

IDRC

Application Form

Gender Unit

Annual Research Competition 2001-2002:

**Gender, Globalization and
Land Tenure**

Call for Proposals

1. Research Competition Theme

The Gender Unit at IDRC is launching a research competition on the theme "Gender, Globalization and Land Tenure". The competition is to support cutting-edge research that will contribute to knowledge gaps on the role of gender in natural resource management and will improve IDRC's programming in this area. It is aimed at researchers with a track record in gender-focussed research. At IDRC we consider gender to be a primary focus of our research programming. We define gender as one of several important social categories, that is also cross-cut by other axes of difference, including age/lifecycle position, marital status, ethnicity, race, religion, class and caste. We support gender research that explores the relational dynamics between men and women, as well as amongst different categories of women and amongst different categories of men. In addition, we understand gender to be shaped by political, economic, social and cultural relations and contexts.

The Gender Unit is also interested in how macro-level relations are linked to those at the micro-level, and understand that gender is shaped and informed at the international, national and local community and household levels. We take a broad view of globalization and mean the term to encompass a variety of globalizing forces and relations, including trade regimes and relations, transnational corporate relations, cross-border conflict, overseas development assistance, tourism, and migration, amongst innumerable others. By land tenure we mean those arrangements at the local and national level that shape access to, control over, and use of land. These are often determined at the local community and household level. However, the state frequently legitimizes these arrangements through legislation and policies of various kinds. Sometimes tenure arrangements are challenged by the state or by international relations such as trade and trade conventions and regimes.

The research competition is aimed at supporting research that investigates the gender dynamics of land tenure, including analysis of linkages between macro and micro levels, and linkages to and between the following: governance at the local, national, or international level; HIV/AIDS; local knowledge and intellectual property rights; livelihood/food security. Examples of the kinds of research issues the competition is calling for include (but are not limited to):

- How transnational NGOs promote particular development agendas or priorities and how this shapes land tenure and gender relations. Examples include "fair trade" and certification of "green" products such as timber. Who is participating in these new alternatives, and how does it affect gender social and economic relations related to land tenure locally and globally?
- How AIDS shapes land inheritance patterns with particular reference to gender relations and women's access to and control over land, including governance at the local community level and policy or legislation at the national or state level. This may have special implications for food and livelihood security and biodiversity. HIV transmission is often associated with labour migration and the sex trade, which are in turn frequently linked to various economic/market arrangements based on multinational investment and transnational trade relations.
- How political violence and peace treaties change the social and political terrain of a given region, and have an impact on land access, control and use. "Plan Colombia" is one such example, with migrating drug cultivation and trafficking, and health and cultivation problems resulting from fumigation of crops being some of the effects.
- The impact of multinational mining and oil explorations and operations on communities and access to, use and control of land. This type of activity can have consequences for indigenous groups and political stability, and frequently has micro-level impacts on gender relations and the emergence of social problems and phenomenon such as prostitution, drug and alcohol addiction, and migration.
- How high incidence of migration affects rural communities, especially alterations in household economic strategies and sexual divisions of labour.

- Tracking shifts in transnational markets for key natural resources. For example, in Brazil there is growing pressure for timber exploitation due to dwindling timber resources in Malaysia, with consequent effects on the livelihoods of local communities, and more specifically gender relations in access to forest land resources in these areas.
- The impact of transnational investment in agribusiness. For instance, such investment can have consequences for biodiversity and intellectual property rights, as well as result in renegotiation of land tenure arrangements and household division of labour along gender lines.

We are interested in supporting research that investigates political, economic, social and cultural meanings of and relations between nature and society. This should be done through an analysis of forms of access to and control over resources and their implications for environmental health and sustainable livelihoods. An examination of gender relations must be the focus of this analysis, based on field work resulting in the analysis of a case study or comparative set of case studies.

2. Eligibility of Applications

Three elements inform decisions on eligibility of applicants:

- Applications will be accepted only from developing country institutions and international institutions. Researchers must be affiliated with such institutions to receive a grant from IDRC. The recipient institution must be a recognized legal entity that is capable of entering into contractual arrangements and assuming legal and financial obligations.
- Citizenship : All principal researchers and co-researchers must be citizens of developing countries, and not permanent residents of a developed country. Visiting scholars whose stay in a developed country is intended to be temporary are eligible. Collaborators may be citizens of developed countries.
- Relevance of research proposal to the overall research theme of "Gender, Globalization and Land Tenure".

For applicants involved in collaborative research, research teams may consist of:

- Principal Researcher (Applicant): has primary responsibility for the intellectual direction and quality of the research and who

assumes administrative responsibility for the grant;

- Co-researcher (Co-applicant): makes significant contribution to the intellectual direction of the research and who plays a significant role in the in the conduct of the research and who may have some responsibility for the financial aspects of the research;
- Project Advisors: play various roles in research activities, including contributing to intellectual direction of the research. Advisors may be citizens of developed countries.

Members of any given research team may belong to different institutions. However, each team must have a Principal Researcher who is ultimately responsible for the quality of the research output and fiscal management of the project. Funds granted to winning proposals will be paid to the Principal Researcher's host institution.

3. Grants Selection for Gender Unit Research Competition

The IDRC Gender Unit research competition makes grants on the basis of excellence. Decisions about which research proposals and fellowships to fund are made through peer review--a rigorous and independent selection process universally recognized as the most effective way to allocate public research funding. Reviews will be completed by IDRC program staff.

All incoming proposals will be reviewed for eligibility by the IDRC Gender Unit program staff. Eligible proposals will be forwarded to an internal selection committee. Proposals will be subject to three independent reviews from the selection committee (one by the chair of the selection committee and two from other committee members). The selection committee will review for academic rigour and on other criteria listed below. The selection committee will remain anonymous for the duration of the selection process and is solely responsible for choosing the recipients of grants. Finalists will be obliged to participate in a methodology workshop before commencing the research (date to be advised).

Applicants who are chosen will be required to provide the principle researcher's host institution incorporation documents and the host institution's banking information. Finalists may be asked to seek country clearance for their research project, depending on local national requirements.

4. Review Criteria

All eligible applications will be reviewed on: quality of proposal and impact of research (weighting 60%) and suitability of candidate (weighting 40%). All proposals are expected to cover these main areas. Proposals should not exceed 12 pages (3,000 words) double spaced text (excluding bibliography). Reviews will be conducted only on the first 12 pages of text submitted. All proposals must submit realistic budgets and project time lines. These proposals without these

elements will not be considered for funding.

5. Duration and Grant Size

Up to eight (8) grants will be awarded, each with a value of approximately \$50,000-\$100,000 CAD, for projects of 18 months to 2 years. Grants will be awarded in April 2002. Fewer than eight grants may be awarded, subject to the quality of proposals received. The deadline for submission of applications is March 29, 2002.

For information please contact:

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