**PhD Project Proposal form for approval**

**by the WIMEK Graduate School**

*Please upload the signed PDF of the WIMEK PhD Project Proposal in Hora Finita*

*no later than* ***6 months*** *after the start of the PhD project.*

1. **GENERAL INFORMATION**

*The WIMEK PhD proposal is written by the PhD candidate in consultation with and feedback from the supervisory team. After submission in Hora Finita, the proposal is sent out for review by WIMEK.*

*The reviewers are asked to evaluate the proposal on:*

* *Scientific quality: Clarity of writing, originality, methodological approach, use of existing knowledge, scientific perspectives and societal relevance*
* *Feasibility: Work plan, realisation of objectives, use of equipment/techniques, supervision and cooperation with others*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Full name of the PhD candidate |  |
| Email address of the PhD candidate |  |
| Project duration (dd/mm/yyyy) | From to  |
| Main WIMEK research group |  |
| Other WUR research groups involved |  |

1. **SUPERVISORS, SUPPORT AND COLLABORATION**

**2a. Supervisors and support**

*List all staff members involved in the proposed research: provide name, titles and type of involvement, e.g. promotor, co-promotor, daily supervisor, technician, advisor*

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name and title** | **Specialization** | **Organisation / Institute** | **Involvement** | **Supervision per week (hr)** |
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**2b. Collaboration both national and international**

*With which other organisations outside WUR will co-operation take place? In what way does it add to the research? Is the project affiliated with national or international research programmes? In case of Sandwich PhDs, is supervision in the country where the research will be performed adequate? Please specify which agreements have been made.*

**2c. Will the project be executed (partly) outside The Netherlands? Yes / No**

*If yes specify*

1. **TITLE, KEYWORDS AND SUMMARIES**

**3a. Project title:**

*Formulate the project title as concisely and specifically as possible*

**3b. Keywords (3 – 5):**

*Please mention the main 3 – 5 keywords, which are specific or characteristic for your PhD project.*

**3c. Popular summary of the research project (max 100 words):**

*This summary can be used as description of your PhD proposal at the WIMEK website. It should be inspiring and understandable for higher educated people outside your field of study.*

**3d. Scientific summary of the research project (max 250 words):**

*This brief summary should explain the title of the research project and present a sound view of the main objectives, design and expected results of the PhD research*

1. **DESCRIPTION OF THE RESEARCH PROJECT**

(for question 4 a - f, use a maximum of 2500 words, references in annex)

**4a. Problem definition and research objectives**

*The problem definition provides a concise description of the problem setting. The problem definition has to be translated into one or more research objectives. Problem definition and objectives should be as specific as possible. The research objectives clearly state the different questions to which the results of the research should provide an answer.*

**4b. Scientific approach / methodological design**

*Here the question is addressed how the research objectives are met. The methodological design provides a clear description of the methods and research techniques that are going to be used to meet the different research objectives. So what methodology and methods are going to be used to answer the different research questions?*

**4c. Work plan and time schedule**

*Present a detailed work plan for the first year of the research project with smart objectives and a rough work plan for the overall PhD project.*

**4d. Type of publications to be expected**

*Mention here the outline of the expected scientific publications based on the research results.*

**4e. Scientific significance / innovative aspects**

*Under scientific significance a description is given of the innovative aspects and motivated how the problem definition and research objectives follow from already available research results, knowledge and questions (the literature). What does the research add to the already existing scientific literature?*

**4f. Societal relevance (valorisation and dissemination of results)**

*What is the relevance of the research outcome(s) for current environmental and sustainability issues? What are the main stakeholders which may be interested in the results of your PhD research? How are these stakeholders involved during the PhD research? In what way will the dissemination of the results take place to stakeholders and society?*

1. **FEASIBILITY**

**5a. Relevant publications of the supervisors and research group**

*Mention five publications of the supervisors and/or research group related to the problem definition and research objectives. This question addresses the feasibility of the research. Is the background of the research group such that the supervision can be adequate?*

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

**5b. Data availability**

*Is data availability guaranteed? Does the research make use of available data sources or will data be collected using surveys, interviews, etc. Is it feasible to collect the data within the timeframe of the PhD project? Are there challenges taken into account considering the data collection? How representative are these data?*

**5c. Financial arrangements**

*Please specify and explain the budget for the PhD project*

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Research costs (k€)** | **Year 1** | **Year 2** | **Year 3** | **Year 4** |
| Equipment |  |  |  |  |
| Consumables |  |  |  |  |
| Fieldwork |  |  |  |  |

1. **DATA MANAGEMENT**

*This section outlines the data management plan (DMP) and must include:*

* *Data storage: both short term and long term*
* *Data ownership: issues with respect to ownership of data produced in this project or external data used for this project*
* *Data sharing: agreement on who will have access to and use the (un)published data*
* *Data management: who will be responsible for the data management after finalisation of your PhD*

*This section may include references to the more detailed full DMP and can also refer to the data management protocol (i.e. at the level of a chair group). The full DMP should be uploaded in Hora Finita and be approved by your first promotor.*

1. **ETHICAL DILEMMAS**

*Describe potential ethical dilemmas regarding this research project. Ethical dilemmas, considerations and decisions should play an important role in the programming of research proposals. Ethical dilemmas deal with potential harm to society, people, animals and ecosystems and with the potential use or misuse of research results. All scientific research (non-medical) involving human participants requires ethical review by the WUR Research Ethics Committee (REC). Approval from the REC should be obtained before the start of the study (i.e. any involvement of human participants).*

1. **REVIEWERS**

*Please provide the names and contact details of two confirmed reviewers who are in no way involved in the project. The PhD candidate and supervisory team are responsible for finding and securing the reviewers. At least one of the reviewers has to be from outside WUR. The proposal will be sent to the reviewers by WIMEK to assure the integrity of the process.*

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **#** | **Name + title** | **Organisation** | **Email address** |
| **1.** |  |  |  |
| **2.** |  |  |  |

1. **SIGNATURES**

*Please verify that the PhD candidate and promotor have read and accepted the latest version of this project proposal. All researchers at WUR must read and have to adhere to the Netherlands Code of Conduct for Research Integrity and the integrity code of WUR. By signing the proposal form you declare and promise that you will adhere to both integrity codes.*

 PhD candidate Promotor

 Name: Name:

 Date: Date:

***Annex 1***

**Literature / References (bibliographic)**