

Regulations on How to Submit a Proposal for IAB-BAMF-SOEP Survey of Refugees

Researchers from universities or research institutes in Germany or abroad are eligible to submit proposals for the [IAB-BAMF-SOEP-survey](#). The fieldwork takes place from May to September. To be considered in a specific wave, proposals have to be submitted by September 30th of the year prior to the potential implementation of the study at the latest (contact the SOEP Survey team until August 30th). We strive to serve different academic disciplines. We especially prefer short questions or items on the topic of refugees.

Proposals

- Proposals can be submitted by email to the SOEP survey management at: soep-survey-refugees@diw.de
- All proposals must be written in English.
- Proposals can overlap with existing SOEP data in terms of topics and questions (see [questionnaires](#)).
- Proposals should be between 1 and 3 pages long.
- In addition to the main proposal, name, address, affiliation and a short CV with the main publications of the researcher(s) have to be submitted.
- Proposals must clearly state the research question(s) and the specific scientific motivation.
- Proposals must specify the content of the questions.
- Proposals must contain a preliminary version of the complete set of proposed survey questions (also in German if possible).
- If the proposal is accepted, the SOEP survey management will draft versions of the questions which will then be finalized in collaboration with the proposing researchers
- Proposals must contain an estimate of the length of interview time needed for the proposed questions, which should not exceed 5 minutes in total. Proposals with minor response burden (1 or 2 additional minutes) are explicitly welcome.
- The mode of data collection is based on computer-assisted Face-to-Face survey (CAPI) using audio records as well as five different languages.
- The proposal should ideally specify and discuss the potential for subsequent integration in the SOEP-Core sample (although this is not a requirement for the proposal).

Evaluation Criteria

All proposals are evaluated according scientific quality, suitability, feasibility, and costs
Specifically, the following considerations are relevant:

Scientific quality and relevance

- scientific excellence
- Sound analytical framework and empirical design
- novelty in the context of the already existing questionnaires
- relevance for many users of the data
- comparability with other migration or general population surveys of SOEP
- Potential for scientific breakthrough

Suitability for the IAB-BAMF-SOEP survey

- Added value of using a longitudinal household survey should be clarified.
- How does the proposal relate to the core variables (asked each year)?

Feasibility

- Questions must be comprehensible to respondents with different educational and cultural backgrounds.
- Questions must respect the respondents' privacy.
- Questions must go along with research ethics.
- Questions with high efficiency of implementation are preferred.
- Questions with low response burden (1 or 2 additional minutes) are preferred.
- Items (expansions of existing questions, also from other SOEP-Samples) are preferred.

Costs for IAB-BAMF-SOEP Survey

The IAB-BAMF-SOEP Survey is an infrastructure for the international research community. Survey questions from accepted proposals will be introduced into IAB-BAMF-SOEP Survey without any additional costs.

Open Access for Scientific Research Community

The IAB-BAMF-SOEP survey is an infrastructure for the whole research community. The SOEP data are available as open access data for the entire scientific community.

A pre-published analysis of the IAB-BAMF-SOEP Survey data is welcome in the SOEP paper series (if the journal's regulations do not allow this then re-prints are also welcome as alternative).

Decision

(1) All proposers HAVE to contact the SOEP Survey team prior to handing in their proposal by August 30th. Proposals that were submitted without prior consultation with the SOEP Survey team will not be considered.

(2) The Survey team will give a preliminary recommendation of general feasibility of the proposal without evaluating the scientific merit of the study. The IAB-BAMF-SOEP team decides no later than end of August on submitted proposals. To be considered for evaluation and possible implementation in any given year, proposals have to be submitted by September 30th the year prior to the study implementation.

(3) The SOEP Survey team will check the necessity of additional pretests or pilot studies.

(4) Following a final decision of methodological feasibility the IAB-BAMF-SOEP Survey Committee will evaluate the proposal and come to a decision regarding the scientific merit of the research proposal.

(5) Following a positive evaluation, the SOEP survey management will suggest the next possible timing of the IAB-BAMF-SOEP Survey and finalize the necessary field preparations.

(6) The number of proposals to be accepted is not limited. The timing of proposal implementation is at the discretion of the SOEP survey management, according to what is considered to be appropriate in line with other modules, overall content, and burden to respondents.