

Competitive Small Research Grants

EDRI/IFPRI (2011/12 Academic Year) Round Two

Capacity building is one of the pillars of the Ethiopian Strategy Support Program II (ESSP-II) – the collaborative program of the Ethiopian Development Research Institute (EDRI) and the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI). In order to increase national capacity to conduct policy-relevant economic research, EDRI and IFPRI will utilize ESSP-II resources to fund a small research grants scheme, beginning in November 2011 for the second time.

1. Aims

The Competitive Small Research Grants scheme aims to contribute towards reducing the financial constraints to conducting economic policy-relevant empirical research in the context of graduate programs in Ethiopian public universities.

The Grants are provided on a competitive basis. Selection for support thus depends on the quality of the proposal and the relevance of the topic to the development problems of the country.

The grants are limited to:

- A maximum of US\$1000 for proposals submitted by students studying for a Master's degree; and
- A maximum of US\$2000 for proposals from doctoral students.

2. Administration

A specially constituted Grants Committee administers the scheme. A representative of EDRI, a representative of ESSP-II, and the Dean of the School of Economics at AAU will be members of this Committee.

3. Eligibility

All graduate students (Master's and doctoral students) of Economics, Agricultural Economics, and related fields enrolled at Ethiopian universities are eligible to apply.

4. Application Procedure

a. Application form

All applicants should fill the application form prepared for the purpose and available at the websites of both EDRI and ESSP-II.

b. Requirements

Each application form should be accompanied by:

- i. A 5-page summary of the research proposal approved by the applicant's academic department;

- ii. A letter from the Head of the applicant's academic department (or any other designated official) verifying that the applicant's research proposal has been approved. In the absence of such a letter, the Grant Committee may seek alternative proofs of approval.
- iii. A letter of recommendation from a senior member of the applicant's academic department;
- c. Deadline
The deadline for applications for the subsequent round of the 2011/12 academic year is November 30, 2011.
- d. Application forms and supporting documents should be sent to:

ESSP II

Ethiopia Strategy Support Program

IFPRI c/o ILRI

P.O.Box 5689, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Tel: 251 11 6 17 25 55 Fax.: 251 11 6 46 23 18

Email: mahlet.mekuria@cgiar.org and n.yadene@cgiar.org

or

EDRI

Hanna Ketselamaryam

Ethiopian Development Research Institute

P.O.Box 2479

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Tel: (+251) (1) 5506066

Fax: (+251) (1) 5505588

Email: hannakmaryam@yahoo.com

5. Selection Procedure

- a. Criteria
 - i. Winning proposals are selected on the basis quality and relevance to economic development and poverty reduction in Ethiopia;
 - ii. Proposals closely aligned with the research priorities of EDRI and ESSP-II are encouraged;
 - iii. Proposals with demonstrable need for collecting additional (and/or complementary) primary data are given priority;
 - iv. Up to 30% of possible awards in every round are reserved for female applicants. In cases where this target cannot be met, the Grant Committee will allocate the remaining awards as it sees fit.
 - v. The total number of awards won by applicants from Addis Ababa University (AAU) and Haramaya University (HU) cannot exceed 60% of the total number of grants available in a round.
- b. The Grants Committee will announce the winners within a month of the application deadline.