

Research&Exchanges Team

2017/2018 Rural Policy Research Grants

Date: November 2017

Rural Policy Research Grants - Call for Proposals

Basing on the 2017/2018 work-plan, the RPLC Research & Exchanges Rural Policy Grants is issuing a call for application for Rural Policy Research Grants.

What:

Rural Policy Grants are RPLC supported research projects on rural policy. Such projects should ideally be carried out by RPLC partners faculty members, researchers, and students, in a relatively short/medium-term, with a comparative dimension and exchanges of students and researchers between institutions. The proposal could be related to wider research activities the researchers are working on (i.e. Ph.D. or master thesis or core research of faculty members).

Aim:

Proposed research projects should be related to topics addressed by RPLC Policy Theme Teams and should aim to develop an interdisciplinary and comparative approach. Thus, the inclusion of mobility within the proposal is requested. Clear outputs (such as publications) should be identified and developed in line with RPLC purposes. Collaborations with other partners (from the RLPC network or external ones, i.e. policy makers, stakeholders) are other eligibility criteria.

How:

Specific call for proposals will be issued in order to collect applications.

Eligibility criteria for project proposals evaluation are the following:

- Number of involved participants: minimum 2 partners from 2 different RPLC institutions;
- Eligible participants: proposals must be submitted by early stage postdoctoral fellows (up to two years from the end of their PhD), PhD and Master students.
Faculty members from the institutions should be involved in the research, to ensure support and supervisions, but they can not apply for the grant;
- Ineligible proposals: proposals involving exclusively faculties members are not eligible;
- Topic: the proposal should cover topics related to one or more RPLC Policy Theme Teams; interdisciplinary approaches are encouraged;
- Field research & exchanges: the proposal must foresee a period of field research (i.e. to collect data, carry out interviews, etc.) at another RPLC network institution and/or mobility and exchanges between the applicants' institution and another RPLC institution; minimum duration of single research & exchange periods is 3 months;
- Methods: a comparative approach between countries or regions is strongly recommended and will represent a key criteria in the selection of the proposals;

- Tangible outputs: the main outputs of the grant should be a two page summary about the research topic and thesis , a brief and engaging summary about the exchange period for RPLC a 5 minutes video during the last week of the exchange (contributions for RPLC blog and RPLC webinars). The participation to conferences and other dissemination activities will represent additional value. More details within the Research and Exchange Post mobility period instructions, which will be provided to selected students.
- Co-financing of the research projects by one of the involved RPLC institution will represent additional value. In-kind contribution as faculty time/salary or facilities are not considered co-financing, since these are expected to be provided as basic resources.
- Duration: projects must be finalised within 12 months from their start date;
- Budget criteria:
 - *eligible costs for staff involved in the research project* include travels, accommodation, database access, publication costs, field work costs (for the applicant and/or assistants). For costs covered by the faculties members involved in the project, a maximum reimbursement of 50% for travel and/or accommodation is foreseen.
 - *ineligible costs* include staff costs (e.g. salaries).

A required project proposal format is developed and circulated with calls for proposals as Annex 1.

When:

Deadline **for proposal submission is ~~22nd December 2017~~ 14th of January**. Successful proposals will be announced by ~~31st of December 2017~~ end of January 2018. **Research projects could start from February 2018** and can last maximum one year.

Two grants per call will be issued.

Budget:

Maximum CAN 7,500 per proposal (CAN 9,000 in case of overseas mobility, i.e. EU to US/CAN or viceversa).

Please consider a buffer budget in case of currency conversion from euro, US dollar to Canadian dollar. More details are available in the RPLC Research and Exchange grant guidelines

How:

Proposals must be submitted using the attached form and sending it via email to:

Francesca Regoli (francesca.regoli@unibo.it) and Fabio De Menna (fabio.demenna2@unibo.it)

Annex 1 - Application Form

Title				
Names, current position, and institution of involved participants				
Names, current position, and institution of involved faculty members				
RPLC Topic addressed				
<i>Please identify covered topics that are relevant for RPLC Policy Team themes (max. 250 words)</i>				
Description of the proposal				
<i>Please insert an abstract of your research proposal (max. 1500 words). It should include: general and specific goals; the approach and methodology you plan to apply; the connection of outputs and outcomes with RPLC</i>				
Overall Duration and Period of implementation				
<i>Please indicate expected start and end date</i>				
Mobility period(s)				
<i>Please describe the planned field research & exchanges period(s): duration, destination, relation with the objective of the research proposal (max. 500 words)</i>				
Previously received RPLC funds (y/n)				
Estimated budget				
<i>Please use the following table to detail expected costs based on described activities, assumed unit cost, requested total and co-financed total.</i>				
<i>Description</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Unit cost</i>	<i>Requested</i>	<i>Co-financed</i>