CALL FOR RESEARCH PROPOSALS

Mobile money services and platforms
Social and technological infrastructures
Value storage and the facilitation of payments

The Institute for Money, Technology and Financial Inclusion at the University of California, Irvine is soliciting proposals for original scholarly research on mobile money services and platforms, the harnessing of new and existing social and technological infrastructures to promote savings and other forms of value storage and the facilitation of payments at scale for poor people in the developing world.

The Institute specifically encourages proposals that explore: the individual or social client perspective in mobile money systems; the development of new products that use an existing mobile money service; the social and cultural interfaces between new mobile money services and existing savings and money transfer practices. Research will focus on whether and how mobile money, agent networks, or other new systems for money savings and transfer are improving poor people's ability to handle the setbacks and structural conditions that pull them into or keep them in poverty.

Research proposals are especially welcomed that address elements of mobile money as a platform. That is: how is mobile money, as a hardware and software architecture, serving as a foundation for new services and functions? Or, how does it have the potential to do so? For additional information please see the full call at **www.imtfi.uci.edu**

Eligibility: This call for proposals is open to all researchers who work in the developing world. Researchers are encouraged to submit proposals that involve a partnership with universities or other organizations in the developing world.

Submission Guidelines
Proposals must be submitted online at IMTFI's website at www.imtfi.uci.edu. We will not accept emailed proposals. If you cannot submit electronically, you may FAX or mail your proposal via any postal service or courier to the below information:

Questions may be emailed to imtfi@uci.edu.
Telephone inquiries: +1-949-824-2284
FAX: +1-949-824-2285

Deadline for submission: January 9, 2012

Decisions will be announced by mid-March 2012.

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