50x2030 Initiative to Close the Agricultural Data Gap

# 2022 Call for Proposals

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The 50x2030 Initiative to Close the Agricultural Data Gap invites local researchers from Cambodia, Ethiopia, Georgia, Senegal, Uganda, and Tanzania to submit proposals for grants to conduct novel research projects that use survey data generated under the Initiative. Proposals must use national agricultural surveys that were supported by the Agricultural Integrated Survey (AGRISurvey) and/or the Living Standards Measurement Study (LSMS-ISA). Successful proposals will identify and answer questions that are useful for policymaking, program (re)design, or investment decisions in agriculture, rural development and/or food security.

The range for grants is 1,000-8,000 USD per project, inclusive of indirect costs.

Applications will be accepted and reviewed on a rolling basis beginning **1 April 2022.** Awards will be made to winning proposals, also on a rolling basis until the deadline of May 31, 2022 (June 10 for applicants from Tanzania).

**Context**

The 50x2030 Initiative to Close the Agricultural Data Gap seeks to transform country data systems across 50 countries in Africa, Asia, the Middle East, and Latin America and make evidence-informed decision-making in agriculture the norm in those regions by 2030. Specifically, the Initiative scales up and builds upon the experience of FAO's AGRISurvey Programme (AGRISurvey) and the World Bank's Living Standards Measurement Study-Integrated Surveys on Agriculture (LSMS-ISA) to support the governments of 50 countries to build robust survey systems. The Initiative, which became operational in July 2019, is a partnership between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the World Bank, and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). Implementation is coordinated by a Program Management Team (PMT) that sits within the World Bank and is organized under three Implementation Components: (i) Data Production, led by FAO; (ii) Methods and Tools Development, led by the World Bank; and (iii) Data Use, led by IFAD. For more general information on the Initiative, please see An Introduction to the 50x2030 Initiative to Close the Agricultural Data Gap.

The 50x2030 Initiative's main objective is "increased and sustained evidence-based decision-making in agriculture, particularly to help achieve SDG2". To reach that objective, the 50x2030 Data Use component supports activities to promote and encourage stakeholders to use survey data in more and better ways across partner countries. The Data Use component's approach centers around improving the factors that enable data use to build a healthy data ecosystem. The 50x2030 Initiative supports partner countries to implement activities to improve data use in the ecosystem by improving data policies and practices, building needed capacities, and improving the relationships between data producers, intermediaries (researchers and analysts), and the ultimate decision-makers who use the data. For more information on how the Initiative is promoting data use, see its Guide to Promoting Data Use under the 50x2030 Initiative (also available in French).

**Overview of the 50x2030 Data Use Grant Competition for 2022**

As part of its program to promote the use of 50x2030 survey data, the Data Use component (managed by IFAD) is supporting a set of research grants to local researchers in six of the 50x2030 countries: Cambodia, Ethiopia, Georgia, Senegal, Uganda, and Tanzania. In those countries, the 50x2030 Initiative will provide competitive grants for novel research projects that use 50x2030 data

(see Annex I on "Required Data Sets" for more information) to generate a practical research output that can be applied by decision-makers for policymaking, program (re)design, or investment decisions.

Research proposals must demonstrate relevance to national policy or investment priorities for the public or private sector by citing documentation. Researchers interested in research topics proposed by their respective government can send their inquiries to: 50x2030-data-use@ifad.org

Proposals should provide a rationale of how the research outputs could translate to improved decision-making and how the print/online dissemination plans will promote the application of the research outputs to the broadest extent possible. Examples might include:
- A research project that uses microdata sets from the Uganda National Panel Survey (2010 – 2019) and Annual Agricultural Survey (2019) to examine changes in youth employment in the agricultural value chains of coffee and maize from 2010 to 2019. This research will provide insights to support the implementation of Uganda's National Development Plan (2016-2020), National Youth Policy (2016), and National Strategy for Youth Employment in Agriculture (2017) as well as to assess progress toward the Malabo Declaration commitment to create job opportunities for youth in agricultural value chains.
- A research project that analyzes the 2019 Cambodian Intercensal Agricultural Survey microdata sets to examine the use of vaccinations based on the types of livestock and poultry raised as well as the size of the herd/flock and the sex of the household head. This research will provide insights into the effectiveness of Cambodia's National Strategic Development Plan (2019-2023), which aims to promote animal health and production.

In addition to financial support, the 50x2030 Grant Competition offers training and mentoring support for all successful applicants. Furthermore, upon successful completion of their research projects, grantees will participate in the second annual Global Data Use Conference where they will be able to showcase their work and benefit from networking and training opportunities at international, regional, and national levels. Supplementary travel grants may be available to select winning applicants to travel to a designated hub of the 2022 Global Data Use Conference.

The ultimate purpose of the grant activity is to facilitate the building of evidence-informed policies for rural development and food security through promoting awareness and use of 50x2030 survey data among national and global stakeholders. Therefore, the 50x2030 Initiative is placing a significant emphasis on the planned dissemination and communication strategy for the research outputs. The target audience for the research outputs produced through the grants is both national and global, although with an emphasis on the former. As such, the researchers are expected to participate in and present at national events which may be held as part of the 50x2030 Initiative. At the global level, the research funded under the grant competition will feed into a large-scale event and a written publication to showcase the findings and research outputs in November 2022. The publication will be published by the 50x2030 Initiative. Researchers are also encouraged to pursue the publication of their outputs in relevant journals and platforms (subject to 50x2030 and IFAD's rules and regulations).


**Eligibility**

Researchers or groups of researchers living and working in one of the six countries where 50x2030 Data Use activities have begun: Cambodia, Ethiopia, Georgia, Senegal, Uganda, and Tanzania. These Grants are only available to local researchers. Researchers affiliated with international or foreign organizations should only apply if they are citizens of or residents living in one of the above-listed participating countries and using data on those countries. Independent researchers not affiliated with a research-focused organization are also encouraged to apply.


To ensure these grants adequately benefit both the public and private sectors in these countries, we encourage applications from both government and non-government sectors. Applications from agencies across the government (e.g. ministries of agriculture, environment, natural resources; national agricultural research centers, etc.) are accepted for any novel or exploratory research work not already planned and budgeted. The award of funds to government agencies/staff is subject to the

agreement by the government to permit this type of funding. The Initiative expects applicants to follow the laws and rules of their country related to accepting this funding.


## Evaluation Process and Scoring

The 50x2030 Data Use team will screen incoming applications for eligibility and complete a rigorous review, scoring each eligible proposal based on the criteria specified below. All proposals will be categorized as either: (1) partially or fully funded; (2) revise and resubmit; (3) not approved.

Successful applications will include the following information:

1. Clear research questions or problem statement to address one or more relevant policy issues linked to the stated objectives of the 50x2030 Initiative and the country's policies, programs, and investments,
2. Documentation on how the research would inform practical policy, programmatic, or investment decisions in the country's agricultural sector, rural development and/or food security,
3. A description of the data sets it will use, both 50x2030 data sets (required) and supplementary data (if any),
4. The analysis methods to be used,
5. The target audience for the research in a manner consistent with the stated objectives of the 50x2030 Initiative,
6. A timeline to complete the research by September 2022,
7. A dissemination and communication strategy to promote the research output through print and/or online platforms (e.g. journal publication, blog post, social media posts), and
8. A clear, detailed, and justifiable budget within the range of $1000 - $8,000 USD.

Proposals will be judged on four criteria: 1) alignment with the 50x2030 Initiative's objective of promoting the use of data for decision-making as relates to SDG2 and national agricultural, rural, or food security priorities; 2) the soundness of the proposed methodology, research process, proposed research team, and timeline; 3) the clarity of the print and/or online dissemination strategy for the research output(s); and 4) the soundness of the proposed budget and clarity of the budget justification.


## How to Apply

Researchers should email applications and any inquiries to 50x2030-data-use@ifad.org. Applications will be considered as they are proposed starting on April 1 but continuing after this date on a first come basis. Completed applications should be submitted as a PDF that includes:
1. a filled-out application form;
2. the research project proposal (no more than five pages),
3. the completed research project budget form (see Annex II) along with a paragraph on itemized budget justification,
4. a curriculum vitae for each of the researchers proposed under the project.


## Timeline and Deadlines

1. The IFAD Data Use team circulates the Call for Proposals on 23 March 2022 on behalf of the 50x2030 Initiative.
2. Researchers should submit completed applications as soon as possible (funds are given to relevant proposals on a rolling basis until the deadline of 31 May 2022 (10 June for applicants from Tanzania).
3. 50x2030 Initiative reviews proposals and notifies winners on a rolling basis starting from 1 April 2022.
4. Upon receipt of the award, researchers will conduct projects until 30 September 2022.
5. Researchers will provide regular progress reports on their projects to 50x2030.

6. Researchers will be expected to participate in (virtual) training sessions and meetings with their assigned managing editors who will be providing mentoring support for the research.
7. Researchers will submit draft findings/results to 50x2030 for review by 30 September 2022.
8. Researchers will work with 50x2030 to develop final research outputs, policy briefs (required) and other dissemination materials for the Global Data Use Conference from 30 September 2022 to 1 November 2022.
9. The second annual 50x2030 Global Data Use Conference will be held in November 2022 to showcase the research projects and facilitate national and regional collaboration on data use.

**Annex I – Required Data Sets**

50x2030 data are survey data that partner countries produce with support from the 50x2030 Initiative—namely, data produced under the auspices of FAO's AGRISurvey Programme (AGRISurvey) and the World Bank's Living Standards Measurement Study-Integrated Surveys on Agriculture (LSMS-ISA).
All research proposals for the 50x2030 grant must use 50x2030 data to be eligible for the grant. The list and access links to the 50x2030 data for Cambodia, Ethiopia, Georgia, Senegal, and Uganda are provided in the table below.

| Country | Data Sources/Survey Names | Year(s) | National Implementer(s) | Topics of available data | Link to Microdata |
|---------|---------------------------|---------|-------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| **Cambodia** | Cambodia Inter-Censal Agricultural Survey (CIAS) | -2019 | National Institute of Statistics (NIS) | • Household indicators / Demographics<br>• Basic characteristics of agricultural holdings<br>• Crop Production<br>• Livestock Production<br>• Aquaculture and/or Fishing Production<br>• Farm economy<br>• Labour characteristics | http://nada.nis.gov.kh/index.php/catalog/36 |
| **Ethiopia** | Ethiopia Socio-economic Surveys (ESS) | -2011/12<br>-2013/14<br>-2015/16<br>-2018/19 | Central Statistics Agency of Ethiopia (CSA) | • Household indicators / Demographics<br>• Household assets<br>• Crop production<br>• Livestock<br>• Non-farm enterprises data<br>• Consumption and expenditure (food and non-food)<br>• Food security | LSMS-ISA (worldbank.org)<br><br>https://microdata.worldbank.org/index.php/catalog/3823/study-description |
| | High Frequency Phone Survey (HFPS) | -2020/21 | | • Household indicators / demographics<br>• Knowledge about Covid-19<br>• Access to basic needs<br>• Labour characteristics<br>• Household income<br>• Food insecurity experience | Ethiopia - COVID-19 High Frequency Phone Survey of Households 2020 (worldbank.org) |
| **Georgia** | Survey of Agricultural Holdings | Quarterly & Annual Year—2019 & 2020 | - National Statistics Office of Georgia (GEOSTAT) | • General agro statistics<br>• Basic characteristics of agricultural holdings<br>• Crop production<br>• Livestock<br>• Production of animal husbandry | https://www.geostat.ge/en/single-categories/102/agriculture-of-georgia |

| | | | | • Farm economics<br>• Access to agricultural production warehouses<br>• Farmgate prices<br>• Fish production<br>• Farmgate fish prices<br><br>Microdata:<br>• Holding characteristics<br>• Production<br>• Distribution<br>• Fertilizer use<br>• Pesticide use<br>• Livestock<br>• Machinery | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Senegal** | Enquete Agricole Annuelle (EAA) | -2017/18<br>-2018/19<br>-2019/20 | Direction de l'Analyse, de la Prévision et des Statistiques Agricoles (DAPSA) | • Census of household members and parcel of the household<br>• Crop production<br>• Livestock<br>• Fishery<br>• Aquaculture<br>• Forest production data<br>• Agricultural equipment and maintenance | Senegal - Annual Agricultural Survey (2018-2019) (ansd.sn)<br><br>http://anads.ansd.sn/index.php/catalog/DAP |
| **Tanzania** | National Panel Survey (NPS) | - 2019/20 | Tanzania National Bureau of Statistics | • Agricultural production<br>• Non-farm income generating activities<br>• Individual rights to plots<br>• Consumption expenditures<br>• Wealth of other socioeconomic characteristics<br>• Sex-disaggregated data of households | • National Panel Survey 2019-2020 |
| **Uganda** | Annual Agricultural Survey (AAS) | -2018/19<br>-2019/20 | Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBoS) | • Household characteristics<br>• Basic characteristics of agricultural holdings<br>• Crop production<br>• Livestock (cattle and poultry)<br>• Milk production<br>• Meat production<br>• Crop prices | https://www.ubos.org/microdata/index.php/catalog/62/get-microdata<br><br>https://www.ubos.org/microdata/index.php/catalog/62<br><br>AAS 2018 microdata |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Uganda National Panel Surveys (UNPS) | -2009/10<br>-2010/11<br>-2011/12<br>-2013/14<br>-2015/16<br>-2018/19 | | • Household characteristics<br>• Crop production<br>• Livestock<br>• Land<br>• Labour<br>• Farm income<br>• Communal data<br>• Market and Pricing data | [Uganda - National Panel Survey 2005-2009 (worldbank.org)](#) |
| | High Frequency Phone Survey (HFPS) | -2020-2021 | | • Household identification particulars<br>• Knowledge regarding spread of COVID 19<br>• Behaviour and social distancing<br>• Employment<br>• Income loss<br>• Food Insecurity Experience Scale<br>• Coping Strategy<br>• Safety nets<br>• Government actions<br>• Credits<br>• Crop harvest<br>• Livestock<br>• Non-farm enterprise data<br>• Access to services during COVID 19 | [Uganda - High-Frequency Phone Survey on COVID-19 2020-2021 (worldbank.org)](#) |

**Annex II – Budget templates**

A high-quality grant budget is a complete and accurate outline of your research project's eligible costs under the grant. Please itemize your budget as much as possible. Your proposed budget tells IFAD specifically what you are requesting for funding, item by item. Include budget breakdowns and avoid using lump sum amounts. For example, do not lump staff costs and/or materials under broad categories like "data analysis" or "literature review" without explanation of what would be specifically funded under that cost category. Instead, relevant costs for "data analysis" or "literature review" should be broken down with an explanation of staffing needs (number of hours/days of staff time and pay rates) and/or needed materials (journal access, software license, etc.).

A. Independent Researcher Track

If you are applying as an independent researcher (i.e. not affiliated with an organization), please use the below budget template.

| Activity | Number of days | Daily fee (USD) | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  | **TOTAL** |  |

B. Institutional Track

If you are affiliated with an organization (including government agencies), please use the below budget template and submit it together with a budget narrative[1].

| Item | Cost per item (USD) | Number of Items | Total Cost |
|---|---|---|---|
| Labour/Personnel Costs (list each researcher/team member individually)[2] | Use daily rate: $###/day | # of days |  |
| Other costs (if any)[3] |  |  |  |
| Overhead (if any)[4] |  |  |  |
|  |  | **TOTAL** |  |

Notes and considerations:
1. **Budget Narrative:** The budget narrative is a descriptive paragraph that includes details and justifications for each budget line. For example, if there are any travel costs, applicants must include justification for why it is needed as well as information like the number of trips planned and the number of days and people for each trip. If supplies and materials costs are in the table, then the narrative should include the purpose and use of the materials requested.
2. **Staff expenses:** Include details about how much time your program or research staff members will be required to spend on your project. As a reminder, IFAD is not able to pay for labour or staff costs of government employees while they are under contract with their government agency. However, IFAD can pay for non-governmental staff costs (i.e. research assistants) working on a research project overseen by a government staff member.
3. **Notes on other costs:**
    o Supplies: Provide a breakdown of the types and amounts of supplies that you'll need. Be as specific as possible. Note that equipment such as laptops and computers are not eligible for funding under the 50x2030 grant.
    o Software: Software costs are not eligible for funding under the 50x2030 grant.

- o Costs associated with primary data collection are also not eligible for funding under the 50x2030 grant.
4. **Overhead costs:** If the institution will charge an overhead, budgets must include the amount when the proposal is submitted.