50x2030 Initiative to Close the Agricultural Data Gap

Call for Proposals 2024

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The 50x2030 Initiative to Close the Agricultural Data Gap invites research teams from Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Georgia, Malawi, Nigeria, Senegal and Tanzania to submit research proposals that use data collected under the 50x2030 Initiative to answer current policy-relevant questions in the respective countries. Research proposals that combine 50x2030 data with other data sets such as a national census, other surveys, administrative data, or satellite data are encouraged as long as 50x2030 data are central to the research. The funding for research is up to $5,000 USD per project and for a duration of six months, inclusive of indirect costs. Proposals must be submitted by <mark>1 December 2024</mark> to researchgrant@data4sdgs.org.

Context

The [50x2030 Initiative to Close the Agricultural Data Gap](#) is a partnership between FAO, IFAD, and the World Bank that seeks to transform country data systems and support evidence-informed decision-making in agriculture across 50 Low and Lower-Middle Income Countries by 2030. The Initiative scales up national statistical survey systems and has built 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 reach its goals of evidence-informed decision-making, the 50x2030 Initiative works to promote the use of survey data in more and better ways by stakeholders across partner countries. GPSDD has supported the 50x2030 Initiative to achieve its goals since its launch in 2018.

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](#)). For more general information on the Initiative, please see [An Introduction to the 50x2030 Initiative to Close the Agricultural Data Gap](#).

Overview of the 50x2030 Research Grant Competition for 2024

This Research Grant Competition is part of the 50x2030 Initiative's activities to promote the use of 50x2030 survey data. Working with the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data (GPSDD), the Initiative will provide up to $5,000 USD in funds to teams of local researchers in six 50x2030 countries -- Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Georgia, Malawi, Nepal, Nigeria, and Senegal -- to produce research products that address program or policy-relevant questions using 50x2030 data. In addition to financial support, the 50x2030 Research Competition offers mentoring support for all awardees to assist them through the research process.

Research proposals must demonstrate relevance to national policies or programs for the public or private sector. Proposals must clearly delineate how the research can inform national policy priorities and must 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.

Focus of the Research

The proposed research must answer program and policy-relevant questions or issues that have been identified by the target countries in the areas of SDG2: Zero Hunger. Eligible areas of research include agricultural productivity, agricultural exports, food systems, food security, and nutrition. Applicants must identify and document how the research will address a priority policy question in the country by explicitly referencing national strategies, policy frameworks, or any other type of document that defines national policy priorities.

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

Research Outputs

The minimum outputs of the research competition will include 1) a final working paper, 2) a policy brief, 3) a presentation at a national event with relevant policymakers, and 4) a virtual presentation at a larger global event. The final working paper will be published on the 50x2030 Initiative website -- https://www.50x2030.org/. Researchers are strongly encouraged to pursue the publication of their working paper in high quality peer-reviewed journals and platforms. The policy brief will be a shorter document that outlines key findings and recommendations arising from the research and should be submitted to policymakers within the target country. The content of the policy brief can be used to create the presentation to be given at the national event and virtual global event.

The national event is intended to ensure the research reaches practitioners who can use the evidence provided by the research to inform national programs and policies. The global event is intended to showcase the researchers' work outside their countries, promote cross-fertilization of research, and create networking opportunities.

Eligibility

Research teams should consist of individuals living and working in any one of the target countries: Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Georgia, Nepal, Nigeria, and Senegal. The research competition 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 applications from research teams that show collaboration with government agencies, non-governmental organisations, private sector businesses, or another external organization involved in agricultural or food security policy making. The research competition expects applicants to follow the laws and rules of their country related to accepting this funding and the use and handling of the data. 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 five criteria:
1. degree to which the research addresses a national agricultural or food security policy priority (30% of the score);
2. the appropriateness of the proposed methodology to use the 50x2030 data to answer the research question(s) (25%);
3. innovativeness of the proposed research or whether it fills a knowledge gap (15%)
4. clarity and effectiveness of the dissemination plan for the research outputs (15%); and
5. value for money (15%).

All proposals will be categorized as either: (1) partially or fully funded; (2) revise and resubmit; (3) not approved. If a proposal is categorized as "revise and resubmit", the research team will receive specific instructions on what needs revised and then have seven days to revise and resubmit.

Requirements and Outputs

Selected teams will be required to attend a virtual inception meeting, after which they can commence their research. 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, (c) a presentation at a national event, and (d) a presentation at a virtual global event.

How to Apply

Researchers should download the application form and template, complete all sections, and email applications and any inquiries to researchgrant@data4sdgs.org. The review process will start as soon as the window for submitting applications is closed on 1 December 2024.

Completed applications should be submitted as a PDF that includes:
1. A filled-out **application form**;
2. A **research project proposal** (maximum five pages) that includes:
   a. Clear research questions or a problem statement and how it is related to the policy priority areas for the country identified above;

b. Justification of how the research would inform policy, programmatic, or investment decisions in the country related to agriculture and/or food security, including specific references to national documents that outline the topic as a policy priority;

c. A description of the data sets it will use, both 50x2030 data sets (required) and supplementary data (if any);

d. The methodology used to answer the research question(s);

e. An activity timeline for completion of the research output(s);

f. A dissemination and communication strategy to promote the research output(s) through print and/or online platforms (e.g. journal publication, blog post, social media post).

3. a clear, detailed, and justifiable budget with a maximum of $5,000 USD presented in the **research project budget form** along with a paragraph justifying the itemized budget,

4. a **description of the research team** that will undertake the work, including names, roles, and organizational affiliation(s) of all researchers, as well as the **CVs of all researchers** on the team.

Timeline and Deadlines

1. 50x2030 and GPSDD circulate the Call for Proposals on 7 October 2024.
2. Researchers should submit completed applications to researchgrant@data4sdgs.org by the deadline of 1 December 2024.
3. The 50x2030 Initiative starts the review process from 2 December 2024.
4. Awardees will be notified by the anticipated award date of 28 February 2025.
5. Upon receipt of the award, researchers will conduct projects for a duration of six months.
6. Researchers will provide regular progress reports on their projects during the six months of implementation.
7. Researchers are expected to participate in (virtual) training sessions and meetings with their assigned mentors who will be providing review support for the research.
8. Researchers will submit draft findings/results to 50x2030 for review in July 2025.
9. Researchers will work with 50x2030 to develop final research outputs, policy briefs (both required) and any other dissemination materials by 1 September 2025.

Annex I – Required Data Sets

50x2030 data are survey data that partner countries produce with support from the 50x2030 Initiative. 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, Georgia, Nigeria, and Senegal are provided in the table below.

Country	Data Sources/Survey Names	Year(s)	National Implementer(s)	Topics of available data	Link to Microdata
Burkina Faso	Enquête Harmonisée sur le Conditions de Vie des Ménages	2018-2019 2021-2022	Institut National de la Statistique et de la Démographie	HOUSEHOLD - Household identification including geographic area identification 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 - Community existence and accessibility of social services - Community agriculture	Enquête 2018-2019 Enquête 2021-2022

				- Community participation - Community food prices	
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 • Labour characteristics	http://nada.nis.gov.kh/index.php/catalog/36
	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
Georgia	Survey of Agricultural Holdings (SAH) and rotation modules on Production Methods and Environment (PME) and Machinery, Equipment, and Assets (MEA)	2020 (SAH) 2021 (SAH & PME) 2022 (SAH & MEA)	National Statistics Office of Georgia (GEOSTAT)	• General agro statistics • Basic characteristics of agricultural holdings • Crop production • Livestock • Production of animal husbandry • Farm economics • Access to agricultural production warehouses • Farmgate prices • Fish production • Farmgate fish prices Microdata: • Holding characteristics • Production	SAH 2020 SAH 2021 PME 2021 SAH 2022 MEA 2022 GEOSTAT Data Portal

				• Distribution • Fertilizer use • Pesticide use • Livestock • Machinery	
Malawi	Integrated Household Panel Survey	2010-11 2013-14 2016-17 2019-20	National Statistical Office of Malawi	• Household identification including geographic area identification information • Household roster • Education (all individuals 3 years old and older) • Health • Employment • Non-employment income • Saving and credits • Food consumption (past 7 days / 30 days recall) • Food security • Nonfood consumption • Nonagricultural enterprises • Housing • Household's assets • Transfers • Shocks and survival strategies • Safety nets • Agriculture • Livestock • Fishing • Agricultural equipment • Relative poverty	Integrated Household Panel Survey 2010-2013-2016-2019
Nigeria	Nigeria National Agricultural Sample Census	2022	National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) - Federal Government of Nigeria (FGN)	• Demographic details of the holders • Type of agricultural activity (crop production, fishery, poultry, or livestock), • The type of produce or product (for example: rice, maize, sorghum, chicken, or cow)	Nigeria National Agricultural Sample Census 2022

| Senegal | Enquete Agricole Annuelle (EAA) | 2017/18 2018/19 2019/20 2021/22 2022/23 | Direction de l'Analyse, de la Prévision et des Statistiques Agricoles (DAPSA) | • Census of household members and parcel of the household
• Crop production
• Livestock
• Fishery
• Aquaculture
• Forest production data
• Agricultural equipment and maintenance | EAA 2017/18
EAA 2018/19
EAA 2019/20
EAA 2020/21
EAA 2021/22
EAA 2022/23

DAPSA Data Catalogue |