

## Empowerment Lab Grants

### **The Empowerment Lab at CID**

Inclusion into a market economy is a crucial component of economic welfare, and large portions of the populations in the U.S. and developing countries lack productive access to markets such as banking, insurance, and healthcare. To further global research on this important subject, the Center for International Development established the Empowerment Lab. It seeks to engage in research and activities to understand what limits the reach of markets and the impact of improved access to key markets. As part of its initiatives, the Empowerment Lab offers three types of grants: Faculty Research Project Grants, Faculty Seed Capital Grants, and Student Research Project Grants.

### **Faculty Research Project Grants**

The Empowerment Lab at CID offers grants to support research by CID Faculty Associates on topics related to the core interests of the Empowerment Lab. This includes innovative research to better understand the causes of and solutions for global disenfranchisement and inclusion in market economies. The main focus of these grants is to support projects which will inform the development of program and policy recommendations for fostering empowerment of those currently excluded from key market. These grants may be used for travel, research assistance, and research materials.

Application deadline: Rolling

Amount: up to \$40,000 with some possible exceptions

Eligibility: Only Faculty Associates of the Center for International Development at Harvard University may apply for Empowerment Lab Faculty Grants, but the projects may include other scholars and practitioners from outside CID.

How to Apply: Faculty Associates seeking to apply for an Empowerment Lab faculty research project grant should submit an application form, proposal, and a detailed budget for the project including other sources of funding, if any. The proposal should be up to five pages describing the research topic, the significance and goals of the research, the methodology, how the research will be shared with the CID community, and how the research will be disseminated more broadly.

Criteria: The Empowerment Lab Steering Committee evaluates faculty research project grant applications based on relevance to the core interests of the Empowerment Lab, originality, and potential for broader impact and dissemination.

Terms: Faculty who receive a grant from the Empowerment Lab will be expected to contribute actively to the ongoing work of the Empowerment Lab and CID including giving presentations on the research and participating in the annual Empowerment Lab Conference. All grant recipients should acknowledge the support they received from the Empowerment Lab in future publications of their research.

Submission: All application materials should be submitted via email to Jennifer Gala at [jennifer\\_gala@harvard.edu](mailto:jennifer_gala@harvard.edu).

Contact: For any questions about Empowerment Lab grants, contact Jennifer Gala, Program Manager of the Empowerment Lab, [jennifer\\_gala@harvard.edu](mailto:jennifer_gala@harvard.edu).

### **Seed Capital: Faculty Research Proposal Development Grants**

The Empowerment Lab at CID offers grants to support CID Faculty Associates in developing potential research proposals that leverage data available through the Empowerment Lab. The purpose of these grants is to enable faculty to explore opportunities to use data or gather data through Empowerment Lab partners. Grants may be used for travel to Austin to meet with MPower Venture companies or other partners, research assistance, etc. Although the objective of these seed capital grants is to support the development of research project ideas and initiate research that can be elaborated into larger projects, there is no obligation to launch a project upon exploring the project topic.

Application deadline: Rolling

Amount: up to \$5,000

Eligibility: Only Faculty Associates of the Center for International Development at Harvard University may apply for Empowerment Lab research proposal development grants, but the work may include other scholars and practitioners from outside CID. The proposed project must include use of Empowerment Lab data or partnership(s) with Empowerment Lab partners for data gathering.

How to Apply: Faculty Associates seeking to apply for an Empowerment Lab research proposal development grant should submit a two page brief proposal describing the potential project topic that will be explored, how Empowerment Lab data will be used in the research, and the significance and goals of the research.

Criteria: The Empowerment Lab Steering Committee evaluates faculty research proposal development grant applications based on relevance to the core interests of the Empowerment Lab, originality, and potential for broader impact and dissemination.

Terms: Faculty who receive a research proposal development grant from the Empowerment Lab will be expected to submit a 1-2 page memo within a year of receiving the grant that summarizes key learnings from exploring the proposed project topic, and whether the Faculty Associates plans to continue pursuing this project going forward. If the project is pursued, grant recipients should acknowledge the support they received from the Empowerment Lab in any future publications on this research.

Submission: All application materials should be submitted via email to Jennifer Gala at [jennifer\\_gala@harvard.edu](mailto:jennifer_gala@harvard.edu).

Contact: For any questions about Empowerment Lab grants, contact Jennifer Gala, Program Manager of the Empowerment Lab, [jennifer\\_gala@harvard.edu](mailto:jennifer_gala@harvard.edu).

### **Student Research Project Grants**

The Empowerment Lab at CID offers grants to support research by PhD students affiliated with CID on topics related to the core interests of the Empowerment Lab. This includes innovative research to better understand the causes of and solutions for global disenfranchisement and inclusion in market economies. The main focus of these grants is to support projects which will inform the development of program and policy recommendations for fostering empowerment of those currently excluded from key market. These grants may be used for travel, research assistance, and research materials.

Application deadline: Rolling

Amount: up to \$1,500

Eligibility: Only PhD students affiliated with the Center for International Development at Harvard University or with faculty associated with CID may apply for Empowerment Lab student research grants, but the projects may include other scholars and practitioners from outside CID.

How to Apply: Students seeking to apply for an Empowerment Lab student research project grant should submit an application form, research proposal, and a detailed budget for the project including other sources of funding, if any. The research proposal should be two pages describing the research topic, the significance and goals of the research, the methodology, how the research will be shared with the CID community, and how the research will be disseminated more broadly.

Criteria: The Empowerment Lab Steering Committee evaluates student research project grant applications based on relevance to the core interests of the Empowerment Lab, originality, and potential for broader impact and dissemination.

Terms: Individuals who receive a grant from the Empowerment Lab will be expected to contribute to the ongoing work of the Empowerment Lab by giving presentations on the research and participating in the CID seminar series. All grant recipients should acknowledge the support they received from the Empowerment Lab in future publications of their research.

Submission: All application materials should be submitted via email to Jennifer Gala at [jennifer\\_gala@harvard.edu](mailto:jennifer_gala@harvard.edu).

Contact: For any questions about Empowerment Lab grants, contact Jennifer Gala, Program Manager of the Empowerment Lab, [jennifer\\_gala@harvard.edu](mailto:jennifer_gala@harvard.edu).

**Research Grant Application Form**

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Grant type:

- Faculty Research Project Grant
  - Seed Capital: Faculty Research Proposal Development Grant
  - PhD Student Research Project Grant
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**Date:**

**Name:**

**Department/School:**

**Position/Title:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Phone:** ( ) -

**Fax:** ( ) -

**Email address:**

**Title/Topic of Research Project:**

**Project description (1 paragraph):**

**Data sources (if any):**

**Expected project completion date (not including publication):**

**Dollar amount requested:**

**Other sources of funding:**