Request for Policy Briefs

Purdue Global Policy Research Institute
Purdue University
West Lafayette, IN 47906

(Application Forms Due – June 18, 2012)
Applications Reviewed – July 2, 2012
(Final Issue Briefs Due – October 1, 2012)

Purpose

The Purdue University Global Policy Research Institute (GPRI) requests the submission of policy briefs that address pressing public policy issues that are global in scope yet the response could be multi-country, national, or regional. Policy briefs that pass a merit review and are acceptable for publication will be given an incentive award, posted on GPRI’s e-Pubs website, and sent to relevant interested parties (e.g. Congressional staff, agency policy analysts, or S&T journalists).

Policy Briefs Defined

GPRI will present incentive awards for two types of policy briefs: (1) Policy Education Briefs (PEBs) and (2) Research-Informed Policy Briefs (RIBs), which are related to GPRI’s mission and theme areas (see Review Criteria below). These are described below:

• Policy Education Briefs (PEBS)

These are brief papers (up to 4000 words), that (1) pose a challenging global issue, (2) identify viable alternatives for solving/mitigating/or adapting to the issue and (3) describing both positive and negative consequences to each alternative based on rigorous research, analysis or data synthesis. The explication of the issue, alternatives, and consequences should be unbiased and avoid dealing with beliefs or values. They should not attempt to reach a conclusion or a favored option. Ideally, the analyses of consequences will consider salient technical, social, and economic factors. Ethics and legal issues may also enter in but might be better treated in separate, supplementary or complementary papers.

Primary uses of policy education briefs are (1) to address the interests of policy makers, policy analysts, thought leaders and policy implementers (such as government and private sector officials), (2) provide valuable input for Congressional testimonies and briefings, and (3) serve as input to science writers and journalists for op-Ed pieces, news reports, media interviews, and other such purposes.

• Research-Informed Policy Briefs (RIBS)

These briefs are intended to call attention to policy issues that emanate from research and have significant potential public import or interest. They are brief papers (up to 4000 words) that inform, clarify, increase understanding of, or reduce uncertainty about a policy issue based on original research or rigorous interpretation, analysis or synthesis of prior published data or research findings. They may address opportunities, barriers, risks, uncertainty or threats important to policy development and may be a precursor to or complement/supplement a policy education brief (PEB). Ideally, they would increase public visibility of Purdue’s attention to policy issues and the quality of our faculty and research. The format of these briefs differs from that of policy education briefs (PEBS) in that it consists initially of a summary representation of the
research findings and concludes with a summary explication of the salient policy implications.

These briefs are intended to inform policy makers or implementers (such as government and private sector officials), policy analysts, science writers, media reporters or the public at large, especially those affected by the issue(s) presented.

Format

Policy briefs should be written in "jargon-free", easily readable style for non-experts. They should be newsworthy and suitable for (1) use by journalists and other media outlets, (2) listing on the GPRI website and other internet outlets, (3) e-publications issued by the Purdue Libraries, (4) and public presentations, to include Congressional testimony and briefings to government officials. These briefs should not disclose unprotected intellectual properties or proprietary information that may lead to a patent, copyright, or grant.

Assistance

GPRI will provide assistance through expert editing and review. The Institute will also assist in finding public outlets and for presentation. All briefs will be listed on the GPRI web site and issued as an open-source e-publication on the Internet.

Eligibility

The principal author (PI) of a policy brief must be a faculty member from Purdue, West Lafayette. One additional co-author may include a faculty member from Purdue, West Lafayette, or regional campuses, a staff member, post doc or graduate student. Co-authors from different colleges/disciplines are especially encouraged.

Incentive Awards

The principal author for each successfully reviewed brief will be awarded $2,000. One additional co-author will receive $2,000 if an approved faculty member, and $1,000 if a non-faculty member. A maximum of $5,000 will be awarded for policy briefs with three or more co-authors. These incentive award grants are intended to support policy brief development activities that could lead to opportunities for publication or presentation at GPRI-sponsored events in Washington D.C. or Indianapolis or for other purposes specified above.

Application and Submission Process

• **Application:** The deadline for receipt of award applications is **5:00 p.m. E.T., Monday, June 18.** Applications should be sent as a single PDF file attachment to an e-mail message addressed to Angela Phillips Diaz at apdiaz@purdue.edu, GPRI Managing Director. Please use the attached form that includes:
  - Proposal Title
  - Name and affiliation of participants in the project
  - Brief description (no more than one page) describing the problem being addressed, the related pressing policy issue, the multi-disciplinary dimensions of the initiative, targets of interested parties of whom the information contained in the brief would be beneficial, potential outcomes and impacts of the brief, and alignment of the initiative with GPRI’s mission.
• **Policy Brief Details:** The deadline for receipt of briefs will be *5:00 p.m. E.T., October 1, 2012.* Issue briefs should be submitted as a single Word file attachment addressed to Angela Phillips Diaz at apdiaz@purdue.edu.

• **Required outline:**

  *Cover Page*
  *Face page*, including:

  - Policy Brief Title
  - Principal Author and co-authors

  *The Policy Brief* is limited to no more than 4000 words pages, and should be formatted as follows: single-spaced, one-inch margins, and no smaller than 11 font

  *References*

  For authors who seek assistance, we can recommend a template or format, advice, or editorial/writing assistance.

**Proposal Review Criteria (all criteria apply to both briefs unless specifically designated)**

**Technical Criteria:**

- Demonstrated alignment with GPRI goals by addressing an important global policy issue that has high potential outcomes or impacts (required).
- The policy brief is based on a publication(s) or pending publication(s) or specific research and/or analysis specific to the brief (required).

**General Criteria:**

- **Quality:** Must meet high standards of scholarship.
- **Interdisciplinary approach:** Must consider implications with a holistic approach, to include technical, social, and economic factors, as appropriate.
- **Scope:** Must be consistent with the mission of GPRI, which includes connecting Purdue researchers with citizens, policy makers, and members of the media and informing decision-makers with objective research findings in any of GPRI’s seven major areas of focus.
- **Focus Areas and examples:**
  - Agriculture: crop development, food security, and safety
  - Economy: global commerce and development
  - Energy Systems: alternative sources, delivery and efficiencies
  - Environment: climate change, sustainability/water, air, arable land
  - Health: health care engineering, disease and drug research
  - Security: defense, space, and cyber technology
  - Society and Leadership: family, governance and leadership issues

- **Potential Impact:** *Must show promise* of informing policy or decision makers of viable options for addressing important global policy issues or research findings that inform public policy issues.
• *Deliverables:* All publications and materials produced with the funding must acknowledge GPRI, and electronic copies (or summaries, in the case of publications where copyright would otherwise prevent a full copy) must be delivered to GPRI for possible linking to the GPRI e-Pubs web site.

**Contact Information**

Questions about proposal submission should be directed to Angela Phillips Diaz at [apdiaz@purdue.edu](mailto:apdiaz@purdue.edu).
Proposal Title:________________________________________________________

Policy Education Brief  Research-informed Policy Brief

Names and Departments of Authors:______________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________

Brief Description (no more than one page) Describing the Problem Being Addressed: