

**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**

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

*Ethical dilemmas deal with the design, execution and outcomes of the research project and its effect on e.g. society, people, animals and ecosystems. Follow this* [*link to information on ethical considerations in research design*](https://www.enago.com/academy/what-are-the-ethical-considerations-in-research-design/) *for some illustrative examples. It is important to present your own considerations clearly and transparently*:

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

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

Does the project require action by the WUR Research Ethics 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.*

**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?

All requirements (think of financial resources for personnel, consumables, analyses, equipment, conference visits etc.) are available and/or arranged:

Yes  / Not yet

If not, please explain:

**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.

**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 submit your signed VLAG PhD research proposal in Hora Finita no later than 6 months after the start of the PhD project.***

**Appendix 1: References**

**Appendix 2: Suggestions for independent reviewers**

Please provide name, affiliation, expertise, and email address of two reviewers with relevant expertise.

The supervisory team is required to contact one of these reviewers in advance and ensure commitment to completing the review within two weeks after receipt of the proposal from VLAG Office.

The reviewers should not be part of the research groups of the members of the supervisory team and should not be involved in the PhD project. 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. In exceptional cases, supervisory teams prefer a non-WUR reviewer (e.g. VLAG alumnus).

VLAG will collect feedback on the proposal from one reviewer. The reviewer will be asked to evaluate the proposal from the perspective of a senior mentor.

The project team confirms that reviewer 1 has agreed to review the research proposal within two weeks after receipt of the proposal. (*Please, tick the box to confirm*)

Reviewer 1 (preferred, confirmed)

Name + title:

Organisation:

Area of expertise:

email:

Reviewer 2 (backup, in case reviewer 1 is unable to contribute after all)

Name + title:

Organisation:

Area of expertise:

email:

Additional option:

To avoid unnecessary delays , VLAG office will approach an expert from the same group in case of non-response of the suggested reviewers.

The project team does not agree with VLAG Office approaching an internal WUR expert from the same group in case of non-response of the suggested reviewers.