## Displaced Livelihoods Initiative - Research Incubator

### Application Form

#### APPLICATION FORM DUE JULY 14, 2023

# Application Instructions

Applicants should submit the below application describing (1) the policy/research question that motivates your application, and the program or policy you wish to evaluate (2) how rigorous evidence would inform how your organization or agency makes decisions, and (3) how a research collaboration would advance your efforts to use evidence to inform decision-making.

The application form must be submitted by a member of the project team, as a PDF file via the [**linked submission portal**](https://forms.gle/BPiavTvj8Qo2MxWL7).

Selected applicants will be asked to participate in a 60-minute phone call with J-PAL staff to further discuss their program, and underlying theory of change, in preparation for the workshop.

The application form covers the following information:

1. The applicant. A description of the organization and its commitment to pursuing new opportunities for rigorous evaluation and using evidence to inform decision-making.
2. The intervention. A description of the proposed program you would like to examine.
3. Opportunity for randomized evaluation. A description of how many people or other units will be reached by the program, the participant selection process, access to data, and the existing evaluation strategy.

J-PAL staff are available to provide support to help prospective applicants prepare stronger applications. Prospective applicants are encouraged to watch the [**session recording**](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1IaQaLEoELyFe4pMO1zamd5tHs3FxsOVb/view) of the policymakers and practitioners information session for an introduction to DLI (11:00 - 17:00) and an overview of the incubators and implementing partners’ opportunities for research collaboration (28:00-42:15).

Please direct any remaining questions to [**dli@povertyactionlab.org**](mailto:dli@povertyactionlab.org).

# Application

## The Applicant

### Lead organization

**Please provide a short description of your organization, its mandate and its major activities**

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### Commitment to evidence-use to inform decision-making

**Please describe your organization’s commitment to pursuing new opportunities for rigorous evaluation and using evidence to inform decision-making and how a partnership with the Displaced Livelihoods Initiative and researchers would contribute to these efforts.**

* Your organization’s approach to institutional learning and focus areas for learning and innovation, if any
* How randomized evaluations may complement or are already complementing other evaluation, learning and innovation methods your organization employs.

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### Associated applicant organizations (if any)

**List all partner organizations currently involved in the project (these can be funding partners, research partners or implementing partners). For each partner, provide a brief description of their role/responsibilities with respect to this project.**

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### Team composition: Lived Experiences

**Is your organization, or partner organizations, led by or co-creating with individuals who have lived experiences of displacement?**

* If yes, what is the scope of their involvement?
* Otherwise, what other efforts have been made to engage individuals with lived experiences related to the research topic in the research?

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### Staff members applying to participate in the workshop

**Please list the key team members (minimum 2, maximum 4) that will work on designing an evaluation and attend the workshop together, be this from the lead or associated organizations. For each participant, please provide:**

* Their function within the organization (job title)
* Their specific roles with respect to the project (2-3 sentences)

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## The Intervention

### Motivation

**Please briefly describe one or more policy challenges or questions that motivate your application. Please provide some evidence of the challenge, including any relevant statistics.**

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### The research / evaluation question

**Please state the research or evaluation question(s) underpinning your application and the program you wish to evaluate and outline how they align with DLI’s motivation and scope as outlined in our latest** [**call for proposals**](https://poverty-action.org/sites/default/files/2023-04/Displaced-Livehoods-Initiative-Call-for-Proposals-Overview-Round-I.pdf)**.**

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### Project description

**Provide a summary description of the project or intervention type you wish to evaluate, its final objectives and the activities to be implemented as part of the project.**

* Indicate the expected duration of your project (from design to completion). If applicable, please outline how evaluation and project implementation timelines differ.
* Include any preliminary evidence that suggests the program works or will work

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### Target population

**What is the target population of your project?**

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### Outcomes and indicators

**List the primary outcomes you expect to change as a result of the program or policy intervention. For each primary outcome, provide the indicator(s) you intend to use to measure the project’s impact on your outcomes of interest, as well as any relevant data source (e.g., field survey, administrative data)**

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### Theory of change and anticipated impact

**Provide a brief description of the project’s theory of change; i.e., through what steps or mechanisms do you expect your project to generate the intended effects on your primary outcomes of interest?**

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### Relevance and use of learnings

**Please describe the extent to which you expect the learnings drawn from the randomized evaluation of your project to be relevant for your organization(s) as well as the wider community of practitioners and how you intend to apply them.**

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## Opportunity for Randomized Evaluation

### Project status

**Please share information that will help us understand how concrete your project plans are at the time of writing and include and its expected start date, if applicable.**

*Ideally, project activities should not yet have started at the time of the workshop as randomization needs to be designed into project activities. Nevertheless, an ongoing project that includes a component that your organization hopes to test and scale may still provide an interesting case study to design future evaluations of projects using the same approach.*

* Please include the current status of the policy or program (e.g., undergoing development or ready to implement) in your description.

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### Sample size and participant selection

**How many participants do you expect to be involved in the program, and over what timeframe (e.g., 300 IDP households each year) ? If different, please also provide an estimate of how many people or other units you estimate could potentially be reached, if resources were not a constraint.**

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**Participant selection:**

* How are individuals/households/communities selected to receive the program or policy? What are, if any, the eligibility criteria of the project?
* What are your initial thoughts, if any, on how a fair lottery or other form of random assignment could be used to determine who gets access to the program or policy.

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### Access to data

**Please describe any existing data collection efforts related to the program, including data collected on outcomes the program is thought to affect, and whether any of these data would also be available for individuals assigned not to receive the program.**

* Is any available data broken down by in-country legal status/race/ethnicity/gender?
* A successful applicant will have a way to access data to measure the outcomes of interest?

### Existing evaluation strategy (optional)

**If applicable, provide a description of the evaluation plan and methodology of this project, as well as your analysis strategy.**

* They may be ethical (e.g., constituent or political concern over a control group), logistical (e.g., staff or organizational capacity to run an evaluation or collect data), or other challenges.

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## Additional Information (Optional)

**What are two to three primary challenges in carrying out a randomized evaluation you expect with respect to the program?**

*They may be ethical (e.g., constituent or political concern over a control group), logistical (e.g., staff or organizational capacity to run an evaluation or collect data), or other challenges.*

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**Do you have any additional information to provide about your form responses?**

*Only a few sentences (100 words) at most, please.*

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