“la Caixa” Foundation launches an open and competitive call for high quality social research projects that rely on data to provide robust quantitative evidence and insights about current and emerging social challenges through an original and innovative approach.

1.5 million euros available to be awarded to projects of up to 100,000 euros and up to 24 months duration.

Open to researchers from all disciplines whose research focuses on current or emerging social challenges, shedding light on social phenomena and providing a better understanding or assessment of social issues in the Spanish and/or Portuguese context.

Results orientated funding scheme leading to at least one scientific publication in an indexed journal, a dissemination article for a lay audience and one knowledge brokering activity.

Straightforward application process. Two-stage submission process: 3-page short proposal followed by 15-page full proposal for shortlisted applications.

Timeline

**2021**
- **2nd February** Call opening
- **March - April** Evaluation of short proposals (phase 1)

**2022**
- **24th February** Deadline for short proposals
- **May** Call opening for full proposals
- **June** Deadline for full proposals
- **30th September** Announcement of funded projects
- **March - April** Evaluation of short proposals (phase 1)
- **July - September** Evaluation of full proposals (phase 2)
- **16th-17th September** Interviews
- **January** Start of projects

**Ground-breaking selection process**
- Multidisciplinary panels: Evaluators will come from a range of different fields of knowledge.
- Stakeholders involved: Experts from outside of academia will play an active role in the selection of proposals.
- Thorough assessment: Selected proposals will be assessed by up to 27 independent experts with wide experience in their fields and proven skills in evaluating research proposals.
- Blind-reviewed: Proposals will be anonymous until the final stage in order to foster equal opportunities for the best ideas.

**Evaluation criteria**
- Originality and novelty: Proposals are expected to offer an original perspective, use novel concepts, new methodologies and approaches and/or be cutting-edge in the management of data.
- Social relevance: The proposal must address a relevant social issue(s) bringing significant benefits for society.
- Data-based methodology: Proposals have to rely on quantitative data analysis techniques to produce data-based knowledge and reliable evidence for decision-makers in policy and practice.
- Proven expertise: Project leaders and research teams must clearly show that they have appropriate experience to carry out the proposed project.

**At a glance**
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