

CALL FOR PAPER PROPOSALS
ON
INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND RECOVERY

FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS OF BOSTON, CLEVELAND, NEW YORK, AND PHILADELPHIA
W.E. UPJOHN INSTITUTE FOR EMPLOYMENT RESEARCH / ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT QUARTERLY
INITIATIVE FOR A COMPETITIVE INNER CITY

We are pleased to announce a Call for Papers for research manuscript proposals for a fall 2021 National Economic Summit on **Inclusive Economic Development and Recovery Strategies** to be held at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston on September 23 and 24, 2021. Jointly organizing this conference are the Federal Reserve Banks of Boston, Cleveland, New York, and Philadelphia; the W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research/*Economic Development Quarterly*; and the Initiative for a Competitive Inner City (ICIC).

We are seeking research manuscript proposals for conference presentations and potential inclusion in a special issue in *Economic Development Quarterly* on inclusive economic development and recovery that illuminate disparities and facilitate racial/ethnic, gender, and socioeconomic inclusiveness and how they vary across regions and place types.

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, some metropolitan and regional economies in the United States were generating innovation and growth through their strong social and economic networks between individuals and firms. Not only did they attract talent, they created the environment for the creation and sharing of new technology and knowledge. Unfortunately, the economic disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, alongside growing economic inequality in many of the nation's most successful metropolitan areas, will likely exacerbate preexisting economic disparities. In other communities, even prior to COVID-19, the economy had been stagnant or declining. As policy makers, researchers, and practitioners are increasingly exploring pathways to narrow the wealth, income, and opportunity gaps across the nation, new research is welcome on these disparities and on how COVID-19 may have affected them, given that both the immediate economic downturn and policy responses may both have impacted economic inequality.

The organizers encourage researchers to further our understanding of growing inequalities and the effectiveness of strategies to address them. We are interested in research on how the COVID-19 pandemic, the economic downturn it produced, and policy responses to both the virus and the economic downturn affected economic dynamics, economic inequality, and economic development strategies. We are also interested in research on longer-term patterns and trends in inequality, inclusion, and economic development that are independent of COVID-19. To these ends, we are soliciting research proposals that will be considered for participation in a national economic summit in Boston that will generate a dialogue between researchers, practitioners, and policy makers.

In addition to the national conference, *Economic Development Quarterly* (EDQ) will publish a special issue of the journal on this topic. EDQ is the premier applied academic journal publishing research on domestic U.S. economic and workforce development issues. Its mission is to promote research supporting the formulation of evidence-based economic development and workforce development policy, programs, and practice in the United States.

PURPOSE AND PROCESS

The call for paper proposals is the first step in the process of compiling high-quality research for the national conference and EDQ special issue. Authors of the selected proposals will be offered the opportunity to submit their completed research manuscript to EDQ for possible publication in a special issue on Inclusive Economic Development and Recovery Strategies. It should be noted that manuscripts submitted for a special issue in EDQ must undergo the journal's standard peer review process. **Paper proposals submitted for the economic summit and special issue should not reflect research that has been previously published or is currently under consideration for publication elsewhere.** We are requesting policy-relevant research that meets academic standards and offers implications for policy makers.

POSSIBLE TOPICS

The organizers are seeking research proposals that will probe the fundamental questions related to inclusive economic development and recovery strategies in metropolitan regions. Possible research areas could include:

- A. **What are the trends in economic inequality?** For example:
 - Do metropolitan/urban areas face higher and growing income inequality than rural places or the nation as a whole? How much does segregation matter?
 - What economic and social factors are associated with income and opportunity disparities in neighborhoods, cities, metropolitan areas, or rural places?
 - What are the causes and effects of regional differences in income or earnings inequality?
 - How does economic inequality in places intersect with racial and ethnic disparities in income or earnings?
 - How are existing inequalities furthered or reshaped by COVID-19 or to its associated economic downturn?

- B. **What is an inclusive economy and what does it advance?** For example:
 - How, why, or when does place matter for fostering an inclusive economy and reducing racial and ethnic disparities?
 - What characteristics of cities, metropolitan areas, and rural places are associated with inclusive economic development or its absence?
 - What is the relationship between racial segregation and economic inclusion?
 - Do housing availability and affordability affect inequality? If so, how?
 - What is the role of quality education or workforce development in reducing economic inequality and racial disparities?

- C. **How effective are specific strategies or public policies for promoting inclusive economic development?** For example:
 - Which strategies are demonstrated/proven effective in securing economic gains for low-income residents? In promoting mobility? Which can be implemented at a local level?
 - What kinds of state, regional, community, or neighborhood development policies promote inclusive economies? Which are proven to have significant impacts?
 - What strategies help distressed areas? Are they implemented in a way that is inclusive?

- How effective are efforts to create career pathways for economically disadvantaged residents in enabling them to advance to better-paying jobs? Do these efforts vary in success across different regional environments?
- How effective are efforts to raise local minimum wages in securing economic gains for low-income residents?
- What are the employment and income impacts of private investment incentives targeted to economically marginalized residents? How can those be compared in cost and efficacy to other policies advancing inclusive economies?
- What were the effects of the policy and programmatic responses to the COVID-19 pandemic? In what ways did the policy responses to COVID-19 or its associated economic downturn reinforce or mitigate labor market and other inequities across local areas?

Of course, many other topics related to this general theme may be offered.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Interested authors should submit paper proposals not exceeding three pages, double-spaced, describing the proposed research, data, methodology, and policy implications. The proposed research must address key issues and suggest policy implications that inform U.S. regional/state/local economic development practices. Authors must also submit a current curriculum vitae.

TIMELINE

Paper proposals must be emailed to edq@upjohn.org by **September 30, 2020**.

EDQ editors and the guest editors for the special issue will review and evaluate the paper proposals and will select and notify authors regarding the selection of their proposal submissions by **November 1, 2020**.

Authors of the selected proposals will then be asked to submit drafts of their completed papers no later than **June 1, 2021**. This is not expected to be a final draft; however, it should provide at least a preliminary review of the literature, hypothesis being addressed, data set being used, model being used, results, and policy implications.

EDQ editors and the guest editors for the special issue will review all submitted papers and provide comments regarding their suitability for publication in EDQ by **July 15, 2021**. These comments are meant to help the authors in finalizing the papers being submitted to EDQ for possible publication in the special issue. **It is important to note that these comments do not need to be addressed in the conference presentation.** Authors will be given presentation guidelines for the conference by **August 1, 2021**.

The Inclusive Economic Development and Recovery Strategies Economic Summit will be held on September 23 & 24, 2021 at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston. Completed papers for consideration for the EDQ special issue on Inclusive Economic Development and Recovery Strategies should be submitted to EDQ no later than **30 days following the conference**. Papers will be required to go through the journal's peer review process to be included in the special issue.

For questions or additional information, please contact *Economic Development Quarterly*, edq@upjohn.org, or George Erickcek, EDQ Co-Editor, at erickcek@upjohn.org.

SPONSORS

The conference is sponsored by the W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research, *Economic Development Quarterly*, the Initiative for a Competitive Inner City (ICIC), and the Federal Reserve Banks of Boston, Cleveland, New York, and Philadelphia. The W.E. Upjohn Institute is a private, nonprofit, nonpartisan, independent research organization devoted to investigating the causes and effects of unemployment (www.upjohn.org). The Institute houses EDQ, which is published by Sage Publications, and both are committed to advancing applied research on economic development and workforce development that can inform policy and improve practices on those key topics.

Founded in 1994 by Harvard Business School Professor Michael Porter, the Initiative for a Competitive Inner City is a national, nonprofit research and advisory organization and the leading authority on the economies of U.S. under-resourced communities and the businesses that thrive in them. ICIC drives inclusive economic prosperity in under-resourced communities through innovative research and programs to create jobs, income, and wealth for local residents.

The Federal Reserve Banks of Boston, Cleveland, New York, and Philadelphia are 4 of 12 Reserve Banks that, together with the Board of Governors in Washington D.C. and the Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC), comprise the Federal Reserve System, which was created by Congress to provide the nation with a safer, more flexible, and more stable monetary and financial system. Community development programs across the Federal Reserve System work at the national, regional, and local levels to promote the economic resilience and mobility of low- and moderate-income and underserved individuals, families, and communities.