

## ABCDE Support Grant

**ABCDE Support Grant (ASG)** is a joint program of the World Bank and the ABCDE host country, providing an opportunity to developing countries participants to take part in the Annual Bank Conference on Development Economics.

The grant aims to ensure that the conference is accessible to **academics, researchers, journalists, parliamentarians and leaders of the civil society** from countries all over the globe.

### History

The ABCDE Support Grant was established by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway and the World Bank at the occasion of the 2002 edition of the ABCDE held in Oslo, Norway. The purpose of the grant was to support participants from developing and transition countries, who would be otherwise unable to attend the conference.

In 2006, 31 participants from Africa, Asia, Latin America and Eastern Europe attended ABCDE as part of the ABCDE Support Grant. In 2005, 34 participants benefited from the Grant.

### Selection Criteria and Eligibility

Applicants must be nationals of and reside in a developing or transition country (please see [list](#) – eligible countries are defined by the World Bank as low income, lower middle and upper middle income). Decisions are based on the applicants' qualifications and their abilities to transfer experience and knowledge gained at the conference to their professional communities upon return home. The decisions of the selection committee are made with a view to ensure a fair gender balance and regional representation. Researchers whose main area of academic interest is the World Bank are especially encouraged to apply. The beneficiaries of the grant are welcome to attend the Annual Meeting of the Researchers' Alliance on Development (RAD) and to join the RAD activities in the future.

The beneficiaries are selected jointly by the World Bank and the host country. In 2007, between 20 and 25 candidates will be awarded the Grant, depending on the quality of applications.

### Conditions

Successful applicants will have their full travel expenses (economy class), visa costs and accommodation (3 star hotel, up to 3 nights) covered during the time of the conference. The ticket will be provided to the grantee and hotel will be booked for him/ her. The participants are responsible for their own visa arrangements, with assistance from the host country, if necessary. Transportation from and to the airport will be provided. Local transportation in the candidate's country of origin will not be covered.

Meals (breakfast, lunch and dinner) will be provided during the time of the conference.

If a candidate needs to stay in the host country (due to lack of other flight options) for a period longer than the conference, a meal allowance will be provided, decided by the host country on the basis of living costs.

Similarly, if a candidate arrives or leaves the host country outside the conference days, the cost of shuttle transportation from and to the airport will be provided.

NB: additional costs such as use of the mini bar or other services at the hotel, or taxi to/ from the airport will not be covered. A meal allowance and shuttle transportation can only be provided for days outside the conference duration for participants who had no other travel option, due to flight availability, and only for this reason.

A candidate wishing to arrive earlier or leave the host country later than the conference days may do so at his/her own expense.

**Deadlines**

Applications for the ABCDE Support Grant 2007 are accepted from January 15 till March 15, 2007. Successful candidates will be announced on the ABCDE Slovenia website on April 2, 2007.