

Financial Inclusion in Kenya

Research Paper Competition



The Central Bank of Kenya (CBK), Financial Sector Deepening Kenya, Kenya National Bureau of Statistics and faculty at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology are collaborating to launch a Research Paper Competition on the topic of Financial Inclusion in Kenya. With the recent launch of the [2021 FinAccess survey](#), we see this competition as a way to encourage use of the FinAccess data for research.

The competition is open to PhD students and faculty at any university. The research paper should be no longer than 15 pages (including references, figures and tables). The paper should address a question in the broad topic area of Financial Inclusion in Kenya. The best five papers will be invited to present their paper at a conference to be held in the last quarter of 2022 in Nairobi, Kenya. We will cover travel costs and accommodation. In addition, the best paper will win the CBK Financial Inclusion Research Prize, which will be a cash prize of \$1000.

Evaluation of the Papers

There will be two rounds to the evaluations of the submitted papers. A first round evaluation team will score all the papers. The top 15 papers will then be evaluated by a panel of senior judges from the Central Bank of Kenya, Kenya National Bureau of Statistics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, University of Nairobi and FSD Kenya.

Timeline: Deadline for papers: July 30th 2022, 11:59 PM EAT

Process: Please submit papers and a CV to financial.inclusion.kenya@mit.edu; and a copy to Finaccess2021@centralbank.go.ke; before the deadline.

Requirements: The paper should use the FinAccess Data in Kenya accessible using this link <https://finaccess.knbs.or.ke/>. Any papers on another country or using entirely a different data set will be immediately excluded from the competition. Of course, the FinAccess Data could be used in conjunction with other datasets.

Page limit: 15 pages inclusive of all references, tables, figures, and appendices. This is a strict page limit. Any papers over the limit will be immediately excluded from the competition.

The paper should be authored by at least one PhD student in economics or a related field or at least one faculty member in economics or a related field at a university. The PhD student or faculty member can be at any university. However, if you have not worked on Kenya, we strongly encourage collaborations with faculty or PhD students who are based in Kenya and who have local expertise and context. Any paper not fitting these author guidelines will be immediately excluded from the competition.

If you have any questions, contact financial.inclusion.kenya@mit.edu.

