

RESEARCH PROPOSAL TEMPLATE

Expand the spaces provided in the form to fit. Delete explanations. The final proposal should be in Times New Roman font 12 in double spacing format.

TITLE: *(A good title should be short, accurate, and concise. It should make the central objectives and variables of the study clear to the reader (reviewer). The title provides the key words for the initial classification and indexing of the project. If it is possible, without undue length, the title can give a preview of the protocol. It is important to specify what population to be investigated for example: Effects of a program for nutritional supplementation on malaria morbidity: Longitudinal study of children under 5 years in hyper-endemic area for malaria in Sudan.)*

Student's name

Student's registration number

Year

DECLARATION

This report is my original work and has not been presented in any institution leading to the award of a degree or any other award.

Sign..... Date.....

Student's Name

I confirm that this proposal was written by the above named student and has been submitted with our approval as supervisor.

Name:

Sign Date

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ADSTRACT

(Should be written as one continuous paragraph not exceeding 350 words)

(The function of the abstract is to describe succinctly every major aspect of the proposed research. The abstract should give a brief background to the reader and indicate the problem statement as well as the central question that the research is intended to answer and its justification. It should specify the hypotheses (if applicable) and the main research objective. It should describe the study design. In addition, the abstract should briefly describe the methods and procedures to be used in the project identify the significance of the outcome.)

1.0 INTRODUCTION

(The introduction section includes all of the sections listed below)

1.1 Background Information

(Provide important background information and context of the topic to be investigated. It describes how the research will add to the existing body of knowledge.)

1.2 Statement of the Problem

This constitutes the basis of the need for research to generate further knowledge that will contribute to existing knowledge. The statement must be written in a way that gives an empirical basis to describe the situation and also clearly specifies the gaps in existing knowledge and/or controversy and inconclusive evidence. It is at this point the investigator defines the objective of study and conveys the questions or broader issues motivating the research. A logical sequence for presenting the statement would be:

- Magnitude, frequency and distribution: Affected geographical areas and population groups affected by the problem. Ethnic and gender considerations.
- Probable causes of the problem: What is the current knowledge of the problem and its causes? Is there consensus? Is there controversy? Is there conclusive evidence?
- Possible solutions: in what ways have solutions to be problem been attempted? What has been proposed? What are the results?
- Unanswered questions: what remains to be answered? What areas have been possible to understand, determine, verify or test?

The problem statement should make a convincing argument that there is not sufficient knowledge available to explain the problem and its determine possible solutions, or it should make a convincing argument for the need to test what is known and taken as fact if it is called into question by new findings or conditions.

The discussion in this section should show that the investigator has documented this problem and performed an exhaustive bibliographic review of the subject.

1.3 Justification

This describes the type of knowledge expected to be obtained upon completion of the project and the intended application of the results. It should indicate the strategy for disseminating and implementing the research. The justification should answer questions such as:

- How does the research relate to the national priorities or those of the Region?
- What knowledge and information will be obtained?
- What is the ultimate purpose that the knowledge obtained from the study will serve?
- How will the results be disseminated?
- How will the results be used and who will be the beneficiaries?

The justification, which can be included as part of the statement of the problem or in a separate section, should make a convincing argument that the knowledge generated will have a practical value.

1.4 Research Questions

(The research questions are linked to the specific objectives)

1.5 Hypothesis

(The Hypothesis (if any) is linked to the study title. Descriptive studies do not require hypotheses. Descriptive studies are also known as hypothesis generating studies (Grimes and Schulz, 2002.)

1.6 Objectives

(The objectives stated must be specific, measurable realistic and attainable within the given time frame)

1.6.1 General Objective

It is linked to the study title. The objective should specify what kind of knowledge the study is expected to obtain. It should give a clear notion of what is to be described, determined, identified, compared and, in the cases of studies with working hypotheses, confirmed.

Example

1. To verify the differences in the malaria morbidity in children under 5 when they participate in the nutritional supplementation program as compared to those who do not participate.

1.6.2 Specific Objectives

These disaggregate and follow logically from the general objective. They are a preliminary view of the research design. Each specific objective is designed to measure the listed research questions.

Examples

1. To estimate the incidence of malaria in children covered by the nutritional supplementation program and the incidence of malaria in that receive standard nutrition.

2. To determine the existence of statistically significant differences in the incidence of malaria in the group of children who receive standard nutrition and the group receiving nutritional supplementation.

3. To identify the protective factors that help to explain the differences in the incidence of malaria according to the type of supplementation received.

2.0 LITERATURE REVIEW

(Given an up to date, relevant literature and scholarly knowledge in the field of the proposed project)

This is derived from the statement of the problem (presentation of empirical evidence and central question) and is the argument that the research question has a basis (grounds) for providing a probable answer(s) to the question.

- Establishment of relationships (identification of the relationships between the independent variable and the response variables). What is known and how has it been explained? Are the results conclusive? What are the bases for the question?
- How are the possible answers to the question explained and defended? What are the assumptions? What are the relationship? What are the working hypotheses?

The theoretical framework, considered the grounds that support the central question of the study, states the investigator's reasoning and arguments for the project to find the evidence that will answer the research question and/or hypothesis. It requires an exhaustive bibliographic review.

3.0 MATERIALS AND METHODS

(Provide clear descriptions of the scientific methodologies that will be used in this research, indicating statistical methods, experimental designs and analysis to be used etc.)

3.1 Study Site

3.2 Study Design

(Summarise the study design in one short sentence. The type of study and its design should be decided on the basis of its appropriateness to the objectives, the availability of resources and in some cases, ethical considerations.)

3.3 Study Population

(Selection of the study population should be guided by the research question.)

3.3.1 The Inclusion Criteria

(The inclusion criteria should be determined by scientific and ethical criteria, rather than convenience. Exclusion purely on the basis of age should always be avoided.)

3.4 Sample Size Determination

(Indicate the procedure and criteria used and justify the selection and size.)

3.5 Sampling Method

(The Statistical sampling methods should be described.)

3.6 Laboratory Procedures

(This section must describe in detail the procedures to be used to control the factors that undermine the validity or reliability of the results. Procedures or techniques that are standardized and/or documented in the literature should be described briefly and bibliographic references should be given to sources where the details of these procedures and techniques can be found.)

The protocol should have an annex containing the instruments that will be used (Kit inserts, questionnaires, interview guides, Moderator guides, registration forms, etc.)

3.7 Data Management

(State what procedures will be used for data management, including data coding, monitoring and verification. Also describe the administrative and computer procedures to be used, the type of staff available and whether any training will be needed to facilitate data management. In addition, briefly describe the software packages that will be used.)

3.8 Limitations of The Study

3.9 Data analysis and Presentation

(An analysis plan is based on the proposed objectives and the types of variables, the investigator should specify how the variables will be measured and how they will be presented (quantitative and/or qualitative), indication the analytical models and techniques (statistical, non-statistical, or analytical techniques for non-numeric data, etc.)

3.10 Ethical Considerations

When the research involves human subjects, this section should explicitly provide for the following aspects;

- The know benefits and risks or disadvantages for the subjects in the study.
- Exact description of the information to be delivered to the subjects of the study and when it will be communicated orally or in writing. Examples of this information include: the objectives and purposes of the study, any experimental procedures, and known short- or long-term risks, possible discomforts, expected benefits of the procedure used, duration of the studies, alternative methods for treatment if the study is a clinical trial, suspension of the study if a finding is made of negative study and the freedom of subjects to withdraw from the study whenever they want.
- When appropriate indicate any special incentive or treatment that subjects will receive through their participation in the study. If there is any type of remuneration specify the amount, method of delivery time and reason why payment is required.
- Indicate how the information obtained from participants in the study will be kept confidential.
- List the drugs, vaccines, diagnoses, procedures, or instruments to be used, whether they are registered, unregistered, new or currently in use in the country.

Moreover, responses are required for other ethical aspects such as:

- In studies where personal information will be obtained from the subjects, indicate how the information will be confidential.
- For studies involving the participation of subjects in an experiment (experimental or quasi-experimental trials, studies of interventions, etc.), information should be provided on the free and informed consent of the participants and the strategy that will be used to obtain it.
- Brief synopsis of how the inclusion as appropriate, of children, the elderly, physical challenged, and pregnant women. Justify the non-inclusion in the study group, if appropriate, of women (of any age), an ethnic minority, racial group, etc.
- When appropriate, indicate how the appropriate balance of the two sexes will be ensured in the study groups. In addition, indicate, when appropriate, how gender inequities and discrimination and disadvantages can affect women's involvement in the research.

When studies involve human subjects, an institutional ethics committee in the country or institution where the research will be conducted should evaluate and endorse the research, before it is funded. For this purpose, the form for research involving human subjects would be filled out and care should be taken to attach the informed consent form that will be signed by the subjects involved in the study.

WORK PLAN

(Identify project activities and the tasks that will be performed to complete the work in the following format.)

Task	Year 1			
	Q1	A2	Q3	Q4
Activity 1	[Redacted]			
Activity 2	[Redacted]		[Redacted]	
Activity 3			[Redacted]	
Activity 4				
Activity 5				
Activity 6				

BUDGET

5.1 Expendable supplies **Cost
Ksh/US\$)**

5.2 Equipment (specify the items.) Sub-total

5.3 Documentation Sub-total

5.4 Local travel Sub-total

5.5 Extra Personnel Sub-total

5.6 Other costs (*clearly specify*) Sub-total
Miscellaneous

Sub-total

TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET (KSHS/US\$)

REFERENCES

(See appended information on citation of references in the text and format for listing references cited.)