completion of this step, an on-screen message would say 'Document Successfully Added!'

Uploading the CV

4. 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

Uploading the Organizational Profile

5. Click on '**Add Document**'
 - In the '**Title**' field, typewrite the words '*Organizational Profile*'.
 - **Browse** and locate the document (that you saved during step two) on your computer and click 'open'.
 - Under document type, choose '**Appendix**'\Click '**Submit**'. On completion of this step, an on-screen message would say 'Document Successfully Added!'

The last date for submission of the online registration form, the full research proposal in the application template and CVs of the applicants 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 joint research proposal with more than one researcher, only the principal investigator should submit an application. However, the institutional affiliation, position/designation, e-mail address, citizenship and current residence of each co-researcher must also be included in the application.

THINGS TO REMEMBER:

- The application and the required documents must be submitted as electronic files at GDN's Online Proposal Appraisal (OPA) (<http://opa.gdn.int>). **Please note that GDN accepts applications through OPA only.**
- Research proposals should be submitted only in the designated [application template](#).
- If you are unable to submit your application through OPA, please contact us at awards@gdn.int, with the subject line: 'ORD – Application Request'.
- Applications should not exceed 15 pages. Format should be in Times New Roman, 11-point font with single line spacing and one inch margins.
- Applicants must indicate the theme under which the proposal is being submitted. Applications that can not be categorized under one of the three themes will not be considered.
- Applicants can only submit one proposal under each theme.
- An application can be submitted by an individual researcher or by a team of researchers. In cases with more than one researcher, all researchers must meet the eligibility criteria.
- All applications must be accompanied by CVs of all the team members.
- Proposals must be submitted in the English language only.
- Incomplete applications will NOT be considered.
- 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 funding for any such grantees found guilty of plagiarism.
- Please note that all personal information details provided in the application (along with the CV) should be correct, else the application will be liable for disqualification.

THE SELECTION PROCESS

Once the call for proposals 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 who will, in turn, submit a short list of three candidates to GDN. The shortlist will be announced by **May 2013**.

- Finalists for the Award will present their work at GDN's 14th Annual Global Development Conference June 2012. Travel and other expenses for one researcher from each short-listed application will be covered by GDN.
- A selection committee will select and announce the winner(s) at the conference. In selecting the Award winner, the committee will consider the *overall academic quality, originality* of the research proposal, the *likelihood of successful completion* of the work, *high potential for excellence in research, contribution to development knowledge*, and *potential for clear and substantive policy implications* for addressing specific development issues. The Award winner(s) may be invited to either a subsequent GDN annual meeting where she/he will provide a presentation of the completed research or alternatively at another international conference of thematic relevance.
- The selection committee reserves the right not to award one or more prizes.

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, The New School, Worldwatch Institute, Cornell University, Center for Global Development, USA; WIIW, Austria; Real Instituto Elcano, Spain; Queensland University of Technology, Australia; Instituto Complutense de Estudios Internacionales, Spain; FLACSO, Ecuador; European Association of Development Institutes, EU; University of Rome, Italy.

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

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.

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 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.