

Call for proposals: Artificial Intelligence & Data Science for Social Good

Tel-Aviv University center for Artificial intelligence and Data science (TAD), in collaboration with Google, is soliciting proposals for research projects under the general theme of AI & DS for social good. Within this general framework we welcome submissions representing various types of projects and modes of collaboration, including (but not limited to):

- Interdisciplinary Collaborations between core researchers in AI & DS and researchers in various other areas (including social sciences and humanities) on topics that can benefit society.
- Projects initiated by scientists in various academic disciplines who see a major potential in applying AI & DS methodologies to data and problems in their domain, but do not yet have established collaborations with AI core researchers. The proposals may seek the help of the AI & DS Center in performing the research, and in establishing and/or funding appropriate collaborations.
- Core research in AI and DS that advances societal aspects of these areas like privacy, fairness, explainability and more.

Each funded proposal will be awarded a budget of up to 100K NIS per year for up to two years and the submitted projects should be likely to reach a successful outcome in this time frame. There will be a review point after 10 months, and funding for the second year will be conditioned on establishing sufficient progress.

The proposals should include:

1. A short abstract
2. A list of participants + short bio + 3 most relevant publications in the last 5 years for each
3. Required budget and its usage.
 - a. The requested budget should be limited to 100,000 NIS per year
 - b. The awarded budget is likely to be smaller
4. The research proposal (up to two pages)
 - a. A description of the scientific problem
 - b. A description of the AI & DS approach
 - c. A description of the expected impact
5. A statement of ethical compliance, if relevant

Evaluation criteria:

1. Interdisciplinary aspects
2. Interest of the application or expected results, and potential impact on social good
3. Scientific novelty in the relevant domain
4. Interest and novelty of AI & DS component
5. Availability of relevant data (although data collection/curation can be defined as part of the project, if it is in itself challenging and impactful)

6. Feasibility of the AI & DS task
7. The track record of the proposing team

Any ethical aspects which require approval are solely the responsibility of the submitters, and the submitters are required to state and ensure that all approvals will be obtained prior to the implementation of the grant.

Reviewing of the proposals will be performed jointly by the AI & DS Center and Google, and the selected projects may be assigned mentors from either Google or TAU to support the AI & DS aspects of the project.

Please send all requested materials by Sunday, February 28, 2021, as well as any questions about the initiative to datascience@tauex.tau.ac.il.

The Grant winners will be announced in late March 2021.