Release Date: December 23, 2016

Spring 2017

**DIL Explore Travel Grant**

# Call for Applications

# **QUICK REFERENCE**

Individual Grant Ceiling: $5,000 Total Funds Available: $40,000

Deadline to Apply: Monday, February 20, 2017, 11:59 pm US Pacific Time

Review period: February 21, 2017 - March 30, 2017

Award announcement: March 31, 2017

Earliest Start of Travel: May 1, 2017

Travel Completed by: September 1, 2017

Link to Online Submission System: [*bit.ly/DILEXPLORE17*](http://bit.ly/DILEXPLORE17)

*Updates to the Explore grant will be posted on the* [*DIL website*](http://dil.berkeley.edu/technology-portfolio/competitions-incentives/dil-explore-travel-grant-application-spring-2017/) *and will replace any previously circulated or published materials.*

# **OVERVIEW**

# The Development Impact Lab ([DIL](http://dil.berkeley.edu/)) invites eligible researchers to apply for our Spring 2017 DIL Explore Travel Grant Competition. DIL Explore Travel Grants support early-stage, exploratory research as well as international travel to develop a new idea or establish partnerships. The early-stage work should combine technology innovation with social and economic research to solve international development challenges.

# DIL Explore is intended to allow researchers in engineering, computer science, natural science and the social sciences to incorporate lessons from other fields into the design or evaluation of a technological solution. For example, an engineer or computer scientist could work with an economist to understand the market implications of their innovation in a developing country context. Or, a political scientist could seek a technology partner to guide an evaluation of a particular innovation. Interested applicants are encouraged to review [past DIL Explore awarded projects.](http://dil.berkeley.edu/technology-portfolio/dil-explore/)

# The deadline to apply is **Monday, February 20, 2017 at 11:59 pm US Pacific Time**. If awarded, travel may occur as early as May 1, 2017 and must be completed by September 1, 2017.

# **ABOUT DIL**

# DIL is a USAID-funded research network fostering the design, rigorous testing, and scale-up of technological solutions for international development. DIL is also establishing a new discipline at UC Berkeley, Development Engineering ([Dev Eng](http://deveng.berkeley.edu/)), which formalizes the iterative design of technologies for low-resource communities, using insights from social science and development economics to drive innovation.

# **APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY**

# This funding opportunity can be used to support graduate students, postdocs, and other researchers working with a Faculty member (Principal Investigator) at DIL-affiliated centers and institutions.[[1]](#footnote-1) Eligible Principal Investigators include, but are not limited to, faculty affiliated with the Blum Center (University of California), CEGA, and select centers at Makerere, IIT Bombay and Jadavpur University. If you have questions regarding your eligibility, please email dil-grants@berkeley.edu.

# **GEOGRAPHIC ELIGIBILITY**

# Projects must focus on issues relevant to one or more eligible developing countries, including those listed below. Note that countries not included in this list may also be eligible. Please contact dil-grants@berkeley.edu to confirm by **February 4, 2017.**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| [Armenia](https://www.usaid.gov/armenia/cdcs) | [India](https://www.usaid.gov/india/cdcs) | [Malawi](https://www.usaid.gov/malawi/cdcs) | [Peru](https://www.usaid.gov/peru/cdcs) | [Uganda](https://www.usaid.gov/uganda/cdcs) |
| [Bangladesh](https://www.usaid.gov/bangladesh/cdcs) | [Indonesia](https://www.usaid.gov/indonesia/cdcs) | [Mexico](https://www.usaid.gov/mexico/cdcs) | [Philippines](https://www.usaid.gov/philippines/cdcs) | [Ukraine](https://www.usaid.gov/ukraine/cdcs) |
| [Brazil](https://www.usaid.gov/brazil/our-work) | [Jamaica](https://www.usaid.gov/jamaica/cdcs) | [Mozambique](https://www.usaid.gov/mozambique/cdcs) | [Rwanda](https://www.usaid.gov/rwanda/cdcs) | [Vietnam](https://www.usaid.gov/vietnam/cdcs) |
| [Cameroon](https://www.usaid.gov/cameroon/our-work) | [Jordan](https://www.usaid.gov/jordan/cdcs) | [Nepal](https://www.usaid.gov/nepal/cdcs) | [South Africa](https://www.usaid.gov/south-africa/cdcs) |  |
| [Georgia](https://www.usaid.gov/georgia/cdcs) | [Kenya](https://www.usaid.gov/kenya/cdcs) | [Nigeria](https://www.usaid.gov/nigeria/cdcs) | [Tanzania](https://www.usaid.gov/tanzania/cdcs) |  |
| [Ghana](https://www.usaid.gov/ghana/cdcs) | [Laos](https://www.usaid.gov/laos/our-work) | [Panama](https://www.usaid.gov/where-we-work/latin-american-and-caribbean/panama) | [Thailand](https://www.usaid.gov/thailand/our-work) |  |

# **REVIEW CRITERIA**

# Successful applications will clearly advance the nascent field of Development Engineering, by combining techniques and insights from social science with advances in engineering and the natural sciences. In general, DIL does not fund projects that focus exclusively on technology design, prototyping, or modeling without consideration for the social, economic, and institutional factors that affect technology adoption. Similarly, DIL does not fund projects that lack a technological innovation.

# Applications will be evaluated for relevance, novelty, and potential impact. Requests will also be evaluated for the immediate value the DIL Explore grant will have on the project, e.g. through fostering new international partnerships in low-and middle-income countries, collection of baseline data, or testing of an initial hypothesis. Though funding is intended for support of early stage research and collaborations, successful applications will have a vision beyond academia. Successful applications will demonstrate realistic plans for carrying the research forward beyond the life of the travel grant and will present a vision for one or more paths via which the proposed research could eventually transition out of the university (e.g. scale-up), including in different contexts.

# **USAID COUNTRY DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION STRATEGIES**

# When developing your application, please review the relevant [USAID Country Development Cooperation Strategy](https://www.usaid.gov/results-and-data/planning/country-strategies-cdcs) (CDCS)[[2]](#footnote-2). USAID has detailed country-specific development approaches and priorities that DIL-funded research should support. Review the CDCS for any countries you are proposing travel to, and explain how your project might advance or complement USAID’s strategies in each country. If your proposal does not align with one of the strategies, it will still be considered. However, research plans that align with USAID’s goals will be given additional consideration.

# **HELPFUL TIPS**

# Do not present your technology/innovation/approach in a vacuum. Do your research and provide clear arguments for why your proposed project differs and/or is an improvement upon existing or similar efforts.

# Have a long term plan. We are looking for teams that have a vision beyond the life of the grant.

# **SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

# Using DIL’s [online submissions system](https://bit.ly/DILEXPLORE17), please submit your application as one editable word document to include the application form, narrative, and budget. Applications are due by 11:59 pm Pacific Time on February 20, 2017.

# ***Do NOT submit through the UC Berkeley Sponsored Projects Office (SPO) or the office of sponsored research at your home institution.***

Spring 2017

**DIL Explore Travel Grant**

# Application Form

# *All fields are required.*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Project Title (max 4 words): |  | | |
| Destination Country: |  | | |
| PI Name: |  | PI Email: |  |
| PI University: |  | PI Department |  |
| Project Summary  (1 sentence): |  | | |
| Int’l Partner Organization (if relevant): |  | | |
| Int’l Partner Contact: (Individual) |  | Partner Contact Email: |  |
| Travel Start | MM/DD/YYYY | Travel End | MM/DD/YYYY |
| Budget request: | $ | | |

**Traveler Information:** Please list all researchers or students that will travel as a part of this work.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name | University | Department | Destination Country | E-mail address | Gender (opt) |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
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# **Project Narrative**: In 1000 words or less, answer the following prompts:

# What development challenge do you seek to address? What is your approach? What evidence exists of unmet need and demand for the innovation?

# What is your research question or approach to be explored? How does it incorporate or seek to incorporate lessons from engineering or the natural sciences as well as social science and economics?

# Why is your innovation more promising than existing alternatives?

# What partners (e.g. foreign collaborators/hosts) are involved in your project? What will they contribute?

# What immediate outcomes do you expect from the proposed travel? In other words, what will you have achieved by the end of your grant?

# What specific plans do you have for this work to eventually transition out of the university and result in development impact at a greater scale (e.g. through a product, policy, or program)?

# **USAID Country Strategy**: In two sentences, please explain how your research would advance or complement USAID’s strategies in each country you propose travel to.

# **Budget Template:** Requests cannot exceed US $5,000 in allowable line items include air tickets on U.S. air carriers, lodging, ground transport, meals & incidental expenses (while on travel), and expendable research supplies.

# **Restrictions:** It is not permissible to purchase any electronic devices using this grant. Requests for lodging or meals & incidental expenses (M&IE) may not exceed rates published by the State Department Office of Allowances, available online at <https://aoprals.state.gov/content.asp?content_id=184&menu_id=78>. All travel must comply with the Fly America Act. If you expect other classes of expenses that are not listed above, but may be critical for your research, please contact dil-finance@berkeley.edu prior to submitting your application.

# All travel and related project costs with the possible exception of flights are expected to be purchased directly by the traveler; expenses will be reimbursed by UC Berkeley following the completion of travel. DIL Explore grant recipients will also be asked to provide travel information to be submitted to USAID prior to travel, e.g. dates of travel and IRB approval/exemption status.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ***Expense*** | ***Description & Justification*** | ***Amount*** |
| *Air travel* |  |  |
| *Lodging* |  |  |
| *M&IE* |  |  |
| *Transit* |  |  |
| *Supplies* |  |  |
| **Total** | | $ |

# *Sample Budget*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ***Expense*** | ***Description & Justification*** | ***Amount*** |
| *Ticket* | *Roundtrip air ticket from SFO to BOM, on U.S. air carrier, to meet collaborators at IIT Bombay and conduct informal interviews with potential consumers of the technology. Expected dates of travel are 5/28/14-­‐6/12/14* | *$1,400* |
| *Lodging* | *Hostel accommodation in Mumbai, India for 14 days, at a rate of*  *$50 per day* | *$700* |
| *M&IE* | *Meals at $15 per day plus mobile phone minutes ($50 total)* | *$260* |
| *Transit* | *Hire of a car for 10 days total, at $50 per day, for field visits* | *$500* |
| *Supplies* | *Translator (10 days @ $10 per day); assay kits (50 @ $20 each); laboratory consumables ($200 total); shipping samples ($500 total)* | *$1,800* |
| **Total** | | $4,660 |

Submit by **11:59 pm US Pacific Time, Monday, February 20, 2017**

Link to Online Submission System: <https://bit.ly/DILEXPLORE17>

1. Applicants must have Principal Investigator (PI) status at a DIL-affiliated center or institute. Eligible PIs include those appointed with any of the University of California campuses; the Center for Effective Global Action (CEGA); Technology and Infrastructure for Emerging Regions (TIER) and the Mezuri Group; the LBNL Institute for Globally Transformative Technologies (LIGTT); the Centre for Technology Alternatives for Rural Areas (CTARA) at IIT Bombay; the Global Change Programme at Jadavpur University; and Makerere University. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. The relevant CDCS is hyperlinked to each country in the geographic eligibility table. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)