

Working Group in African Political Economy (WGAPPE)

Request for Papers 2020 Annual Meeting

The Working Group in African Political Economy (WGAPPE) brings together faculty and advanced graduate students in Economics and Political Science who combine field research experience in Africa with training in political economy methods. The group has met semi-annually to discuss the in-progress work of its core members and invited guests since 2002. It is co-led by Daniel Posner (UCLA), Edward Miguel (UC Berkeley), Brian Dillon (Cornell), Amanda Robinson (Ohio State University), and Amma Panin (World Bank). This annual meeting has been moved virtual (online over Zoom) in July 2020. Important dates related to the meeting are listed below:

Deadline to Submit: 11:59 pm U.S. Pacific Time on Monday, June 1st, 2020
WGAPPE Meeting: July 22-24, 2020 held virtually

April 2020 Update: Due to the uncertainty surrounding COVID-19, this conference has been moved virtual. The deadline for this RFP has been extended to **June 1, 2020**. In order to accommodate different time zones, this meeting will take place across 3 days for 2 1/2 hours each day (8-10:30 am PT / 6-8:30 pm EAT). See additional information below on what to do if you already applied.

Meeting Information

WGAPPE meetings center on research discussion sessions rather than presentations. Papers are circulated and expected to be read in advance by all participants. Presenters provide brief, orienting comments before the floor is opened for an hour-long discussion of each paper or research design. WGAPPE accepts early working papers, near-complete drafts, and research designs (see an archive of papers from past WGAPPE meetings [here](#)).

Submission Categories

We invite paper and research design submissions that reflect WGAPPE's broad research agenda on the **political economy of African development**, including ethnic politics, civil conflict and violence, decentralization and democratization, corruption, local governance, public economics, and other related topics. Submissions outside of these areas are very unlikely to be selected

regardless of their quality. WGAPPE commonly, but not exclusively, selects submissions with a strong focus on fieldwork and quantitative analysis. Graduate students and junior faculty are particularly encouraged to apply.

WGAPPE particularly encourages submissions from applicants who teach, study or have completed a degree at an African university.

We invite submissions of papers or research designs. Early-stage papers and research designs will be prioritized for inclusion. Highly polished papers are unlikely to be selected. These submissions should describe a fully planned research study on topics relevant to WGAPPE, as listed above. A suggested format for these submissions is the Pre-Analysis Plan (please find a template [here](#)). It is not necessary to reformat your Pre-Analysis Plan to fit the linked template, but a strong Pre-Analysis Plan will include the elements listed in the template.

Submit your Work

To submit your materials, please submit to the form at the following URL by 11:59pm PT on June 1, 2020: <https://cega.submittable.com/submit/162397/2020-request-for-papers-wgape-annual-virtual-meeting>

Successful applicants will be notified by **June 25, 2020** and will be expected to attend the 4-day workshop.

Participant costs:

With assistance from the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, WGAPPE will provide funding for Africa-based scholars who need to purchase data and/or airtime to participate in this virtual meeting.

Apply to Attend as a Participant

For the 2020 WGAPPE Annual Meeting, a select subgroup of participants from Africa-based institutions will be invited to participate in WGAPPE. This opportunity may also include participation in networking events and research methods trainings. This fully funded opportunity is limited to graduate students, post-docs, and junior faculty working in political economy who either a) currently hold a faculty or research position at an African institution, b) received or are actively pursuing a graduate degree at an African institution, or c) received an undergraduate degree from an African institution and are currently in graduate school elsewhere.

Acceptance to attend the special sessions DOES NOT guarantee acceptance of a paper or research design submission for the 2020 WGAPPE Annual Meeting.

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What to do if you already applied

If you have already applied for this RFP, and would either like to withdraw or amend your submission, please contact Michelle Layvant at wgapeworkshop@gmail.com.

For further information, please contact wgapeworkshop@gmail.com.