

Call for Papers



The Yale Research Initiative on Innovation and Scale (Y-RISE) requests paper submissions for the 2026 Conference on the complexities of scaling up policy interventions in global development.

Conference Date: December 17-19, 2026

Location: Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands

Submission Deadline: September 15, 2026, 11:59 PM US ET

Call for Papers

We welcome paper submissions related to the complexities of scaling up effective policies:

- Spillovers, Network and Equilibrium Effects: What are the indirect effects of an intervention on non-beneficiaries as it scales?
- Evidence Aggregation and External Validity: Can we scale with confidence that the selected program will work in a different time or place?
- Macro, Growth and Welfare Effects: What effects would large-scale programs have on growth and the macroeconomy?
- Political Economy Effects: How might large-scale programs change the behavior of government, political leaders and constituents?

For this year's conference, we are placing special focus on questions of implementation. This includes both papers that document and analyze implementation challenges in moving from pilot to scale as well as those that test promising new interventions to facilitate scalability and resolve implementation bottlenecks.

Implementation-related research may address areas such as:

- Non-scalable aspects of pilot evaluation such as implementer human capital or researcher motivation.
- Management, oversight, and administrative burden on implementing agents.
- Changes in outreach, recruitment, and target population in moving from pilot to scale.
- Standardization to facilitate scalability.
- NGOs as local implementers of development policy.
- Implementer identity, local ties, and capacity constraints.
- Collaboration, coordination, and fragmentation across multiple implementers.

Submission process

Submit your paper using this link:

<https://forms.gle/3BihwyP72Ag9cFZg8>

We prefer completed papers but will consider detailed abstracts in PDF format. Please note:

- You can make multiple submissions, but please submit each separately through the submission form.
- The cover page of each submission must include the paper title, abstract, authors, affiliations, and contact information for the applicant.
- The submission form must be completed in full by the deadline to be considered for the conference.

We will notify applicants in early October 2026.

Accommodation and expenses

Y-RISE is pleased to offer accommodation, conference meals, and reimbursement for reasonable economy-class travel expenses for one author per paper. We will reserve rooms at a hotel in the conference location at a discounted group rate.

Please direct any questions regarding this call for papers to yrise@yale.edu.

About Y-RISE

[Y-RISE \(The Yale Research Initiative on Innovation and Scale\)](#) aims to advance the science of scaling policy interventions in global development. We are interested in rigorous research on the complexities of scaling interventions. Y-RISE conducts and supports research: current projects include integration of mental health services into the Bangladesh government's public health system, last-mile healthcare delivery in Sierra Leone, entrepreneurial mindset training in India, climate change adaptation in Bangladesh, school-based gender violence prevention program in Kenya, among others.

The goal of the Y-RISE annual conference is to bring together academic researchers and other stakeholders, e.g., funders, to discuss the latest academic research and issues in scaling complexities.