

Update: [Click here](#) for information on J-PAL's response to COVID-19

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Scale-up Innovation Competition

Overview

IGI hosts scale-up innovation competitions that fund technical assistance to governments to adapt, pilot, and scale evidence-informed innovations that have been previously evaluated with a randomized evaluation(s) and found to improve the lives of people living in poverty. J-PAL affiliated and IGI invited researchers can submit applications in collaboration with government partners, J-PAL regional offices, and other collaborators. Innovations can be programs or changes to existing programs, processes, or delivery systems. Technical assistance can include support to governments to collect data about the nature and extent of a problem; determine whether evidence about potential solutions is relevant to their context and systems; adapt, pilot, and monitor evidence-informed programs; evaluate scalable versions of these programs when the government commits to using the results to inform their scale-up decisions; and improve government monitoring and evaluation systems for scaled-up programs, among other forms of scale-up support.

IGI will initially prioritize three sectors where there are large bodies of evidence about designing effective programs and high government demand for collaboration: **education, health, and social assistance**. We also accept proposals from other sectors.

IGI will also prioritize partnerships that explore one or more crosscutting themes that we believe are important for effectively implementing programs at scale and drawing general lessons for others working to scale up evidence-informed social programs with governments:

- **Technology- and data-enabled program delivery and monitoring:** Phones, tablets, digital transfers, and other technologies have the potential to improve and reduce the costs of program delivery and monitoring.

- **Implementation science:** Piloting and pressure-testing different implementation models before selecting one for scale-up can help identify models that are both feasible to implement well and lead to sufficient take-up and use among program participants.
- **Cost analysis:** The costs of various program options are critical inputs for policy decisions, so collecting cost data early and systematically is critical.

IGI has a strong preference to fund partnerships in low- and middle-income countries.

Proposal Timeline

IGI's Spring 2020 scale-up innovation competition is now closed. Funding decisions will be announced at the end of June.

Eligibility

All J-PAL affiliated researchers, IGI invited researchers, and J-PAL offices are eligible to apply in collaboration with their government partners. All applicants are required to have a J-PAL affiliated or IGI invited researcher involved in the project to apply. All proposals may include collaborators outside of this network including other researchers and NGO partners. IGI invited researchers are eligible to apply for projects to adapt, pilot, and/or scale findings from evaluations in the J-PAL network, which includes any randomized evaluation funded by a J-PAL initiative, implemented by a J-PAL office, and/or that had a J-PAL affiliated researcher as a co-PI. Only projects with a specific government partner(s) will be considered. IGI has a strong preference to fund projects in low- and middle-income countries. For all IGI projects, the implementing partner has to be a government body or a non-governmental partner delivering services through government infrastructure (e.g. government schools, clinics, etc.) with the government actively involved in the partnership. Government partners can be national, state, regional, provincial, city, etc., including individual ministries or agencies. Governments must be the main recipients of technical assistance, but governments cannot be the receiving institutions of funds. Receiving institutions can include J-PAL offices, IPA offices, and other non-governmental partners working with J-PAL affiliated and IGI invited researchers. If you are uncertain about whether your team is eligible, please email IGI@povertyactionlab.org

COVID-19 Off-Cycle Funding

IGI is immediately accepting time-sensitive, off-cycle proposals for up to US\$25,000 for short-term, quick-response technical assistance and/or analysis for government partners that has the potential to mitigate the spread and/or consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic in low- and middle-income countries, particularly for low-income and other vulnerable communities.

Like other IGI funding rounds, this round is open to all J-PAL affiliated researchers, IGI invited researchers, and J-PAL offices in collaboration with their government partners. All applicants are required to have a J-PAL affiliated or IGI invited researcher involved in the project to apply. All proposals may include collaborators outside of this network including other researchers and NGO partners. See application instructions under Application Documents below.

Applicants should [submit the short application form here](#). The IGI Co-Chairs will review applications on a rolling basis starting Friday March 27 and aim to issue funding decisions within 1-1.5 weeks

Documents

COVID-19 Off-Cycle Funding

[IGI COVID-19 Off-Cycle Funding Window](#)

IGI RFP Application Documents

[IGI RFP Overview](#)

[IGI Application Form and Instructions](#)

[IGI Budget Template](#)

[IGI Affiliate Letter of Support](#)

[IGI J-PAL Regional Officer Letter of Support](#)

Projects

Scaling-up Effective Social Cohesion Programs: Integration of Syrian Refugee Children into Turkish System

Location: Turkey

Every Child Counts! Scale-Up Pilot in Tamil Nadu

Location: India

Boosting Immunization Demand in Haryana

Location: India

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J-PAL

400 Main Street

E19-201

Cambridge, MA 02142

USA

Contact

+1 617 324 6566

info@povertyactionlab.org

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