



PEDL

PRIVATE ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT
IN LOW-INCOME COUNTRIES

EXPLORATORY RESEARCH GRANT (ERG)

APPLICANT GUIDE

2021 – 2026



Contents

About PEDL	2
Exploratory Research Grants	3
Exploratory Research Grants	3
Country and Policy Relevance.....	3
Eligibility	3
PhD Letters of Support.....	4
Disruptions to in-field activities	4
Grant Contracts.....	4
Call and Grant Timeline.....	4
Evaluation and Selection.....	5
How To Apply For An ERG.....	6
Preparing Your Application	6
How To Apply Online	7
Create an Account.....	7
Applying to an ERG.....	11
Resubmitting a Proposal	14
Successful Applicants	15
ERG Frequently Asked Questions.....	16
Applications.....	16
Budgets	17
Contracting.....	18
Annex	19

About PEDL

The [Private Enterprise Development in Low Income Countries](#) (PEDL) programme pursues a research agenda that focuses on private-sector development, starting from the need to develop a better understanding of what determines the strength of market forces driving efficiency in low-income countries.

The objective of PEDL is to fund cutting-edge that could be published in leading academic journals while simultaneously being relevant to the policy dialogue in low- and middle-income countries.

Existing research suggests that the private sector in these countries faces a multitude of constraints that act upon each other. For example, the strategic interaction of firms with market power will be affected by the regulatory regime governing both new entrants and incumbent firms. What is needed is research that allows us to understand how these constraints interact.

PEDL therefore supports rigorous research that investigates various issues related to the development of private enterprises of all sizes, mainly through a series of open calls for proposals.

Grants will be awarded to research projects studying private enterprise development across one or more of the following three research themes:

- Innovation, Organisations and Markets
- Climate and Environment
- Finance and Entrepreneurship

PEDL is also focused around three cross-cutting issues that are simultaneously relevant to many areas of private enterprise development, including the three research themes:

- Fragile and conflict affected states
- Gender
- Scaling up Research into Policy

Research proposals speaking to these issues in the context of private enterprise development will receive particular consideration.

The three research themes and three cross-cutting issues are organising principles for funding calls, grant application evaluations, and workshop topics but these are not exclusive lists of themes and topics. Other areas of interest may not fit cleanly into any of the themes but are centrally relevant to PEDL and are also encouraged. Conversely, it is important to note that the themes are interrelated with some important topics spanning multiple themes.

In addition to the three research themes, PEDL supports research related to the work of [British International Investment \(BII\)](#), the UK's development finance institution. BII and the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) are sponsoring this research initiative aimed at understanding the impact of development finance on private sector development. Issues of interest include the effect of investment on private sector growth; the characteristics of high-growth firms and how they impact on their sectors and localities; supporting quality jobs, gender and climate finance; and production and distribution of broader inclusive products and services.

More information on our research themes and cross-cutting issues can be found in our Research Strategy, available at the bottom of [this webpage](#).

Exploratory Research Grants

Exploratory Research Grants

Exploratory Research Grants (ERGs) are designed to allow researchers to:

- Explore new approaches to the study of firms in LICs; and
- Develop new (or build on) existing sources of data on firms in LICs.

ERGs are grants of between £10,000 and £40,000. These grants will fund research assistance, data collection and new surveys in LICs, and (if necessary) teaching buyouts for the principal investigator (see ERG Budget Guidelines for eligibility requirements). Please note that cost effectiveness and value for money are important evaluation criteria.

Find our open and upcoming ERG funding calls [here](#).

Country and Policy Relevance

PEDL priority countries can be found [here](#). The list includes all LICs and FCDO-focus LMICs. We are particularly interested in generating research in countries in which less research is currently being conducted. This means that countries with very active research (e.g., India and Indonesia) are lower priority. Proposals for research in these countries will need to justify why the research needs to be carried out there, and how the results are relevant to PEDL priority countries.

PEDL will consider proposals for research in non-listed LMICs, but they should make a clear case for the relevance of the research to policy in LICs and also justify why the research is only feasible in a non-target country (e.g. because of exceptional data availability). Note that we are currently unable to fund projects located in Myanmar and Palestine.

Proposals are also evaluated on the extent to which the research findings (including those from comparative work or from studies in other geographies) might be relevant to policy in the studied countries. All funded projects, regardless of location, will have to discuss within their final report and research note (see below) the potential lessons for policymakers in low-income countries.

Eligibility

We welcome applications to our ERG calls from researchers all over the world and encourage applications that propose collaboration between researchers from lower- and higher-income countries.

In view of the current political situation and the imposition of economic sanctions on various Russian entities by Western governments, we are not currently able to accept proposals for projects that include researchers or members of the research team who are based at Russian institutions.

Principal investigators applying to ERG calls should currently have a PhD or be enrolled in a PhD programme. In exceptional circumstances, we will consider applications submitted by principal investigators who do not fit these criteria, however, they must be able to demonstrate a history of high-quality academic and/or policy-relevant research. Although there are no formal qualification requirements for co-investigators, co-investigators on PEDL-funded projects usually have a PhD or are enrolled in a PhD programme. The knowledge, expertise, and qualifications of the entire research team will be taken into account when evaluating the proposal.



PhD Letters of Support

For all PhD students acting as principal investigators, we require a letter of support from your PhD supervisor no later than two weeks after the deadline. A PDF of the letter can be sent to the PEDL Team at pedl@cepr.org.

For the advisor: Please discuss the feasibility of the research proposal, the intellectual support which the student will receive from advisors and others, an assessment of the student's ability to carry out the research, and of the student's longer-term potential as a researcher.

Disruptions to in-field activities

Researchers whose proposals rely on face-to-face surveys or interactions should clearly discuss the implications for the project of potential delays, and the alternatives to face-to-face fieldwork. This can be included in the methodology section of the proposal template. Any fieldwork will need to be cleared by the researcher's university and, where possible, in-country IRBs. Decisions on fieldwork should follow the advice of governments. Finally, any proposal that includes face-to-face interaction should also briefly make clear how the researchers intend to ensure the safety of researchers and any participants involved in the study.

Grant Contracts

Exploratory Research Grants are designed to be contracted directly with an individual and typically run for 12 months. In certain cases where travel to high-risk areas is involved, an institutional contract may be required to ensure that the appropriate policies and safeguards are in place. This will be determined on a case-by-case basis, depending on the specific country and circumstances. All contracts are non-negotiable.

For Exploratory Research Grants that are required by PEDL to be contracted with an institution, the budget may include a contribution towards administrative charges or institutional overheads, reimbursed at a maximum flat rate of 20% of the total grant award, and added to the total grant award. For individual contracts or in cases where an institutional contract has been arranged but not required by PEDL, no overhead fees can be taken. All institutional contracts are non-negotiable, and all institutions are expected to complete our due diligence process.

Please also note that due to local Indian regulations regarding the return of foreign funds, any contract with an Indian institution will be invoice based with no funds paid up front.

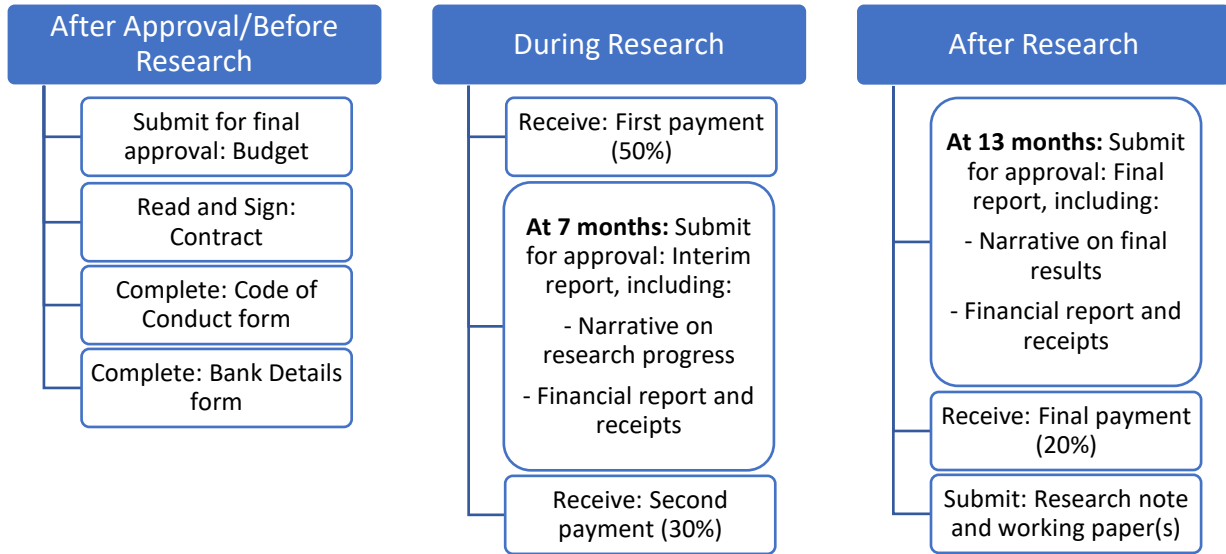
In cases where international travel is planned by the project team, travel insurance will be required, covering at least the length of the travel. Proof of insurance cover may be requested.

We strongly recommend researchers and institutions look at our contract template as well as other documents, available [here](#), before applying.

Call and Grant Timeline

We aim to issue funding decisions within three months of call deadlines. Successful proposals are then announced on the PEDL website, together with a description of the work supported.

An ERG is intended to be completed within 12 months. Please note that contracts should be signed within one month of the return of the final decision, which is also the expected project start date. The grant timeline is outlined below:



Evaluation and Selection

Proposals for submitted ERGs are first checked for completeness by the Programme Implementation Team. Proposals that are materially incomplete are rejected as ineligible at this stage. The PEDL Research Officer performs a first assessment of proposal quality to check that proposals are "within scope" and pass a minimum quality bar. They then pass all proposals and their comments to the Research Director who creates a shortlist, based on the following criteria:

- Quality of the proposed research
- Relevance to policy
- Feasibility and credibility of the proposal
- Value for money
- Contributions to expanding the field

The Research Director sends shortlisted proposals to external evaluators. Evaluators review the proposal summary, the principal investigator’s CV, and the budget, then provide a short written assessment and rating for each proposal.

The Research Director appoints a Grants Selection Panel (GSP), which includes the external evaluators. The GSP discusses the shortlisted proposals together, with the Research Director serving as chair.

Final recommendations are based on the GSP’s recommendations and the judgement of the PEDL Research Director. The Research Director prepares and submits a finalised list of proposals to the PEDL Programme Management Group (PMG). The PMG reviews the list and confirms which proposals will be funded.

How To Apply For An ERG

Preparing Your Application

You need to prepare the following material for your application for an ERG in advance of accessing the online application portal. Please note that you must use the templates provided at the bottom of [this webpage](#) for the proposal and budget.

- Project title
- Project abstract. The abstract should include a section highlighting the policy implications of the proposed research for PEDL focus countries.
- Contact details and CVs for all investigators.
- Proposal. The proposal template can be found at the bottom of [this webpage](#). This is the main description of the project and should include a discussion of each of the following elements. The total length of sections 1 through 8 should not exceed five pages with a minimum font size of 11 and single spacing.
 - Introduction
 - Methodology
 - Policy relevance and country focus
 - Relevance to PEDL research agenda, themes, and cross-cutting themes
 - Detailed work plan
 - Expected outputs
 - Contributions to expanding the field
 - Budget narrative
 - Ethics
 - Privacy
 - Intellectual property rights
 - Open and enhanced access to research outputs
- Budget. The budget template and guidelines can be found at the bottom of [this webpage](#). This provides a detailed breakdown of how the funds will be used under the grant.
- Keywords

Our [ERG Frequently Asked Questions](#) can help provide answers to many of the questions you may have when preparing these materials and submitting your application. Once prepared, we recommend reading our [How to Apply](#) page to take you through the [online application portal](#).

Before submitting your proposal, you will also need to you have read PEDL's [Code of Conduct for Researchers](#) and CEPR's [Conflict of Interest Policy](#), [Fraud, Bribery and Corruption Policy](#) and [Privacy Policy](#). All grantees are required to adhere to these policies.

Proposals (including all supporting documents) must be submitted in English. Where any required supporting document cannot be obtained in English, a translation verified and approved by an official authority must be submitted.

All financial information contained in the proposed budget must be expressed in pounds sterling (GBP). Awards are specified, and grant payments are made in pounds sterling (GBP).

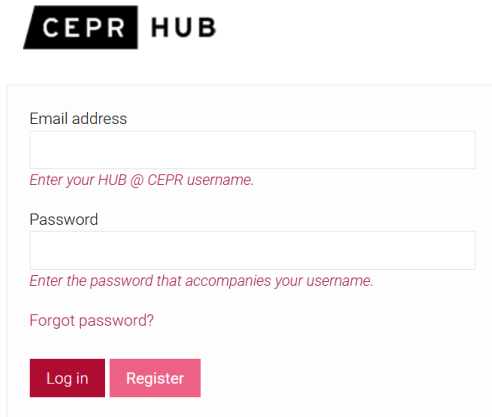
All costs incurred by the applicant in the course of the submission process/application procedure must be borne by the applicant. PEDL does not provide financial assistance to applicants.

All necessary documents for your proposal can be found at the bottom of [this webpage](#).

How To Apply Online

Create an Account

All proposals must be submitted online through our online application portal, [CEPR Hub](#). To access the application form, you must first create an account by clicking on “Register”.



CEPR HUB

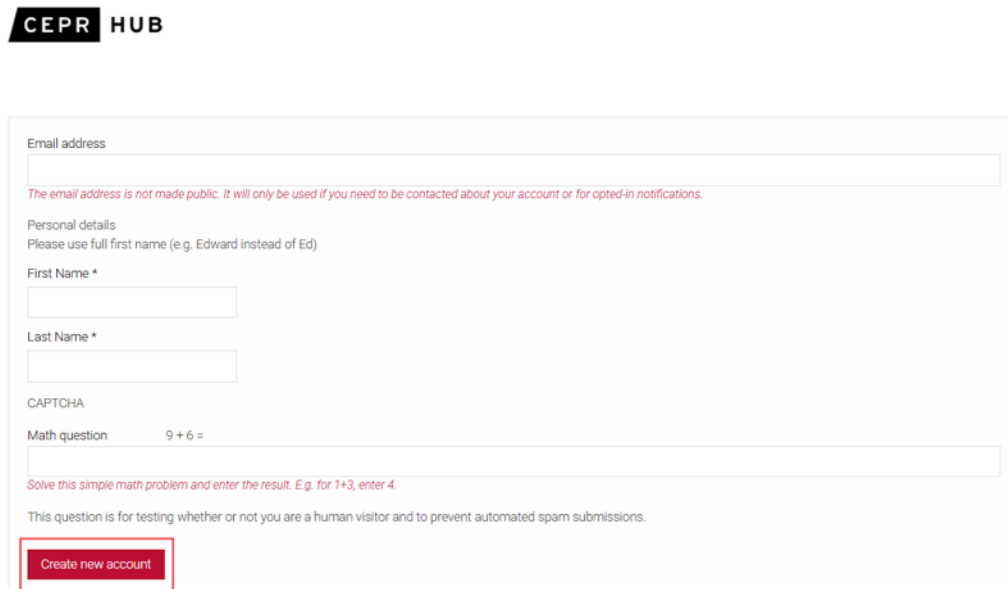
Email address

Enter your HUB @ CEPR username.

Password

Enter the password that accompanies your username.

[Forgot password?](#)



CEPR HUB

Email address

The email address is not made public. It will only be used if you need to be contacted about your account or for opted-in notifications.

Personal details
Please use full first name (e.g. Edward instead of Ed)

First Name *

Last Name *

CAPTCHA
Math question $9 + 6 =$

Solve this simple math problem and enter the result. E.g. for 1+3, enter 4.

This question is for testing whether or not you are a human visitor and to prevent automated spam submissions.

Once you have signed up, you must verify your account and set a password through an email sent to your email address. Click the one-time login link in the email and set your password.



Dear

Thank you for registering at HUB @ CEPR. You may now log in by clicking this link or copying and pasting it into your browser:

<https://hub.cepr.org/user/reset/28035/1752658231/WuZcMiu7iqMZLT3PBvUYQc...>

This link can only be used once to log in and will lead you to a page where you can set your password.

After setting your password, you will be able to log in at <https://hub.cepr.org/user> in the future using:

username:

password: Your password

-- HUB @ CEPR team

CEPR HUB

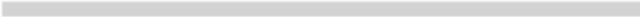
This is a one-time login for

Click on this button to log in to the site and change your password.

This login can be used only once.

Log in

Password

Password strength: 

Confirm password

Passwords match:

To change the current user password, enter the new password in both fields.

Save

Once you have set your password and confirmed your account, you must complete the Personal Details form. From the password confirmation page, go to "Home". Then, in your Hub Dashboard, go to "My Profile" and select "General Information".



CEPR HUB

- HOME**
- PROFILE ▾
- EVENTS ▾
- RECIPE ▾
- STEG ▾
- LOG OUT

DASHBOARD

MY PROFILE

- General information
- Profile image
- Contact preferences
- Change Password

EVENTS

- Events dashboard

MY PUBLICATIONS

- My Publications

STEG APPLICATIONS

- About
- My applications
- Application (SRG)

RECIPE APPLICATIONS

- About (ReCIPE)
- My Applications (ReCIPE)
- Apply for CRG and PhD Grants

You can now fill in your personal details. Please give priority to entering your name, email, organisation and job title, as this information will be displayed on the website if your application is successful.



PROFILE - PERSONAL DETAILS

My contact details

Name Prefix	-	⌵	←	Please select your preferred title	
First Name				←	Please indicate your full first and last name
Last Name					
Phone Number				←	Please fill in your preferred contact details
Email					
Street Address					
Street Address Line 2					
Street Address Line 3					
Street Address Line 4					
City					
Postal Code					
Country	United Kingdom ⌵				
State/Province	- None - ⌵				
Website				←	Please provide your website URL, if available
Affiliation					
Organization				←	Please write the full title of your organization. Do not use acronyms
Job Title				←	Please indicate your primary job title
Affiliation #2					
Organization					
Job Title					
Affiliation #3					
Organization					
Job Title					
Individual					
Biography				←	Please provide the text you would like to appear in your biography
Reason for Registration				←	Please indicate your reason for registering to Hub as "PEDL Application"
ORCID				←	If you have an ORCID or RePEc Author Id, please write them here
RePEc Author ID					
Submit				←	Once completed, please click on "Submit". You can edit all details later through your account.

Further details can be added to your profile at a later stage through your account, such as a profile image, which will be visible on our website if your application is successful.

Applying to an ERG

PEDL APPLICATIONS

My applications (PEDL)

Apply for ERG grants

Applications to ERG calls can be made through the [PEDL - ERG Application Form](#). In your Hub Dashboard, go to “PEDL Applications” and select “Apply for ERG Grants”.

In order to complete the following Application Form, please first provide the details and CV for the Principal Investigator. Please also provide the details and CV of each co-investigator, if any.

PEDL - ERG APPLICATION FORM



CLICK [HERE](#) IF YOU ARE SUBMITTING ON BEHALF OF THE PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR. PLEASE NOTE THAT YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE A CONFIRMATION EMAIL OF SUBMISSION IF YOU CHANGE THE PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR'S EMAIL ADDRESS.

First Name	Last Name
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Email	PhD Candidate
<input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
Your CV	
<input type="button" value="Choose File"/> No file chosen	
<small>One file only 200 MB limit Allowed types: pdf</small>	

[Add another co-investigator to this application](#)

[Next >](#) [Reset](#)

You must then indicate which call you are applying for (e.g. 6th Special ERG Call for Proposals from Scholars based in Low-Income Countries), provide details about your project, and upload your proposal and budget using the templates available on the PEDL website. Indicate also if your proposal is a resubmission from previous funding calls (only applicants officially invited to resubmit by the Evaluation Committee can do so, see details in: [Resubmitting a Proposal](#)).

PEDL - ERG APPLICATION FORM



Application Details

Funding Call
 Proposal Call Name
 - Select -

Project Title

Abstract

Proposal
Use template by
 2024/01/01
 1024x1024 px, pdf
 You must use the template provided on the CEPR website.
 No file chosen

Budget Value
 £

Budget
Use template by
 2024/01/01
 1024x1024 px, docx
 You must use the template provided on the CEPR website.
 No file chosen

Keywords

Is this a Resubmission?
 Yes
 No

[< Previous](#) [Next >](#) [Reset](#)

Please indicate what is the Primary Theme that your proposal focuses on (you must select only one). Then, specify all Themes that are relevant for your proposal (you may select as many as you wish). Also include all cross-cutting issues that are relevant to your proposal. Please indicate the Focus Country(ies) of your study.

PEDL - ERG APPLICATION FORM



Themes

Primary Theme

Please select the Primary Theme that your proposal focuses on (you must select only one)

Research Themes

In this field, you must select all research themes (including the primary one) that you feel are relevant to your application

Cross-Cutting Issues

Please select all cross-cutting issues that are relevant to your application

Focus Country(ies)
Please refer to the PEDL Focus Countries List on the CEPR website. Please write the region name if the research is at a regional level.

[< Previous](#) [Next >](#) [Reset](#)

For your application to be complete, you must agree to the compliance policies listed below and available on the website.

PEDL - ERG APPLICATION FORM



Compliance

- Code of Conduct for Researchers
- Conflict of Interest Policy
- Fraud, Bribery and Corruption Policy
- Privacy Policy

Please tick the boxes to confirm you have read and agree with the following policies. Links to the policies are available on the CEPR website. Please note researchers must agree to the policies for their application to be considered.

[< Previous](#) [Submit](#) [Reset](#)

After submission, you will be redirected to a confirmation page. This might take some seconds, please don't refresh the page until you are redirected to "My PEDL Applications" page:



[Home](#) > [Grants](#) > [PEDL](#) > [My Applications](#)

MY PEDL APPLICATIONS

CASE ID	PROJECT TITLE	PROPOSAL CALL NAME	PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR	DATE SUBMITTED	STATUS
					RG - New Application

All information submitted must be complete and all proposals and budgets must use the templates provided at the bottom of [this webpage](#). Proposals that fail to use the correct templates or that have missing or false information or documents containing misrepresentations of facts will be rejected.

Upon submission of your application, you should receive a confirmation email. Please note that if you have only very recently created an account, you may not receive the email confirming receipt of your application. If this is the case, please do not resubmit your application but contact the PEDL Team at pedl@cepr.org to confirm submission.

If you have any other issues with the application process, please contact the PEDL Team at pedl@cepr.org.

[Resubmitting a Proposal](#)

Resubmissions take place via invitation only. If you are invited to resubmit your proposal, revised proposals can be resubmitted in any future round. During resubmissions you must specify that the proposal is a resubmission by checking a tick box under “Resubmission” in the application form and include details of the changes made to your proposal in the “Resubmission Details” text box.

Successful Applicants

Successful applicants are expected to report their progress on a regular basis. The progress of ERGs is monitored through a system of interim and final reports. One interim report is required six months (halfway) into the project with a final report required within one month of the end date of the project. The reports are reviewed by the PEDL Team, and approval will be necessary for the further disbursement of funds. The interim report should include:

- A non-technical summary of the project
- Completed activities
- Planned activities
- Research findings
- Policy impact
- Outputs and dissemination activities
- Financial report

The final report should include:

- A non-technical summary of the project
- Completed activities
- Remaining activities
- Methodology
- Research findings
- Policy impact
- Outputs and dissemination activities
- Financial report

Upon completion and approval of the final report, and once final analysis has been undertaken, projects are also required to produce a policy brief to join the PEDL Research Note series. This is a three-page summary of the project designed to inform policymakers of the research that PEDL undertakes. The research note should be prefixed by a short abstract. The main body of the note should discuss in greater depth the:

- Research question and motivation
- Policy context and background
- Methodology (including any data collection)
- Main findings
- Policy impact
- Next steps

ERG Frequently Asked Questions

Applications

How can I apply for a Exploratory Research Grant?

Applications for an ERG should be submitted through the [CEPR Hub portal](#). Please first read "[How to apply to PEDL](#)" page.

Who can apply for an Exploratory Research Grant?

Only individuals can apply for an ERG. The grants will be issued through a contract between CEPR and the successful applicant directly. In exceptional circumstances, a contract with an institution can be issued, but the contract will be non-negotiable, and the institution cannot take any overheads. This also applies to doctoral students.

PEDL invites applications from researchers located anywhere in the world.

Are there specific affiliation requirements?

There are no particular affiliation requirements for individuals applying for ERGs. Please note, however, that these grants are intended to fund research rather than supporting programmes.

Can I apply as a team?

Yes you may apply as a team, but only one researcher should submit the proposal as the representative of the team. That individual will be the named individual on the contract and will be responsible for the project implementation, should the application be successful.

Do I need a senior collaborator?

Only if she or he will make a necessary and substantive contribution to the work. (Don't include someone who will be nothing more than a silent partner.) We encourage and are eager to fund strong applications from less established researchers, including junior faculty, postdocs, and PhD students. We also enthusiastically welcome submissions from less represented demographics and from those in low-income countries. We do not believe that the so-called top-tier departments have a monopoly on good research, and we consequently encourage applications from researchers across the entire profession.

Is there a deadline for proposal submission?

Proposals can be submitted at any time. However, deadlines are usually placed once every quarter. This allows PEDL to evaluate proposals in groups. The deadlines for upcoming calls will be available via the PEDL website and newsletter.

Can I submit more than one proposal in a round?

No person can be the principal investigator (PI) on two different proposals within the same ERG proposal round. However, it is permitted for a person to be PI for one proposal while only being a co-investigator (Co-I) for another. If not listed as a PI, an individual can be included as a Co-I in as many as two proposals in a given round of ERGs.

Further, it is possible to be the PI on two different but concurrent ERG proposal rounds.

Should PEDL research proposals be based on a purely economic and quantitative approach, or is there scope for applications involving other disciplines to be considered?



The programme is open to mixed / multi-disciplinary approaches. However, the core of the approach should be related to the literature in economics and grounded primarily in economic issues.

Does PEDL have criteria relating to in which countries research can take place?

The list of PEDL focus countries can be found at the bottom of [this page](#).

Will PEDL fund any research in countries other than the low-income and lower-middle-income countries where FCDO has a programme?

PEDL will consider proposals for research in other LMICs but they should make a clear case for the relevance of the research to policy in LICs and also justify why the research is only feasible in a non-focus country (e.g. because of exceptional data availability). Note that we are currently unable to fund projects located in Myanmar and Palestine.

Which countries are classified as 'fragile and conflict affected'?

There is no unanimous agreement on classification of countries by these criteria. Some guidance can be found on the following sites:

[World Bank Country Policy and Institutional Assessments \(CPIA\)](#)

[Fragile States Index](#)

[Uppsala Conflict Data Program](#)

Can I apply for funding to work on a theory paper?

It is possible, but you will need to very carefully justify why the project is relevant to policy in LICs.

When will applicants be notified of the call's results?

The aim is to notify applicants within three months of the proposal deadline.

Can a rejected proposal be resubmitted?

Only those who have been explicitly invited to do so may resubmit a previously unsuccessful proposal. The purpose of the 'by invitation' policy is to allow for amendments and/or improvements to proposals that the Evaluation Committee considers have the potential to be funded.

There is no guarantee that a resubmitted proposal will be successful.

Proposals must be resubmitted through the CEPR Hub online application portal identifying themselves as resubmissions during the process and detailing the changes that have been made in the relevant text box.

What are the preferred outputs for Exploratory Research Grants? Would it be in the form of a paper/report, policy briefing or academic journal article?

Projects are expected to produce high-quality academic papers. However, a policy brief should also be produced, to highlight the policy-relevant results.

Budgets

What criteria should the project budget comply with?

The ERG Budget Guidelines are available at the bottom of [this webpage](#).

Can I include a payment for myself in the budget?

Yes, but proposals will be judged on a 'value for money' criteria, therefore any payment should be adequately justified. As per the ERG Budget Guidelines, research stipends are eligible costs under PEDL to the extent that PIs and Co-Is are directly involved in providing services to the project. Stipends for senior researchers working in upper-middle and high-income countries are not funded under the ERG programme. Stipends for PhD students are capped at £12,000 for students in programmes located in HICs and the PPP equivalent for students in programmes located in LICs and MICs. Stipends for up to nine months of time are allowed for PhD students and researchers in LICs if these allow them to reduce teaching/administrative duties and therefore free up time for research. All research stipend costs will be evaluated for their value for money and may require further justification or amendments before being approved by CEPR.

What can be included under “equipment”?

It is expected that researchers and institutions provide their own IT equipment such as tablets, mobile phones, laptops and computers for the duration of the project. In exceptional circumstances these can be included in the budget, but strong justification will be requirement, and a maximum of £500 for items of equipment will be applied.

Contracting

With whom are ERG contracts signed?

Individuals apply for ERGs, and the grants are issued through a contract between CEPR and the successful applicant directly. In exceptional circumstances and with significant justification contracts can be drafted with the individual's institution, but these are non-negotiable and the institution cannot take any overhead fees.

What is the average contract length of a Exploratory Research Grant?

ERGs typically run for 12 months. Formal requests for extension can be submitted with sufficient justification.

Is the start date of the project negotiable? Is it possible to ask for a delayed start date?

Yes, with sufficient justification. However, consideration will be given to the extent of the delay, which may have a bearing on the decision.

What are the preferred outputs for the Exploratory Research Grants? Would it be in the form of a paper/report, policy briefing or academic journal article?

Projects are expected to produce high-quality academic papers as the primary output. However, a policy brief should also be produced, to highlight the policy-relevant results.

Annex

Useful Links:

[Exploratory Research Grants Homepage](#)

[CEPR Hub Application Portal](#)

[PEDL Code of Conduct for Researchers](#)

[CEPR Conflict of Interest Policy](#)

[CEPR Fraud, Bribery and Corruption Policy](#)

[CEPR Privacy Policy](#)

[ERG Frequently Asked Questions](#)