

### **Guidelines for preparation of a research proposal**

Proposal of **approximately 1600\*** (a typical page 12-point font will be approximately **500** words) providing clear outlines of the intended research organized under the following headings:

1. **Title of the project.** (**≈ 15 words**)
  - Should be short & clear, to reflect the intentions of the research and the study site (if relevant).
2. **Goal of the project and rationale** (**≈ 100 words**)
  - Broad statement of what you wish to accomplish, why is it important and what is the expected impact.
3. **Specific objectives.** (**≈ 100 words**)
  - Steps to accomplishing the goal.
  - Use quantifiable terms.
  - State outcomes not process.
  - Identify the target community being served.
4. **Background.** (**≈ 600 words**)
  - What is the problem that you want to address?
  - and its magnitude?
  - Example of previous work done in the specific line of research.
  - Ends with the specific question under investigation and justification for the research to be done.
5. **Methods and study design** (**≈ 700 words**)
  - Approach and study design.
  - Methods (variables tested) should be clearly linked to the specific objectives.
  - How the data will be analysed, and how the analyses can answer the research question.
6. **Feasibility of the project.** (**≈ 100 words**)
  - Available facilities that will be used for the project.
  - Equipment.
  - Technical support.
7. **Timeline of activities**
  - Dates for completion of major tasks of the proposed research (to be completed within 3 semesters).
8. **References (up to 10 Refs)**

List the references used (**Harvard format**).

*\*Suggested number of words is for advice to provide concise research outlines without eluding to unnecessarily details.*