

**VLAG PhD research proposal**

*PLEASE FILL IN ALL FIELDS INCLUDING APPENDICES*

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

Chair group(s):

Project title:

Start date – end date:

Where will the project be carried out?:

Project flow of funding:

[ ]  1st (internal)

[ ]  2nd (NWO)

[ ]  3rd (external)

Name of funding source:

**Composition of the project team and estimated time involved:**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Role** | **Name and title** | **Daily supervisor?** | **Organisation** | **Hours / week\*** |
| PhD candidate: |  |  |  |  |
| Intended promotor(s): |  | [ ]  |  |  |
| Intended co-promotor(s): |  | [ ]  |  |  |
| Team member / advisor: |  |  |  |  |
| Technician: |  |  |  |  |

\* Please indicate the expected number of hours to be spent on the PhD project, see also relevant remarks in the WGS guide for supervisors, which can be found on the WUR PhD Programme page under [Rules & Regulations](https://www.wur.nl/en/education-programmes/phd-programme/rules-regulations.htm)

**Collaboration**

Universities:

Research Institutes:

Industry:

Government agency:

Others (e.g. FAO, WHO):

**Ethics**

Does the project require action by the Medical Ethical Committee?  Yes [ ]  No [ ]

Does the project require action by the Animal Experiments Committee?  Yes [ ]  No [ ]

*If one of the answers is ‘yes’, please, take care yourself of appropriate submission to the relevant committee and other legal aspects.*

Describe potential ethical dilemmas and considerations regarding this research project (75 – 200 words)

*Ethical dilemmas deal with potential harm to society, people, animals and ecosystems and with the potential (mis)use of research results (*[*link to information on ethical considerations in research design*](https://www.enago.com/academy/what-are-the-ethical-considerations-in-research-design/)*).*

**SUMMARY (150 - 250 words)**

**DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED RESEARCH (2000 - 3000 words)**

Background

Problem formulation and objectives

Innovative aspects

Methodology

Societal relevance

Feasibility of the research

**EMBEDDING OF THE RESEARCH (200 - 300 words)**

How is adequate supervision guaranteed?

How is the execution of the research guaranteed (expertise, facilities, technical assistance)?

Which agreements have been made regarding collaboration with other groups/universities/institutes?

**WORK PLAN (1000 - 1500 words)**

*Detailed work plan and timeline for the first half of the project (including preparation of publications) and a rough work plan and timeline for the second half of the project (including writing of the thesis)*

**DATA MANAGEMENT**

Do you follow the data management policy of the chair group(s)? Yes [ ]  / No [ ]

Are there any additional data management considerations and/or agreements?

When the project involves processing of personal data, also refer to the [privacy & personal data](https://intranet.wur.nl/umbraco/en/about-wur/policy-regulations/privacy-personal-data/) policy and report your project if it is not registered in SmartPIA with a project number.

**RESOURCES (100 – 150 words)**

*Describe arrangements (if applicable) with respect to resources that have been made to make the research possible (think of consumables, analyses, equipment, conference visits etc)*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Total costs (€) | To be financed by: |
| PhD salary / grant |  |  |
| Other personnel |  |  |
| Consumables / fieldwork |  |  |
| Equipment |  |  |
| PhD training and education  | <enter amount, minimum of €3500 for the 4-year period> | <enter source, typically this is your chair group> |

All requirements (personnel and equipment) are available and/or arranged:

Yes [ ]  / No [ ]

If not, please explain:

**SIGNATURES (this form needs to be signed by the PhD candidate as well as all supervisors)**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **PhD candidate** | **Promotor(s)** | **Co-promotor(s)** |
| Name: | Name: | Name: |
| Date: | Date: | Date: |
|  |  |  |
|  | Name: | Name: |
|  | Date: | Date: |
|  |  |  |

***Please send the PDF of the signed VLAG PhD research proposal by email to the VLAG Office (******vlag@wur.n******l) no later than 6 months after the start of the PhD project.***

**Appendix 1: References**

**Appendix 2: Suggestions for independent reviewers**

*VLAG will collect feedback on the proposal from one reviewer, as suggested by the supervisory team. The reviewer should not be part of the research groups of the members of the supervisory team and should not be involved in the PhD project. The reviewer will be asked to evaluate the proposal from the perspective of a senior mentor.*

*In most cases, the reviewer is a VLAG colleague from a neighbouring chair group or research institute, or if that is judged more appropriate, another WUR researcher.* *To avoid unnecessary delays, VLAG office will approach an expert from the same group in case of limited availability of the suggested three reviewers.*

o The project team does not agree with VLAG Office approaching an internal WUR expert as described above.

*In exceptional cases, supervisory teams prefer a non-WUR reviewer (e.g. VLAG alumnus). A non-WUR reviewer can only be nominated after having confirmed to the supervisory team to be willing to do so. In this case, it is enough to nominate only one reviewer.*

o The project team confirms that suggested external reviewer has agreed to review the research proposal within three weeks after receipt of the proposal.

Reviewer 1

Name + title:

Organisation:

Area of expertise:

e-mail:

Reviewer 2

Name + title:

Organisation:

Area of expertise:

e-mail:

Reviewer 3

Name + title:

Organisation:

Area of expertise:

e-mail: