Global Development Awards Competition
Japanese Award for Outstanding Research on Development (ORD) 2024 Edition

CALL FOR ORD REVIEWERS (CONSULTANTS)

The Global Development Network (GDN) is a public international organization that promotes better policies and better lives through high-quality policy-oriented social science research conducted in developing and transition countries. It provides researchers with financial resources, global networking, research management support, access to information, training, peer review and mentoring. Founded in 1999, GDN is currently headquartered in New Delhi.

CALL FOR ORD REVIEWERS (Consultants)

Background

The **Japanese Award for Outstanding Research on Development (ORD)** is a competitive research grant program under the umbrella of the [Global Development Awards Competition](#) administered by the Global Development Network (GDN), funded under the Policy and Human Resources Development Fund (PHRD) trust fund managed by the World Bank, and generously supported by the Ministry of Finance, Government of Japan.

This award program identifies and funds outstanding research proposals in low-income or middle-income countries[1] with high potential for excellence in research and clear policy implications for addressing development issues.

Scope of the call

GDN is recruiting reviewers to conduct the assessment of research proposals under the ORD category of the Global Development Awards Competition. The review is scheduled to take place in two phases:

- **Lot 1** - Reviewers will be selected to conduct a first assessment of proposals based on the ORD selection criteria and shortlist the best proposals.
- **Lot 2** - Experienced researchers to review the shortlisted proposals and select the three finalists of the ORD category. The final decision will be validated by the Panel Organizer.

Panel Organizer

Out of the Lot 2 reviewers, a Panel Organizer is selected based on her/his professional experience upon demonstrated availability for this additional task. This

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[1] Press [here](#) to visit the list of countries which are recognized as low- and middle-income countries by the World Bank

individual will have the additional task of approving the final ranking after taking into consideration all comments and (normalized) scores.

Interested candidates can apply to one lot only, depending on their profiles.

Profile of applicants

- **Lot 1**: Be a researcher with 2-10 years of research experience, with a track record of work and publication in the award theme for the current edition
- **Lot 2**: Be a researcher with 10+ years of research experience, with a track record of work and publication in the award theme for the current edition

Application structure

Interested individuals must submit the following information:
1. Indicate to which Lot (1 or 2) they are applying for
2. Overview of how their expertise matches the theme and scope of the competition
3. Description of past experience on similar assignments
4. Full CV

Selection Criteria

The criteria for the selection of Reviewers are as follows:
1. Research Background on the theme of the call
2. Policy background
3. Leadership experience
4. Evaluation and Experience on Project implementation experience

Application Procedure

➢ Follow to GDN's dedicated online submission platform using the following link: www.gdn.int/gdac/2024/apply

➢ Register or Log-in into the platform to have access to your profile. You will receive an email confirming the successful registration of your profile and define your password. Only after verifying your profile, will you be able to submit an application.

➢ On your profile page, follow the displayed instructions and go to [Applications] "Funding Opportunities" to select the Call you wish to apply to or resume one from the [Applications] "In Progress" section.

   a. Take note that you will be able to resume your entry at any time up to the deadline. If there are duplicate entries, the most recent one will be considered as only one proposal per applicant is allowed.

➢ Upload all necessary documents and fill all sections otherwise your application will not be submitted.
   - Indication to which Lot (1 or 2) the application refers to
   - Overview of how your expertise matches the theme and scope of the competition
   - Description of past experience on similar assignments
   - Full CV

➢ Once you have completed your application, click on "Submit". You will receive an email notifying you on the successful submission of your application with a copy of the entire submission.

Check our website for additional information on how to interact with the platform or reach out to us if you need any assistance.

Enquiries must be addressed to awards@gdn.int.

Deadline

The deadline for submission of applications is on **Friday, 11 May 2024 (Indian Standard Time 6:00 PM).**

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Objective of the assignment

GDN is recruiting reviewers to conduct the assessment of research proposals under the ORD category of the Global Development Awards Competition.

The review is scheduled to take place in two phases:

- **Lot 1** - a first level review by early-career scholars (less than 10 years of experience)
- **Lot 2** - a second level review of experienced researchers (above 10 years of experience)

Interested candidates can apply to one lot only, depending on their profiles.

Panel Organizer

Out of the Lot 2 reviewers, a Panel Organizer is selected based on her/his professional experience upon demonstrated availability for this additional task. This individual will have the additional task of approving the final ranking after taking into consideration all comments and (normalized) scores.

Lot 1: First level review

Reviewers will be selected to conduct a first assessment of proposals on the basis of the ORD selection criteria and shortlist the best proposals.

Lot 2: Expert level review

Experienced researchers to review the shortlisted proposals, and select the three finalists of the ORD category. The final decision will be validated by the Panel Organizer.

Review Criteria

Throughout the review process, the proposals will be judged on the following criteria:

Academic quality
- Quality of the research question formulated
- Quality of methodology and methods chosen to answer the research question
- Quality of literature review
- Originality and Innovativeness
- Ethics

Clarity of the links to policy
- Link to specific development outcomes
- Specific relevance to policy process

Feasibility
- Timeline
- Budget
- Research team

Structure of the review and timeframe

Each review consists of:

1) Scoring each proposal against the criteria
2) Comments to complement the quantitative evaluation per each of the 11 criteria
3) Indication of recommendation to advance to the following stage
   a. Lot 1 Reviewers – Yes/No to "Should this proposal advance to the next stage"
   b. Lot 2 Reviewers – Yes/No to "Is this proposal among the top 3 you have reviewed"

Applicants receive the anonymized comments and can revise their proposals between phases. It is expected that all comments submitted are respectful and contribute to the professional development of the applicants regardless of the quality of their proposal.

Lot 2 reviewers (second level review) will not have access to the comments from the 1st level reviewers, but the applicants will provide a reaction to their comments.

Selected reviewers will comply with the timeline defined for their assignment which is expected to be (subject to change):

> **Lot 1: First level review**
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> Between June 3 and July 10 with up to 10 proposals per reviewer, minimum of 3 reviews per proposal. This number might differ depending on how many applications are received and how many reviewers are selected.

> **Lot 2: Second level review**
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> Between July 29 and September 8 with up to 10 proposals per reviewer, minimum of 3 reviews per proposal (the workload on each reviewer may vary).

> **Panel Organizer**
>
> Between 11 and 12 September to approve the final ranking upon reception of all normalized scores and ranking provided by GDN.

Finance and Budget

> **Lot 1:** Every proposal reviewed will be paid USD 40 to the reviewer.
> **Lot 2:** Every proposal reviewed will be paid USD 80 to the reviewer. GDN also pays USD 200 to the Panel Organizer as a management fee.

Reporting

All reporting will be done to João Costa, Senior Program Manager, through the email addresses awards@gdn.int and jcosta@gdn.int (all communications to be addressed to both emails mandatorily).

Theme | 2024 Global Development Awards Competition
Sustainable Climate Action for Human-Centered Development

In the complex and interconnected tapestry of global challenges, climate change stands as a pivotal force, affecting ecosystems, societies, and individuals worldwide. Amidst these challenges, the imperative for sustainable climate action has never been more urgent, especially in regions grappling with unique vulnerabilities. In navigating the intricate challenges of climate change within the Global South, the theme **"Sustainable Climate Action for Human-Centered Development"** underscores the critical need to align environmental preservation with the well-being of communities in these regions. Within this nexus, initiatives that not only protect the planet but also prioritize human-centric development take center stage, acknowledging the unique contexts and vulnerabilities of the Global South.

The **2024 edition of the Global Development Awards Competition** aims to highlight innovative ideas and ongoing projects to celebrate and amplify the voices of those who actively contribute to building a resilient future—one where the human experience is not merely considered but is at the forefront of climate action strategies. The theme underscores the profound need to align our commitment to safeguarding the planet with an unwavering dedication to human-centric development, recognizing the unique contexts, cultures, and vulnerabilities present in the Global South, to realize a society where no one is left behind.

GDN encourages the submission of projects that are either gender-specific or gender-transformative but requires that all projects be designed to respond to gender concerns.

Under the **Japanese Awards for Outstanding Research on Development (ORD) category**, GDN invites early-career researchers to submit projects that focus on the vital role of knowledge generation in informing effective climate action. We challenge researchers to contribute to the growing body of actionable knowledge. By exploring novel social science methodologies and embracing diverse approaches that consider different timeframes, researchers can provide nuanced insights into the complex social dimensions of climate change, with a special emphasis on human security and solidarity in the Anthropocene. This category therefore recognizes the significance of methodological innovation in shaping our understanding and response to the social impacts of climate change.

Applications must focus on different aspects from the focus areas below and demonstrate how these are intertwined.

Sub-Theme: **"Assessing the Social Impact of Climate Change in the Global South"**

Focus Areas
- Methodological Innovation
  - Exploring and developing new social science methodologies to assess the social impact of climate change.
  - Integration of qualitative and quantitative approaches for a comprehensive understanding.
  - Utilization of participatory research methods involving local communities in the assessment process.
- Temporal Analysis
  - Examining the long-term and short-term social impacts of climate change.
  - Assessing the evolving nature of climate change effects on human security over different time frames.
  - Understanding the temporal dimensions of vulnerability and resilience in communities.
- Human Security-Centric Approaches
  - Developing assessment frameworks that center around the concept of human security.
  - Exploring the interconnectedness of climate change, poverty, health, and livelihood security.
  - Evaluating the effectiveness of interventions aimed at enhancing human security in the face of climate change.

Under the **Japanese Awards for Most Innovative Development Awards (MIDP) category**, GDN wants to highlight the transformative power of on-the-ground initiatives by NGOs that have moved beyond conceptualization, actively engaging with communities to implement projects that enhance climate resilience. By showcasing participatory project design, adaptation and mitigation strategies, and sustainable livelihood initiatives, we aim to award their impactful work. This category stands as a platform to recognize and amplify the voices of those directly supporting the most marginalized communities, embodying the spirit of community-led climate resilience exemplifying the spirit of human-centered development in the face of climate change challenges.

The MIDP category precedes the Japan Social Development Fund (JSDF) Award where the most impactful of the winners of that category will have a chance to scale up or replicate their project.

Applications must demonstrate how the project addresses fit into the type of projects displayed below and demonstrate how these are intertwined on the overall topic of the

Competition. Applicants who submit a project that does not showcase this relation will not be considered.

Sub-Theme: **"Community-Centered Climate Action and Sustainable Development"**

Type of projects

- Community-Driven Assessment Initiatives
  - Projects that actively involve communities in the assessment of climate change impacts, ensuring that local knowledge and experiences are integral to the evaluation process.
- Adaptation and Mitigation Strategies
  - Projects that highlight and focus on the direct benefits of these strategies to the most marginalized members of the community based on mitigation approaches to the impact of climate change.
- Sustainable Livelihood Initiatives
  - Projects that integrate climate resilience with sustainable livelihood opportunities for marginalized communities while emphasizing the economic empowerment and improved well-being of community members.
- Temporal Adaptation in Practice
  - Projects that have adaptive strategies that acknowledge the temporal dynamics of climate change impact, demonstrating how community-led initiatives have aligned with different time frames identified through assessments.