The 50x2030 Initiative to Close the Agricultural Data Gap invites research teams from Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Ethiopia, Georgia, Senegal, and Uganda to submit research proposals that answers current policy-relevant questions and inform policy discussions in the respective countries. Proposals must use data collected under the 50x2030 Initiative. Research proposals that combine 50x2030 data with other data sets such as national census, administrative data or satellite data will be accepted. The funding for research is up to 2,500 USD per project and for a duration of six months, inclusive of indirect costs. Proposals must be submitted by 31st July to 50x2030-data-use@ifad.org.

Context

The 50x2030 Initiative to Close the Agricultural Data Gap is a partnership between IFAD, World Bank and FAO that seeks to transform country data systems across 50 Low and Lower-Middle Income Countries and support evidence-informed decision-making in agriculture in those countries by 2030. Specifically, the Initiative scales up national statistical survey systems in 50 countries, building upon the experience of FAO’s AGRISurvey Programme (AGRISurvey) and the World Bank’s Living Standards Measurement Study-Integrated Surveys on Agriculture (LSMS-ISA). The Initiative’s main objective is “increased and sustained evidence-based decision-making in agriculture, particularly to help achieve SDG2”. For more general information on the Initiative, please see An Introduction to the 50x2030 Initiative to Close the Agricultural Data Gap.

To reach that objective, the 50x2030 Initiative supports activities to promote and encourage stakeholders to use survey data in more and better ways across partner countries. 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 Research Competition for 2023

This call for proposals is part of IFAD’s activities to promote the use of 50x2030 survey data. The Initiative will provide funds to teams of local researchers in six 50x2030 countries: Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Ethiopia, Georgia, Senegal, and Uganda. Funding will be provided to produce research papers on the key thematic areas outlined subsequently using 50x2030 data.

Research proposals must demonstrate relevance to (a) national policies or programs for the public or private sector or (b) global or regional priorities in agricultural development and food security. 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.

Thematic areas

Research proposals must answer key questions related to one of the three broad themes.
(a) **Agricultural productivity** - Without being exhaustive, some suggested research topics are: drivers of and constraints to improving agricultural productivity in the context of climate change and weather shocks. They may unpack the important contributors to agricultural productivity. They may examine impacts of programs aimed at improving agricultural productivity.

(b) **Agricultural exports** – Here is a suggested list of non-exhaustive research topics: Export crops that contribute to food security; Export crops and agro-industrial employment; Sustainability in the production of primary agricultural goods (e.g. cereals, coffee, tea, dairy) for the agro-industry sector; Technological adaptation to climate change affecting agricultural exports; Agricultural exports and nutrition.

(c) **Food systems and food security** – Here is a suggested list of non-exhaustive research topics: Rural livelihoods; Crops contributing to improved dimensions of food security; Improving sustainability and stability of food systems through agricultural diversification; Adaptation measures to climate change, food production and agri-food systems; New agricultural technologies Improving sustainability in agricultural production. Gender aspects associated to agricultural production and food security; Youth employment and agri-food systems.

Research proposals must clearly state how 50x2030 data will be used to answer the key research questions. The 50x2030 data may be combined with other data sets such as national censuses, administrative data, satellite data or weather data. Such proposals that use innovative approaches are particularly encouraged. Proposals that examine cross-country data will be accepted.

The outputs of the research competition will be published as working paper in the 50x2030 Initiative website. Researchers are strongly encouraged to pursue the publication of their outputs in high quality peer-reviewed journals and platforms. In addition to financial support, the 50x2030 Research Competition offers training and mentoring support for all successful applicants. Upon successful completion of their research projects, the applicants will be invited to present their work in IFAD events where they will be able to showcase their work and benefit from networking opportunities at international, regional, and national levels.

**Eligibility**

Research teams should comprise of individuals living and working in any one of the six countries where 50x2030 Data Use activities have begun: Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Ethiopia, Georgia, Senegal, and Uganda. The initiative is available to citizens and/or residents of the countries only. 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.

We particularly encourage joint applications from researchers and government/non-government organisations involved in agricultural/rural development and agricultural policy making. We welcome applications from agencies across the government (e.g. ministries of agriculture, environment, natural resources; national agricultural research centers, etc.). The Initiative expects applicants to follow the laws and rules of their country related to accepting this funding. The funding contract will be issued to the main applicant.

**Evaluation Process and Scoring**

Proposals will be screened for eligibility and then go through a rigorous review process. Proposals will be judged on four criteria: 1) alignment with the 50x2030 Initiative’s objective of promoting the use of data for decision-making to national agricultural, rural, or food security priorities (30% weightage); 2) the appropriateness of the proposed methodology to answer the research question (40% of weightage); 3) the clarity of the dissemination strategy for the research output(s) (15%); and
4) value for money (15%). 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 and how it is related to the key thematic area identified above;
2. Justification 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 methodology used to answer the research question(s);
5. An activity timeline for completion of research output;
6. 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
7. A clear, detailed, and justifiable budget with a maximum of 2,500 USD.

Outputs

The main outputs expected from each research team at the end of the project period are (a) one research paper on the key research question proposed in the application (b) one policy brief based on the research findings of (a). Additionally, selected teams will be required to attend a virtual inception meeting. At the end of the research cycle, teams will be invited to present their research in seminars organised by IFAD.

How to Apply

Researchers should email applications and any inquiries to 50x2030-data-use@ifad.org. The review process will start as soon as the window for submitting applications is closed on 31 July 2023. 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 6 June 2023 on behalf of the 50x2030 Initiative.
2. Researchers should submit completed applications by the deadline of 31 July 2023.
3. 50x2030 Initiative starts the review process from 1 August 2023.
4. Upon receipt of the award, researchers will conduct projects for a duration of 6 months.
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 and review support for the research.
7. Researchers will submit draft findings/results to 50x2030 for review.
8. Researchers will work with 50x2030 to develop final research outputs, policy briefs (both required) and any other dissemination materials.
**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 Research Competition must use 50x2030 data to be eligible for the initiative. The list and access links to the 50x2030 data for Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Ethiopia, Georgia, Senegal, and Uganda are provided in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Data Sources/Survey Names</th>
<th>Year(s)</th>
<th>National Implementer(s)</th>
<th>Topics of available data</th>
<th>Link to Microdata</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Burkina Faso | Enquête Harmonisée sur le Conditions de Vie des Ménages | 2018-2019     | Institut National de la Statistique et de la Démographie | HOUSEHOLD  
- Household identification including geographic area information  
- Household roster  
- Education (all individuals 3 years old and older)  
- Health (past 30 days / three months recall / twelve months recall)  
- Employment  
- Non-employment income  
- Saving and credits  
- Food consumption (past 7 days / 30 days recall)  
- Food security  
- Nonfood consumption (past 7 days / 30 days / 3 months recall / 6 months recall)  
- Nonagricultural enterprises  
- Housing  
- Household’s assets  
- Transfers  
- Shocks and survival strategies  
- Safety nets  
- Agriculture  
- Livestock  
- Fishing  
- Agricultural equipment  
- Relative poverty  

COMMUNITY  
- Community identification  
- Respondent characteristics  
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Survey Name</th>
<th>Year(s)</th>
<th>Data Source</th>
<th>Indicators</th>
<th>Website</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Cambodia    | Cambodia Inter-Censal Agricultural Survey (CIAS) | 2019      | National Institute of Statistics (NIS)         | - Household indicators / Demographics  
- Basic characteristics of agricultural holdings  
- Crop Production  
- Livestock Production  
- Aquaculture and/or Fishing Production  
- Farm economy  
| Cambodia    | Cambodia Agriculture Survey (CAS)               | 2020      | National Institute of Statistics (NIS)         | - Household indicators / Demographics  
- Basic characteristics of agricultural holdings  
- Crop Production  
- Livestock Production  
- Aquaculture and/or Fishing Production  
- Farm economy  
- Labour characteristics  
- Food security (FIES)                                               | https://microdata.nis.gov.kh/index.php/catalog/38 |
| Ethiopia    | Ethiopia Socio-economic Surveys (ESS)           | 2011/12 - 2018/19 | Central Statistics Agency of Ethiopia (CSA) | - Household indicators / Demographics  
- Household assets  
- Crop production  
- Livestock  
- Non-farm enterprises data  
- Consumption and expenditure (food and non-food)  
- Food security                                                      | LSMS-ISA (worldbank.org)  
https://microdata.worldbank.org/index.php/catalog/3823/study-description |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Survey Name</th>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Data Content</th>
<th>Source</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>High Frequency Phone Survey (HFPS)</td>
<td>2020/21</td>
<td>Household indicators / demographics, Knowledge about Covid-19, Access to basic needs, Labour characteristics, Household income, Food insecurity experience</td>
<td>Ethiopia - COVID-19 High Frequency Phone Survey of Households 2020 (worldbank.org)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Survey Type</td>
<td>Time Period</td>
<td>Data Contents</td>
<td>Source</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annual Agricultural Survey</td>
<td>2018/19 - 2019/20</td>
<td>• Household characteristics&lt;br&gt;• Basic characteristics of agricultural holdings&lt;br&gt;• Crop production&lt;br&gt;• Livestock (cattle and poultry)&lt;br&gt;• Milk production&lt;br&gt;• Meat production&lt;br&gt;• Crop prices</td>
<td><a href="https://www.ubos.org/microndata/index.php/catalog/62/get-microndata">https://www.ubos.org/microndata/index.php/catalog/62/get-microndata</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Uganda National Panel</td>
<td>2009/10 - 2018/19</td>
<td>• Household characteristics&lt;br&gt;• Crop production&lt;br&gt;• Livestock&lt;br&gt;• Land&lt;br&gt;• Labour&lt;br&gt;• Farm income&lt;br&gt;• Communal data&lt;br&gt;• Market and Pricing data</td>
<td><a href="https://worldbank.org">Uganda - National Panel Survey 2005-2009 (worldbank.org)</a></td>
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<td>Surveys (UNPS)</td>
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<td>• Household identification particulars&lt;br&gt;• Knowledge regarding spread of COVID 19&lt;br&gt;• Behaviour and social distancing&lt;br&gt;• Employment&lt;br&gt;• Income loss&lt;br&gt;• Food Insecurity Experience Scale&lt;br&gt;• Coping Strategy&lt;br&gt;• Safety nets&lt;br&gt;• Government actions&lt;br&gt;• Credits&lt;br&gt;• Crop harvest&lt;br&gt;• Livestock&lt;br&gt;• Non-farm enterprise data&lt;br&gt;• Access to services during COVID 19</td>
<td><a href="https://worldbank.org">Uganda - High-Frequency Phone Survey on COVID-19 2020-2021 (worldbank.org)</a></td>
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<td>High Frequency Phone Survey</td>
<td>2020-2021</td>
<td>• Household characteristics&lt;br&gt;• Basic characteristics of agricultural holdings&lt;br&gt;• Crop production&lt;br&gt;• Livestock (cattle and poultry)&lt;br&gt;• Milk production&lt;br&gt;• Meat production&lt;br&gt;• Crop prices</td>
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<td>(HFPS)</td>
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<td>• Household identification particulars&lt;br&gt;• Knowledge regarding spread of COVID 19&lt;br&gt;• Behaviour and social distancing&lt;br&gt;• Employment&lt;br&gt;• Income loss&lt;br&gt;• Food Insecurity Experience Scale&lt;br&gt;• Coping Strategy&lt;br&gt;• Safety nets&lt;br&gt;• Government actions&lt;br&gt;• Credits&lt;br&gt;• Crop harvest&lt;br&gt;• Livestock&lt;br&gt;• Non-farm enterprise data&lt;br&gt;• Access to services during COVID 19</td>
<td><a href="https://www.ubos.org/microndata/index.php/catalog/62/get-microndata">https://www.ubos.org/microndata/index.php/catalog/62/get-microndata</a></td>
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Annex II – Budget template

Please itemize your budget as much as possible. Your proposed budget tells us specifically what you are requesting for funding, item by item. Along with your budget, please include a budget narrative which is a descriptive paragraph that provides details and justifications for each budget line. Please note that costs associated with primary data collection are not eligible for funding under the 50x2030 Research Competition.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
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