

## **Innovation Challenge on Jobs & Migration Matchmaker database**

The World Bank's Rome Jobs and Labor Mobility Center<sup>1</sup> will soon announce a request for proposals for the *Innovation Challenge on Jobs & Migration*. The call aims to **build evidence around effective solutions that maximize the economic and jobs benefits from safe, orderly, and regular migration**.

Participating proposals study the effectiveness of new solutions (interventions, data/tools, policy actions) **which improve cross-border labor mobility and labor market integration of economic migrants and refugees**, and which have the **potential to become sustainable and scalable**. Geographically, the focus is on Europe and its surrounding regions (Africa, Middle East), but migration links with other continents are also considered.

In terms of methods, we look for proposals that develop and/or **use innovative and replicable approaches to rigorously study** such solutions, **yielding timely and actionable results**. Impact evaluations are of particular interest. The call will also consider studies that advance the research frontier by pursuing new ways of data generation or data integration, and by developing/applying new tools or methods that support the assessment of results. The timeline to develop and complete the study is 24 months from the award date.

The call will be open to research centers, think tanks, non-profit organizations, and firms with strong, actionable-evidence-generating credentials. Participation from and/or partnerships with developing country research institutes or initiatives is highly encouraged.

The Rome Jobs and Labor Mobility Center will award **up to six contracts with a maximum value of US\$ 200,000 each**. In addition, it will support the studies through feedback sessions that will take place in Rome, Italy, and will provide platforms for dissemination.

Further details on the application procedure for this Request for Proposals will follow. In the meantime, **please let us know if you are interested in participating by filling out this [form](#)**. Furthermore, as the grants may not suffice to finance the implementation of a particular solution, it is anticipated that the teams join up with new or ongoing initiatives testing or implementing solutions that have the potential to increase the economic and job benefits from migration. So, if you have research credentials but do not have a targeted solution to study, or if you are a practitioner implementing or testing a solution and would like to have it assessed, you can let us know through the same [form](#) to facilitate matchmaking.

For more information, please contact Veronica Michel at [vmichelgutierrez@worldbank.org](mailto:vmichelgutierrez@worldbank.org)

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<sup>1</sup> The Rome Jobs and Labor Mobility Center is a World Bank program based in Rome, Italy, established to foster evidence-based policymaking and develop solutions on jobs and labor mobility in the context of the economic and green transformation in Africa, the Middle East, and the Mediterranean.

### Questionnaire to express interest

*This template is meant to facilitate drafting your expression of interest. However, you are **kindly requested to let us know about your interest by filling the online form provided in [this link](#).***

1. Indicate how you wish to contribute to the Innovation Challenge:
  - A. I have research credentials and am interested in studying the effectiveness of a solution.
  - B. I am the implementer of a solution (program / intervention / policy action) whose effectiveness I wish could be assessed by a study.
  - C. I have both research credentials and am related to a solution in the field.

*If you marked option A in question 1, please fill out only this section:*

1. Name of principal researcher:
2. Email address:
3. Organization/institution of affiliation
4. Describe your research credentials/experience in this field (including key publications)
5. List up to three topics of interest in Jobs & Migration that you would like to study. (For example: agricultural workers, guest worker programs, skilling migrants for employment, telemigration, return migration, etc.)
6. Explain in more detail your research interest. Describe the topic, country/contexts, potential research questions and what data and methodology you would use. (400 words maximum)
7. Provide a brief description of how you plan to implement the study (team composition, partnerships, need for field work, etc.)
8. Would you like us to help you connect with practitioners who can provide a solution to be the subject of your study? Yes/No
  - a. If yes, please indicate which contact detail we can share to people interested in partnering with you: add your email address, phone number, social network handle.

*If you marked option B in question 1, please fill out only this section:*

1. Name
2. Name of your organization/institution who implements the solution
3. Indicate the topic area of your solution (For example: agricultural workers, guest worker programs, skilling migrants for employment, telemigration, return migration, etc.)
9. Please explain your solution (program/ intervention/ policy action). Describe the problem it aims to address, the solution, general implementation design. (Maximum 400 words)

10. What is the geographical location where the solution is being or will be implemented?
11. When did implementation started or will start and how long will it last?
12. What would you like to be studied about your solution and what data do you think could be available for researchers through your project? (Maximum 400 words)
13. Would you like us to help you connect with a research team to study the effectiveness of your solution? Yes/No
  - a. If yes, please indicate which contact detail we can share to people interested in partnering with you: add your email address, phone number, social network handle.

*If you marked option C in question 1, please fill out only this section:*

1. Name
2. Email address
3. Organization/institution of affiliation
4. Describe your research credentials (degree, evidence of expertise)
5. Indicate the topic area of your solution (For example: agricultural workers, guest worker programs, skilling migrants for employment, telemigration, return migration, etc.)
6. Please explain your solution (program/ intervention/ policy action). Describe the problem it aims to address, the solution, general implementation design. (Maximum 400 words)
7. What is the geographical location where the solution is being or will be implemented?
8. When did implementation started or will start?
9. Explain your research objective for the Innovation Challenge on Jobs & Migration. Describe the potential research questions and what data and methodology you would use. (400 words maximum)
10. Provide a brief description of how you plan to implement the study (team composition, partnerships, need for field work, etc.)
11. Would you still like us to help you connect with other potential partners? Yes/No
  - a. If yes, please indicate which contact detail we can share to people interested in partnering with you: add your email address, phone number, social network handle.