

## CALL EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

As part of its research strategy, the Microinsurance Innovation Facility has teamed up with the European Development Research Network (EUDN) to stimulate further research on microinsurance as one instrument in poverty reduction. To achieve this goal, the Facility and the EUDN are providing an opportunity for academics and researchers to be hosted by microinsurance providers in developing countries.

**We now invite expressions of interests from academics and researchers for research fellowships.** Up to 5 fellowships will be awarded on a competitive basis.

The research fellows will be placed with [Facility innovation partners](#) for a period of 6-12 months. The main rationale behind the fellowships is to generate more knowledge to support microinsurance development and to create a cadre of researchers who better understand microinsurance practice. The fellows will help to evaluate specific projects, will pursue their own research projects and will gain an invaluable field experience.

The following researchers are eligible for the fellowships:

- Employed, associated with a University or research institute, PhD students.
- Possessing at least a Master's degree in development/insurance economics, development studies, sociology, psychology or other related field
- Fluent in English, Spanish or French
- Strong research interest in microinsurance or a related field that is aligned with the Facility's research strategy. Track record of research in this area is a plus.
- Ability to work in different cultural settings; strong teamwork and communication skills.
- Researchers from developing countries are encouraged to apply.

The Facility will match the selected fellows and the host organization. In addition, the fellow is provided with a mentor who will provide both on-site and remote guidance. The Facility also covers travel costs and provides a monthly stipend to support daily living expenses for the duration of the fellowship. The size of the stipend varies depending on the country and city where the fellow will be hosted.

Proposals should strictly follow the guidelines below and should be sent to [microinsuranceresearch@ilo.org](mailto:microinsuranceresearch@ilo.org) by **August 13, 2010**. Please also fill in the cover page in Excel and send it to us with your application. The applications can be submitted in English, French or Spanish. Late applications will not be considered. All applicants will be notified about the final selection by September 30, 2010.

Expected deliverables are to be agreed with the Facility and host organization, and might include an evaluation report on a specific aspect of the project, a short paper exploring research interests of the fellow, etc.

## GUIDELINES CONTENT OF EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Expression of interest consists of a cover page, CV and research interests. **If any sections are missing or incomplete, your expression will not be evaluated.**

Potential applicants are invited to consult the Microinsurance Innovation Facility's [Research Strategy](#) (see the Facility research website) to get to know core research questions reflecting key knowledge gaps in the microinsurance space. Applicants are also invited to consult the [literature review](#) (Dercon and Kirchberger) offering background research information, get familiar with innovation projects funded by the Facility (link) and visit the [Microfinance Gateway](#) for more practical information on microinsurance.

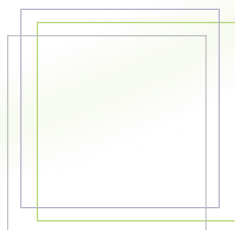
The applications should consist of:

- 1) cover page
- 2) CV
- 3) Short expression of research interests (100 to 150 words)
- 4) Brief proposal of research project (or research ideas) to be completed on the field (maximum 1000 words), which should include:
  - a. Rationale and objectives
  - b. Methods - hypotheses, theoretical context, empirical approach, data needs, data analysis techniques.

*Housed at the International Labour Organization's Social Finance Programme, the Microinsurance Innovation Facility - [www.ilo.org/microinsurance](http://www.ilo.org/microinsurance) - seeks to increase the availability of quality insurance for the developing world's low-income families. The objective is to help them guard against risk and overcome poverty. The Facility was launched in 2008 with the support of a grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.*

*The European Development Research Network (EUDN) - [www.eudnet.net](http://www.eudnet.net) links members of different development research institutions, particularly in the field of development economics, from Europe with the rest of the World. The EUDN is partner of the Global Development Network [www.gdnet.org](http://www.gdnet.org).*

*For more information on the Facility's Research Fellowships, please contact [microinsuranceresearch@ilo.org](mailto:microinsuranceresearch@ilo.org).*



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