**PhD PROPOSAL TEMPLATE**

1. **Details of the PhD Candidate**
2. Title:
3. Names:
4. Gender:
5. Department *(If applicable)*:
6. School *(If applicable)*:
7. College *(If applicable)*:
8. Email Address and Telephone:
9. Field of Specialization (*masters*):

**B. Project information**

1. Title of the Project:

[Instructions](https://nrfsubmission.nrf.ac.za/NrfMkII/Application/DetailsOfResearchCapture.aspx?SubSection=295&TemplateSectionId=17734)

*(The Title of the Project is restricted to a maximum of 20 words, indicating the essence of the project.*

1. Project Abstract:

[Instructions](https://nrfsubmission.nrf.ac.za/NrfMkII/Application/DetailsOfResearchCapture.aspx?SubSection=295&TemplateSectionId=17734)

*(The Project Abstract is restricted to a maximum of 250 words (including spaces))*

1. **Details of Proposed PhD Research Project**
2. **Details of Research: Background and Problem Statement**

[Instructions](https://nrfsubmission.nrf.ac.za/NrfMkII/Application/DetailsOfResearchCapture.aspx?SubSection=131&TemplateSectionId=17731)

*(The section is restricted to a maximum of 500 words (including spaces) (The "research problem statement” refers to an area of concern, a condition to be improved upon, a challenge to be explored, a difficulty to be alleviated, or a scholarly question that requires further investigation)*

1. **Details of Research: Rationale and Literature Review** [Instructions](https://nrfsubmission.nrf.ac.za/NrfMkII/Application/DetailsOfResearchCapture.aspx?SubSection=872&TemplateSectionId=17737)

*(The section is restricted to a maximum of 3,000 words (including spaces))*

* *The rationale for the research is a set of reasons offered by a researcher for conducting more research into a particular subject.*
* *A literature review is an account of what has been published on a topic by accredited scholars and researchers. It is a review of existing corpus of literature to affirm/amplify diverse theoretical underpinnings.*

1. **Details of Research: Aim and Objectives**

[Instructions](https://nrfsubmission.nrf.ac.za/NrfMkII/Application/DetailsOfResearchCapture.aspx?SubSection=873&TemplateSectionId=17738)

* *The section is restricted to a maximum of 200 words (including spaces). Aim is the broad statement of the desired outcome(s) which paints a picture of an envisaged research project.*
* *The objectives of the research provide an accurate description of the specific actions the researcher intends to take in accomplishing the research aim.*

1. **Details of Research: Methodology and Proposed Research Plan**

[Instructions](https://nrfsubmission.nrf.ac.za/NrfMkII/Application/DetailsOfResearchCapture.aspx?SubSection=874&TemplateSectionId=17739)

* *The section is restricted to a maximum of 5,000 words (including spaces). The research methodology describes the rationale for the application of specific procedures or techniques used to identify, select, collect and analyse information applied to understand the research problem, thereby, allowing the reader to critically evaluate a study’s overall validity and reliability.*
* *Please ensure that a full proposed research plan outlining activities, who will be involved in each activity, where they will be done (with details of how many individuals / samples / sites etc.) and timelines is included* *in this section and this* *should substantiate the requested budget.*

1. **Details of Research: Anticipated Outputs & Publication Manuscripts**

[Instructions](https://nrfsubmission.nrf.ac.za/NrfMkII/Application/DetailsOfResearchCapture.aspx?SubSection=878&TemplateSectionId=17742)

*The section is restricted to a maximum of 3,000 words (including spaces). This refers to the envisaged output ("product") of the research project in line with the research objectives and may take the form of publications, data, patents, artefacts, prototype.*

1. **Alignment to UR Research Clusters and SDGs**

[Instructions](https://nrfsubmission.nrf.ac.za/NrfMkII/Application/NationalImperativesAlignment.aspx?SubSection=979&TemplateSectionId=17747)

*The section is restricted to a maxim of 500 words (including spaces). This is a requirement to outline how this study will contribute/is aligned to one or more of UR research clusters and SDGs.*

1. **Details of Research: Data Management and Utilisation**

[Instructions](https://nrfsubmission.nrf.ac.za/NrfMkII/Application/DetailsOfResearchCapture.aspx?SubSection=341&TemplateSectionId=17735)

*The section is restricted to a maximum of 1,000 words (including spaces). It provides a summary of data to be collected, tools/software that will be used to collect, compile and manage data for the project.*

1. **Details of Research: Potential Impact**

[Instructions](https://nrfsubmission.nrf.ac.za/NrfMkII/Application/DetailsOfResearchCapture.aspx?SubSection=295&TemplateSectionId=17734)

*The section is restricted to a maximum of 3,000 words (including spaces). “Impact” refers to both the tangible and intangible influence derived and/or caused by the research outcomes/outputs. “Impact” statements indicate who will benefit (directly and indirectly) from this research. In addition to this, it is required that successful applications show considerations of potential societal, economic and/ or environmental impact.*

*How will these groups benefit from this research? Evidence of specific plans for active dissemination will be required here. How will the various proposed impacts be measured?*

1. **References**

[Instructions](https://nrfsubmission.nrf.ac.za/NrfMkII/Application/DetailsOfResearchCapture.aspx?SubSection=295&TemplateSectionId=17734)

*Referencing styles as approved by UR can be found on page 5 of the document on the following link:*

* <http://dr.ur.ac.rw/bitstream/handle/123456789/445/GUIDELINES%20ON%20ACADEMIC%20WRITING%20AT%20THE%20UNIVERSITY%20OF%20RWANDA.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>

1. **Data Storage (***If applicable***)**

[Instructions](https://nrfsubmission.nrf.ac.za/NrfMkII/Application/DetailsOfResearchCapture.aspx?SubSection=295&TemplateSectionId=17734)

*The section is restricted to a maximum of 1,000 words (including spaces). State clearly how data will be accessed (authorization) and protected.*

1. **Ethical Clearance (***If applicable***)**

[Instructions](https://nrfsubmission.nrf.ac.za/NrfMkII/Application/DetailsOfResearchCapture.aspx?SubSection=295&TemplateSectionId=17734)

*The section is restricted to a maximum of 500 words (including spaces).*

* *Does this project require ethical clearance?*
* *Has Ethical Clearance been obtained?*
* *Additional Comments on Ethical Clearance.*

1. **Timeline and activities**

*The section is dedicated to PhD roadmap with timeline aligned with proposed activities.*