

CALL FOR RESEARCH PROPOSALS

RESEARCH GRANTS ON BANGLADESH INVESTMENT CLIMATE IFC BICF Small Grants Program

Deadline for submission of proposal: 17th July 2008

Deadline for completion of final report: 15th December 2008

Economic Research Group (ERG) and **BMB Mott MacDonald** are implementing a Small Grants Program designed and financed by the **International Finance Corporation (IFC)** Bangladesh Investment Climate Fund (BICF). The Small Grants Program aims to a) support academics and individual researchers interested in undertaking research on investment climate issues across Bangladesh; b) enhance the knowledge base and increase awareness of investment climate issues; and c) provide inputs to policymaking.

IFC BICF will provide grants ranging from US\$ 5,000-15,000 for innovative and relevant in-depth research on any subject relating to the investment climate and better governance in order to promote and improve investment and the business environment in Bangladesh.

Any person, group of people or organisations with adequate qualification for undertaking research on a wide range of issues may apply. Details of these issues are available at www.ergonline.org/ifc.

The deadline for submission of proposals for selection is 17th July 2008, and the short-listed applicants should be prepared to make their presentations on or around 26th July 2008 at a venue in Dhaka. Decisions on final selections will be made by 31st July 2008, and the awardees should be ready to undertake research from 1st August. The first draft of the research report must be submitted by the first week of November 2008.

A full proposal for research should be submitted on or before July 17 2008 by 1800 hours BST at the following address: Economic Research Group, House: 3, Road: 16, Gulshan-1, Dhaka: 1212, Bangladesh. E-mail info@ergonline.org.

Detailed guidelines for submission and relevant evaluation criteria are available at www.ergonline.org/ifc.