Research Award: Collaborative Adaptation Research Initiative in Africa and Asia

Deadline: August 6, 2014
Please note that all applications must be submitted online.

IDRC is one of the world’s leaders in generating new knowledge to meet global challenges. We offer a number of research awards providing a unique opportunity to enhance research skills and gain a fresh perspective on crucial development issues. These one-year, paid, in-house programs of training and mentorship allow award holders to pursue their research goals and work in one of IDRC’s dynamic program or division teams.

Jointly funded by IDRC and the UK’s Department for International Development (DFID), the Collaborative Adaptation Research Initiative in Africa and Asia (CARIAA) aims to build the resilience of vulnerable populations and their livelihoods by supporting collaborative research to inform adaptation policy and practice. To this end, CARIAA is supporting four multi-regional and interdisciplinary research consortia, each focusing on one of the following three climate change “hot spots”:

- Semi-arid regions in Africa and South Asia;
- Deltas in Africa and South Asia; and
- Glacier and snow-pack dependent river basins in the Himalayas.

CARIAA is seeking a Research Awardee to support the program’s work in the deltas hot spot and/or in the semi-arid regions hot spot, with priority given to work that cuts across the two. With a focus on one or both of these hot spots, research proposals should address topics that may include but are not limited to:

- the identification of regional and local priorities for climate change adaptation research as understood by different stakeholder groups.
- opportunities and barriers for sharing and uptake of climate change adaptation research into policy and practice.
- Monitoring and evaluation, analyzing, and sharing results of climate change adaptation research across regions and scale.
- issues that cut across the deltas and semi-arid hot spots, such as: migration, gender and equity, and economic considerations.

Sub-themes under these categories include but are not limited to:

- Natural resource governance and conflict (including pastoralism and rangelands governance)
- Economics of ecosystem and life-support services
- Upstream-downstream water resources management
- Development of market conditions for sustainable growth in the face of climate change
- Innovative approaches to adaptation
- Adaptation, gender and women’s rights
- Human rights of migrants
- Trapped populations
- Connection between environmental and socio-economic drivers of migrations
- Local, national and transboundary migration policies
- Connection between long term adaptation and disaster risk reduction frameworks
- Collaborative governance of migration
- Service delivery for vulnerable populations and migrants
- Migration and conflict
- Participative governance and participative decision-making processes
The successful candidate will allocate about 50% of the time to his/her own research project under the guidance of a Senior Program Officer. The remaining 50% of his/her time will be spent contributing to a variety of other tasks to support the program, including but not limited to synthesizing and disseminating project outcomes and results, participating in project development, monitoring and evaluation, communication and learning activities, and preparing internal and external reports.

Who Can Apply
To be eligible, you must meet the following requirements:

- Be a citizen or a permanent resident of Canada, or a citizen of a developing country.
- Be either currently enrolled at a recognized university at the master’s or doctoral level or have completed a masters or doctoral degree at a recognized university. These awards may be a part of an academic requirement.
- Your proposed research must focus on one or more developing countries.

Candidates should have the following qualifications:

- Be enrolled in or have completed a master’s or PhD degree.
- Have a background in one or more of the following areas:
  - International development studies
  - Sociology and/or Population studies
  - Development Economics or Environmental Economics
  - Environmental studies
  - Political science
  - International public policy
  - Human Rights Law
- Strong verbal and written communication skills
- Experience working in a developing country, preferably one targeted by the CARIAA consortia
- Experience working in a programming environment would be an asset
- Field experience working in sustainable development projects would be an asset

The CARIAA Research Awardee will be located at IDRC’s Regional Office for Sub-Saharan Africa in Nairobi, Kenya.

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A key part of Canada’s foreign policy efforts, IDRC supports research in developing countries to promote growth and development.

International Development Research Centre
150 Kent • PO Box 8500 • Ottawa ON Canada K1G 3H9
Phone: +1 613 236 6163

idrc.ca