



**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FY-2019  
RESEARCH ON SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE LEVERAGING  
LAND CONSERVATION**

**RESEARCH THEME**

The Lincoln Institute of Land Policy (“Lincoln Institute”) invites proposals for original research papers and case studies addressing the implementation of sustainable infrastructure projects that utilize land conservation to address challenges at the nexus of environment and development across the globe. Policy-oriented empirical studies and international comparative works are encouraged.

**BACKGROUND**

Countries around the world are facing increasing demand for infrastructure investment. Projections from McKinsey and Company and the World Economic Forum estimate that we will experience \$90 trillion of infrastructure investment in water, energy, transportation, and communications systems over the next several decades, nearly double the value of currently existing infrastructure. At the same time, the impacts of global climate change will intensify and strategies with which to address its outcomes—including sea level rise, extreme weather events, and others—will be urgently needed. One potential solution to merging market demand for more infrastructure with this environmental imperative is leveraging and integrating land conservation into sustainable infrastructure initiatives.

To promote the expanded use of land conservation in sustainable infrastructure efforts globally, we aim to learn more about how individual jurisdictions in countries around the world are developing this kind of sustainable infrastructure. Of equal importance is understanding the intersection of national, regional, and local policies from around the world that work in innovative ways to sync the priorities of infrastructure development with the protection of land and water resources.

A non-exhaustive list of potential topics of interest to the Lincoln Institute in this research area are:

- Cases of sustainable water-related infrastructure projects that utilize upstream land conservation to protect water quality and quantity, manage storm water, or leverage precision conservation techniques
- Cases of sustainable water-related infrastructure projects that help human settlements and natural systems adapt to sea level rise
- Cases of sustainable electric power infrastructure investments that utilize land conservation to avoid disturbance of environmentally sensitive areas or ecosystems
- Cases of sustainable electric power infrastructure projects that integrate open space and/or vegetation management
- Cases of sustainable transportation infrastructure that utilize or create open space or land and water protection and management
- Emerging use of land protection and conservation for natural climate solutions
- Studies assessing and comparing projected financial savings or avoided cost from sustainable infrastructure projects utilizing land conservation to projects using other tools and mechanisms.

**RESEARCH DELIVERABLES – WORKING PAPERS**

Research is expected to result in working papers. Working papers must adhere to the Lincoln Institute’s format and style, appropriate for publication by the Lincoln Institute. Guidelines for working papers will be provided to researchers who are selected for an RFP award.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS**

Applicants will be required to have or be in the process of completing a master’s or PhD in environmental science, management, or engineering; public policy; law; or other related disciplines at the time of submission.

**PROPOSAL EVALUATION**

The Lincoln Institute will evaluate proposals based on the following criteria:

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| Relevance of the research for the advancement of knowledge on the selected topic | 35%         |
| Quality of the proposed methodology and sources of data                          | 35%         |
| Qualifications of the members of the research team                               | 20%         |
| Use of the Lincoln Institute’s databases and research                            | 10%         |
| <b>Total Score</b>   | <b>100%</b> |

**AWARD AMOUNT**

Awards for selected proposals resulting in working papers will be up to \$5,000 USD.

**SCHEDULE FOR RFP**

|  |                         |
|--|-------------------------|
| <i>Deadline for Submission of Proposals Pursuant to RFP:</i>   | <b>December 3, 2018</b> |
| <i>Awards Announced by the Lincoln Institute:</i>              | <b>January 16, 2019</b> |
| <i>Completed First Draft of Papers Due:</i>                    | <b>May 3, 2019</b>      |
| <i>Comments and feedback from Lincoln Institute to authors</i> | <b>May 17, 2019</b>     |
| <i>Final Draft of Papers Due:</i>                              | <b>June 3, 2019</b>     |

## **RFP SUBMISSIONS**

Proposals **must** be filed on-line via the web-based application form, available at the following link: [https://LILP.formstack.com/forms/2019\\_lcp\\_sillc\\_rfp](https://LILP.formstack.com/forms/2019_lcp_sillc_rfp) and must follow the formatting guidelines that appear in the appendix to this RFP. Proposals submitted by email or mail **will not** be accepted. Incomplete proposals, proposals received after the due date, or proposals that do not respect the format defined in the submission link **will not be** accepted.

## **FORMAT OF SUBMISSIONS**

For guidelines regarding the format of submissions to this RFP and final papers, please see the appendix to this RFP.

## **PUBLICATION & DISSEMINATION OF WORKS PRODUCED PURSUANT TO THE RFP**

The works produced from the proposals selected via this process will be considered for inclusion in the Lincoln Institute's website and distance learning platform. The researchers selected through the RFP process will be invited to present the completed works in Lincoln Institute webinars, symposiums, conference, and events.

## **WORK-FOR-HIRE**

The funds awarded under this Request for Proposals are contracted as works-for-hire, and are not permitted to be sub-contracted by recipients to third parties.

## **OWNERSHIP AND THIRD-PARTY COPYRIGHTS**

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## **ABOUT THE LINCOLN INSTITUTE OF LAND POLICY**

The Lincoln Institute of Land Policy seeks to improve quality of life through the effective use, taxation, and stewardship of land. A nonprofit private operating foundation whose origins date to 1946, the Lincoln Institute researches and recommends creative approaches to land as a solution to economic, social, and environmental challenges. Through education, training, publications, and events, we integrate theory and practice to inform public policy decisions worldwide. *The Lincoln Institute is an*

*equal opportunity institution. To learn more about the Lincoln Institute, visit: [www.lincolninst.edu](http://www.lincolninst.edu)*

**PRINCIPAL CONTACT FOR QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS RFP**

For questions regarding this request for proposals, please contact:

**Chandni Navalkha**

Lincoln Institute of Land Policy

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## **APPENDIX TO RFP: FORMATTING GUIDELINES FOR RFP PROPOSALS**

1. **Language:** Proposal submitted pursuant to this RFP must be prepared in English.
2. **Proposal Abstract:** The proposal abstract is fundamental in the assessment of proposals. We encourage all applicants to submit proposals with well written, clear, and compelling abstracts that do not exceed 1,500 characters in length. The proposal abstract must convey the core topic and proposed contribution of the research for which funding is sought. It should clearly convey the context, purpose, relevance and methods of the proposed research topic. Proposals with poorly written or vague abstracts may not pass the first stage of review.
3. **Contact Information and Curriculum Vitae.** Include title of the research and contact information for the lead researcher and all other research participants (include name, title, organization, email, co-author or research collaborator information). All correspondence from the Lincoln Institute will be made with the lead researcher. Please include your Curriculum Vitae / Resume(s), as well as your record of publications (3 pages maximum).
4. **Detailed Budget.** Please outline costs for research assistance, data, fieldwork, travel, etc. **and attach the budget to the proposal form.** Projects that have other sources of financing or will need co-financing should state the expected amount, the sources of co-financing, and any conditions attached to such financing. Please be advised that no overhead or indirect costs may be charged against funds awarded through this RFP.
5. **Calendar of Activities.** Attach to the proposal form an estimate of a work plan with a projected schedule of activities to be completed.
6. **Project Description.** The project description should not exceed 15,000 characters in length. It should identify the following:
  - **Research objective and specific research questions.** Clearly state the purpose and objectives of the working paper, highlighting the main question or case to be addressed. Proposals for working papers without an identifiable and coherent research question or case will not be considered. Specify the relevance of the research topic or case study topic to the sustainable infrastructure leveraging land conservation theme. Highlight and document the contribution your proposal is likely to make to the literature and/or policy debates related to the topic.

- **Theoretical or conceptual framework and main hypotheses to be tested.** Give the conceptual framework that informs the research or case study. List and discuss a maximum of three key works that help situate the proposal clearly and easily within the relevant academic and policy literature.
- **Methodology, sources of empirical data, and data collection strategy.** Present clearly the analytical methods to be used and their relationship to the conceptual framework adopted for the research. Specify sources of empirical data, assurance of access to the data, data collection strategy when warranted, and proposed uses of data to generate and support desired results, if any.
- **Expected results.** Identify and explain the expected outcome(s) of the research and its relevance for policy and knowledge production. What results are expected, why would they be relevant and how would they be disseminated and used?
- **Description of roles and partnerships** (if research involves collaboration with academic institutions, government organizations, private sector, etc.). If applicable, specify the role of each participant in the research team: responsibilities and tasks assigned to the lead researcher and to each research collaborator.