

Queries and responses on the request for research proposals

## **Inequality over the life course**

### **Scholar's eligibility conditions**

**Q1: Who can submit a research proposal? Are there any age restrictions for submission?**

A1: We highly encourage submissions from junior and early-career scholars, either as individuals or with a senior collaborator as a research group. In most cases, this means applicants should hold a PhD. However, graduates with considerable experience are welcome to apply, as individuals as well as members of a research team.

**Q2: What is meant by “early-career” or “recent PhD holder”?**

A2: “Early career” refers to candidates who have obtained their PhD or highest equivalent terminal degree within the last five years. Additionally, if you are currently near PhD completion, you are also eligible to submit your proposal. You will be allowed to use your paper in your thesis, publish it as a WIDER Working Paper, and eventually submit it to a peer-reviewed journal.

### **Submission method and templates of submissions**

**Q3: Is there a specific template that has been provided and should be followed?**

A3: There is no pre-set template for the submission. Please refer to the proposal submission procedure in the full announcement on the RFRP page.

**Q4: How can I submit my proposal?**

A4: You can submit your proposal through UNU-WIDER website: <https://www.wider.unu.edu/opportunity/inequality-over-life-course>

**Q5: Is it possible for a single researcher to submit two distinct research proposals for this call?**

A5: Each individual can submit only one proposal. However, one individual may submit as a member of two different groups for group proposals.

### **Submission requirements**

**Q6: Is a reference list included in the 1500 – 2000 words limit of the extended abstract?**

A6: References are useful and can be added outside the wordcount limit

**Q7: Is it possible to submit a proposal for the creation of a new and innovative dataset only?**

A7: A researcher can submit a proposal only for the new and innovative dataset if they wish.

**Q8: Where can I find instructions for writing proposals? Will you be uploading the recording of the June 11 webinar?**

A8: Unfortunately, there is no recording of the 11 June webinar. We recommended that you read the document, [Writing a research proposal.pdf](#), before writing your proposal.

## Data, topic, and methods

**Q9: What is acceptability of the research area? Our research focuses on a non-African context. Would it still be possible for us to be considered for the grant?**

A9: We are particularly interested in proposals that make a strong empirical contribution or use innovative datasets for lower income countries, particularly in Africa. However, research on the topic in other low-income and middle-income contexts will be considered.

**Q10: If we pick one topic, such as early childhood development, that explains inequality, do we have to examine its long-term impact over the life course through secondary data or can we examine interventions with relatively smaller sample size field experiments given the budget constraints?**

A10: The research question(s) on the chosen topic can be formulated as the lead researcher(s) see fit.

**Q11: Will you accept proposals that primarily use qualitative and descriptive statistical methods.**

A11: Yes. Such proposals are welcome.

**Q12: Should we submit any formal agreements related to the use of our data, such as a survey run in collaboration with a foundation.**

A12: So long as the agreement allows you to use the data for research purposes and your research methods comply with academic norms for research ethics, you do not need to submit additional documentation as a part of your proposal. For selected proposals, researchers/institutions will transfer copyright of the research produced under the contract to UNU-WIDER. The purpose of this copyright transfer is to allow UNU-WIDER to effectively negotiate with editors of journals to cover the costs of open access publication.

**Q13: Is work at the intersection of climate change and inequality considered a part of the research topic.**

A13: Yes.

## Funding

**Q14: If we are selected and receive funding for our research, is there an overhead payment?**

A14: The honorarium is expected to cover all expenses associated with the conduct of the proposed research (including data collection, research assistance, etc).

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