Education Research in Africa Award (ERAA) Call for Proposals: Emerging Educational Researcher

The Association for the Development of Education in Africa (ADEA) and the African Development Institute (ADI/AfDB) call for proposals within the framework of the third and fourth editions of the Education Research in Africa Award (ERAA), in collaboration with the Korea-Africa Economic Cooperation (KOAFEC).

Purpose

Recognizing the critical role of education in social and economic development, and acknowledging the importance of research in the formulation and implementation of educational policy and reforms, ADEA and ADI/AfDB have created the ERAA. This award is designed to promote excellence in educational research in African universities, research institutes and networks and also among Africans in institutions in other parts of the world. It seeks to identify, reward and foster outstanding accomplishments in educational research in Africa. More specifically, ERAA aims at:

- Strengthening the link between education research and education policy-making and practice in Africa;
- Encouraging and supporting Africa-based researchers and their institutions to produce and disseminate rigorous and relevant research that stimulates innovative policy-making for Africa;
- Facilitating interaction between researchers and policy-makers in order to promote the systematic use of research findings in policy conceptualization, formulation, design, implementation and evaluation.

The expected long-term outcome of this award is the institutionalization of a culture of high quality and relevant educational research in Africa that contributes to informed decision making, and effective implementation of reforms and practice.

Eligibility criteria

An African researcher based in Africa, aged 35 maximum on December 31, 2014, who has conducted and published at least one outstanding and relevant piece of research in education and training can compete in this category¹.

Criteria for evaluating submissions

The following criteria will be used to assess the quality of submissions and select the recipients:

- The topic of the research must be a subject of interest to the educational research community and/or relevant to education policy making. Research submissions addressing

¹ Awards will be granted in three other categories: accomplished educational researcher, outstanding mentor of educational researchers, and enabling institutional environment for educational research.
the following thematic areas will receive special consideration: Technical and Vocational Skills Development (TVSD), Early Childhood Development, ICTs, Science, Technology and Innovation (STI), Gender and Special Needs Education, Teacher Education and the Teaching Profession.

- The degree to which the research product contributes to knowledge advancement OR may contribute to policy development or implementation.
- The degree to which the research reported meets all basic criteria of good research (problem statement, theory/concepts, methodological design, analysis, interpretation, etc.)
- Indication that the researcher holds the potential to further her/his career if provided with the enabling environment and resources (refereed publications and presentations at academic or professional meetings prior to obtaining highest degree, papers related to education since starting research career, membership of academic and/or professional organizations and networks related to education, etc.).

**NB:** Creativity and originality of the piece of research is an added advantage.

The two submissions with the highest grades will be retained for the award. ADEA and ADI/AFDB reserve the right not to give out the award if no submission obtains the pass grade of 75%.

**Content of application dossier**

1. A completed application form (see p. 4 of this call)
2. A statement of justification/merit (not to exceed one single-spaced page)
3. A maximum two-page CV focusing on research experience
4. Two letters of support
5. A scanned copy of a national identity document indicating the date of birth
6. Evidence of residence in Africa
7. An electronic copy (in Microsoft word or pdf) of the research output being submitted for consideration (including a 2-3 page executive summary) with full reference of the source.

**NB:** Candidates can submit one (only) research product such as a chapter of a scientific production or a peer-reviewed article (published or accepted for publication by a reputable academic press or a journal).

**Language of submission**

Submissions are accepted in English or French.

**Deadline for submitting application dossiers**

Application dossiers must be submitted electronically no later than November, 16, 2014 at midnight GMT to the following address: eraa@afdb.org.

**NB:** Dossiers received after the above-mentioned deadline will not be considered. Also, any dossier that is incomplete or contains false information will be automatically rejected.

**Composition of the award**

The award is made up of monetary and in-kind components.

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2 The referees must send their letters directly to the email address provided below. It is the candidate’s responsibility to request these letters and inform her or his referees about the eligibility and evaluation criteria, as well as the deadline for submitting application dossiers.
EDUCATION RESEARCH IN AFRICA AWARD (ERAA)

Emerging Educational Researcher

APPLICATION FORM

1. Surname and first name(s): ______________________________________________

2. Contact address: _______________________________________________________

3. Gender: Female □  Male □

4. Current position: _____________________________________________________

5. Current institutional affiliation: ________________________________________

6. Nationality: __________________________________________________________

7. Country of residence: _________________________________________________

8. Language proficiency (4 = functional native; 3 = advanced professional; 2 = general professional, 1 = limited):

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9. Title of the piece of research submitted for competition and date of publication:

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10. Main research areas/topics: __________________________________________

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11. Full name of Master’s degree or PhD advisor and degree granting institution:

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12. Referees:

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13. Membership of academic and/or professional organizations and networks related to education:

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Signature  ___________________________ Date  ___________________________