



EGAP Metaketa V: Motivating Women’s Political Participation in Hybrid and Authoritarian Regimes

EOI Summary

In February 2019, EGAP requested expressions of interest (EOIs) for experimental research projects that aim to understand non-electoral forms of political participation in hybrid regimes, broadly defined. Although voting is the most widely recognized form of political participation, this Metaketa round seeks to broaden the focus to other forms of political participation that may be more relevant in settings in which elections are not functioning as effective tools of political accountability. This request for short EOIs sought to identify clusters of research projects with comparable interventions and outcome measures that would form the basis of the main Request for Proposals (RFP).

EGAP received 38 EOIs that covered a vast geographical range, including China, Iran, Mexico, Madagascar, Nepal, Pakistan, and Zimbabwe, among others. The EOIs, submitted by academics, scholars, Ph.D. candidates, and practitioners, fell loosely into three clusters: interventions that motivate non-electoral participation, psychological benefits/costs of participation and non-participation, and outcomes of participation on policy. Most proposals fell into more than one of these clusters and recommended innovative interventions and outcomes, with EOIs ranging from understanding the psychological benefits and costs of different types of participation such as roadblocks and parades in Bolivia; to studying the interaction between government-sponsored pressure for political compliance, collective action, and preference falsification in Hungary; to asking whether empathy can motivate individuals to engage in high-risk collective action in Myanmar.

After reviewing the EOIs, the selection committee settled on field experiments that seek to better understand women’s political participation aimed at more equitable local public goods provision in hybrid regimes to form the basis of the RFP. These clusters had the greatest number of EOIs, a reflection of where the most interest lies, and these proposals followed the most consistent logic.

The Breakdown:

Status of Applicants	Number
Faculty	50
Postdoctoral Fellows	8
PhD Students	27
Private Sector	3
TOTAL	88

Geographic Focus	Number of Applicants
Africa	12
Asia	12
Latin America	6
Middle East and North Africa	6
Europe	2
United States	0
TOTAL	38

How many applied with an on-the-ground implementing partner? 18

Thematic Focus*	Number of Applicants
Interventions that motivate non-electoral participation	25
Psychological benefits/costs of participation and non-participation	16
Outcomes of participation on policy	17

*Many of the applications included more than one thematic focus.