

DSPS UNIPV - CDN Research Grants 2021/2022

Call for Proposals for COVID Research: Research Committee Review and Decision September 15, 2021

Background

In the framework of the initiative 'Cooperation in Human Development: a Research and Higher Education Project in Kenya', with the financial support of the Italian Agency for Cooperation and Development (AICS), a Call for Proposals for Research Grants from the Department of Social and Political Sciences and the Cooperation and Development Network (DSPSUNIPV-CDN) was issued on April 16, 2021 to CDN member program coordinators. By the June 30, 2021 proposal submission deadline, seven eligible applications were received. These are summarized in Table 1.

Table 1

	Names	CDN Master	Research Title	Support letters
1	Maureen Ouma	MECOHD (KU)	MPACT OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN KENYA	Dr. Felix Kiruthu, Director of KU City Campus
2	Mwangi Jane Njeri	CD Pavia	COVID 19 FALLOUT ON FOOD SECURITY AND RURAL LIVELIHOODS IN NAKURU COUNTY	Gianni Vaggi
	Chirry Laurine	CD Pavia		Gianni Vaggi
3	Tanios Simon	CD Pavia	Effects of Information about COVID-19 on Human Well-Being: A Randomized Trial in Lebanon	Marco Missaglia
4	Lorena Lilian Monsalve Morales	ELACID	Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in Peru: gaps and educational policies	Gustavo Rodríguez Albor - Decano - Facultad de Ciencias Administrativas, Económicas y Contables - Universidad Autónoma del Caribe
5	Mahariam Samriti	MICD Nepal	Socio-economic Impact of COVID-19 on Healthcare Workers in Kathmandu Based Hospitals	Dinesh Raj Bhuj
6	Niccolò Deiana	CD Pavia	The Impact of Covid-19 on Cambodian livelihoods and Global Value Chain-related firms	claracapelli Research Consultant at UNCTAD, Division for Africa, Least Developed Countries and Special Programmes
7	Chirwa Mildred	CD Pavia	Digitalization: Mitigating the Effects of Covid- 19 on Micro-enterprises in Urban Areas of Malawi	Gianni Vaggi

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Selection process

In accordance with the Call, a Selection Committee of professors and researchers drawn from the AICS-UNIPV project's Research Committee was formed. Professors David Kirimi (KU), Steve Akoth (TUC) and Giovanna Prennushi (UNIPV) were nominated to the Selection Committee. The Selection Committee met on August 30, 2021, examined the proposals, and made a recommendation to the Research Committee.

The Selection Committee recommended that five proposals be approved, two unconditionally and three conditional on submitting by Sept. 30 a letter by a senior researcher who commits to supervising the research, as the support letters provided do not specifically indicate that the writer will be providing support to the proponent(s). The Selection Committee also recommended that two proposals not be approved.

Table 2: Proposals recommended by the Selection Committee to the Research Committee

	Names	CDN Master	Research Title	Support letters
4	Lorena Lilian Monsalve Morales	ELACID	Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in Peru: gaps and educational policies	Gustavo Rodríguez Albor - Decano - Facultad de Ciencias Administrativas, Económicas y Contables - Universidad Autónoma del Caribe
5	Mahariam Samriti	MICD Nepal	Socio-economic Impact of COVID-19 on Healthcare Workers in Kathmandu Based Hospitals	Dinesh Raj Bhujju
6	Niccolò Deiana	CD Pavia	The Impact of Covid-19 on Cambodian livelihoods and Global Value Chain-related firms	claracapelli Research Consultant at UNCTAD, Division for Africa, Least Developed Countries and Special Programmes
2	Mwangi Jane Njeri	CD Pavia	COVID 19 FALLOUT ON FOOD SECURITY AND RURAL LIVELIHOODS IN NAKURU COUNTY	Gianni Vaggi
	Chirry Laurine	CD Pavia	LIVELIHOODS IN NAKURU COUNTY	Gianni Vaggi
7	Chirwa Mildred	CD Pavia	Digitalization: Mitigating the Effects of Covid- 19 on Micro-enterprises in Urban Areas of Malawi	Gianni Vaggi

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Decision

At its September 15, 2021 meeting, the Research Committee unanimously endorsed the Selection Committee's recommendations. The final decisions are summarized in Table 3.

Table 3: Final decisions

	Names	CDN Master	Research Title	Decision
4	Lorena Lilian Monsalve Morales	ELACID	Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in Peru: gaps and educational policies	Approved
5	Mahariam Samriti	MICD Nepal	Socio-economic Impact of COVID-19 on Healthcare Workers in Kathmandu Based Hospitals	Approved
6	Niccolò Deiana	CD Pavia	The Impact of Covid-19 on Cambodian livelihoods and Global Value Chain-related firms	Conditional on submitting by Sept. 30 a letter by a senior researcher who commits to supervising the research
2	Mwangi Jane Njeri	CD Pavia	COVID 19 FALLOUT ON FOOD SECURITY AND RURAL LIVELIHOODS IN NAKURU COUNTY	Conditional on submitting by Sept. 30 a letter by a senior researcher who commits to supervising the research
	Chirry Laurine	CD Pavia		
7	Chirwa Mildred	CD Pavia	Digitalization: Mitigating the Effects of Covid- 19 on Micro-enterprises in Urban Areas of Malawi	Conditional on submitting by Sept. 30 a letter by a senior researcher who commits to supervising the research
1	Maureen Ouma	MECOHD (KU)	MPACT OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN KENYA	Not approved-- Important topic but the proposal does not clarify objectives, methodology, data sources
3	Tanios Simon	CD Pavia	Effects of Information about COVID-19 on Human Well-Being: A Randomized Trial in Lebanon	Not approved--Methodology not clear; selection bias issues; relevance in constantly evolving environment unclear

Next steps

Candidates will be informed of the decision, which will also be posted on the CDN and research project websites. Candidates whose proposals are approved unconditionally and candidates who fulfill the conditions will sign the scholarship contract and can begin work.