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| **QNRF – MME – Food Security Call** |
| |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **FS Proposal ID** |  | | | | **Project title in English** |  | | | | **Project title in Arabic (optional)** |  | | | | **Type of Application** |  | | | | **Type of research** |  | | | | **Research Priority Area** |  | | | | **Submitting Institution** |  | | | | **Lead PI (title, name, position, Institution)** |  | | | | **List of participants (Co-LPI/ PIs’ names, collaborative institutions, residency)** | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | PI name | PI Institution | PI residency | | Enter PI name | Enter PI institution | Enter PI residency | |  |  |  | |  |  |  | | | | | **Co-Funding** | (list co-funders here:) | | | | **Total funding requested** | USD | **Project duration** | months | |

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**Before submitting this document:**

* Remove all the instructions in red.
* Update the table of contents (right click on table of contents🡪 Update Field🡪 Update the entire table).
* This document must not exceed **25 pages** **excluding cover page, table of contents and references**, body of text in regular black Arial font size 11, single space and the margins as identified in the template (no less than 0.5 inches).
* Make sure that the information in the cover page above is matching the information entered on QGrants.

*The sections are MANDATORY (unless marked “if applicable”). It is recommended that proposals follow the sub-sections indicated in the template. However, applicants are free to adapt the structure of the sub-sections according to the project’s needs. Applications that do not comply with the instructions may not be accepted for review.*

**Research Plan**

0. PROPOSAL SUMMARY

*Please describe in up to 6,000 characters the nature of the proposed research. This should be in plain English and should cover the following items: What are the scientific objectives and innovations of this project? What does the project-team plan to do? How will the project-team do it? What are the expected outcomes? What will be the expected impact of this project?*

1. REBUTTAL (if applicable)

If this proposal is a resubmission, include here the questions & responses to previous peer reviewers’ comments and identify the substantive changes incorporated in the research plan.

In addition, LPIs resubmitting proposals must point out in the body of this research plan (e.g. in bold type, line in the margin, underlining, italic, etc.) all revisions and modifications made in response to the PRs’ comments.

1. OBJECTIVES AND SIGNIFICANCE
   1. SCIENTIFIC OR TECHNICAL OBJECTIVES

Describe the overall research proposal. Explain the main aim(s) or hypothesis of the proposed research. Anchor the proposal to the relevant literature.

*If applicable, please indicate the Technology Readiness Level (TRL) that you plan to achieve within the scope of this FS project. Please refer to the list of Technology Readiness Levels at* [*link*](http://www.qnrf.org/en-us/Funding/Research-Programs/National-Priorities-Research-Program-NPRP)*.*

* 1. PRELIMINARY DATA OR STUDIES

Provide details on preliminary data related to this proposal and on related research projects (ongoing or previous) by members of the research-team, including QNRF projects (if any). Indicate any outputs (patents, publications, products, data sets, etc.) obtained from those projects.

* 1. ALIGNMENT TO FS RESEARCH PRIORITY AREAS

Provide a strong rationale justifying the alignment of your proposal with either a FS research priority area.

1. METHODOLOGY AND PROJECT STRUCTURE
   1. METHODOLOGY

Clearly describe and explain the overall methodology, methods or scientific plan, including any tools to be used. Avoid duplication with the section 2.4.

* 1. RESEARCH PLAN REQUIREMENTS REGARDING PROTECTION OF HUMAN SUBJECTS AND/OR ON THE VERTEBRATE ANIMAL CARE AND USE.

*A Protection of Human Subjects section of the Research Plan is required for all applications proposing human subjects research. To assist in preparing the section on Protection of Human Subjects, possible scenarios on human subject involvement in research are provided in the “Research Ethics and Regulatory Requirements” document at [*[*link*](https://www.qnrf.org/en-us/Funding/Research-Programs/National-Priorities-Research-Program-NPRP)*]. All research projects will fall into one of these scenarios.*

*For all scenarios, applicants must provide sufficient information to allow the reviewers to determine if the designation of human subjects involvement is appropriate. The proposed research must meet all the requirements of applicable Ministry of Public Health policies for the protection of human subjects from research risks, and data and safety monitoring (when applicable).*

*An overview of the information that must be included in the Research Plan for activities involving the care and use of vertebrate animals is provided here [*[*link*](https://www.qnrf.org/en-us/Funding/Research-Programs/National-Priorities-Research-Program-NPRP)*].*

* 1. PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Indicate the organizational aspects of the proposal and the methods of coordination between the various collaborators (how they will meet and communicate).

* 1. TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION BY WORK PACKAGE

The WPs represent the main phase of the project. Their number is limited, usually about 3 to 6 in FS proposals. It is recommended to have one WP for project management and one for communication and exploitation of the results. If the proposal involves research with human subjects or research with vertebrate animals, the work must be described by jurisdiction and for all the institutions engaged in research as defined by the Ministry of Public Health [see [link](https://research.moph.gov.qa/en/Pages/Regulations.aspx?csrt=302797880648281703)] Please note that obtaining institutional ethical committee(s) review and approval is a regulatory requirement not a deliverable.

If relevant, provide a diagram showing the organization of the WPs among themselves (technical flow chart).

For each WP describe:

* the objectives if any,
* the responsible person and the PIs involved,
* the detailed work program (a few lines per tasks, etc.),
* the deliverables (tangible outcomes produced by the WPs or by the tasks),
* the contributions of the main participants (Who does what?, PIs, post-docs, PhD/graduate students),
* a description of the methods and technical choices and the way in which solutions will be achieved,
* the risks and the back-up solutions envisaged,
* the performance site.
  + 1. **WP1:**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Work package number** |  | **Start Month** | | |  | **End Month** | | |  | |
| **Work package title** |  | | | | | | | | | |
| **Name of participant** | *Name 1* | | *Name 2* | *….* | | *….* | *….* | *….* | | *Name 7* |
| **Effort days per participant:** | *Effort Name 1* | | *Effort Name 2* | *….* | | *….* | *….* | *….* | | *Effort Name 7* |
| **Name of participant** | *Name 8* | | *Name 9* | *….* | | *….* | *….* | *….* | | *….* |
| **Effort days per participant:** | *Effort Name 8* | | *Effort Name 9* | *….* | | *….* | *….* | *….* | | *….* |
| **Performance site (if applicable)** |  | |  |  | |  |  |  | |  |
| **Objectives of this work package** | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Description of work** (*where appropriate, broken down into tasks), WP leader and role of the main Participants)*  *Task 1.1:*  *Task 1.2:* | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Deliverables** (*brief description and month of delivery)* | | | | | | | | | | |

* + 1. **WP2:**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Work package number** | |  | **Start Month** | | |  | **End Month** | | |  | |
| **Work package title** | |  | | | | | | | | | |
| **Name of participant** | | *Name 1* | | *Name 2* | *….* | | *….* | *….* | *….* | | *Name 7* |
| **Effort days per participant:** | | *Effort Name 1* | | *Effort Name 2* | *….* | | *….* | *….* | *….* | | *Effort Name 7* |
| **Name of participant** | | *Name 8* | | *Name 9* | *….* | | *….* | *….* | *….* | | *….* |
| **Effort days per participant:** | | *Effort Name 8* | | *Effort Name 9* | *….* | | *….* | *….* | *….* | | *….* |
| **Performance site (if applicable)** | |  | |  |  | |  |  |  | |  |
| **Objectives of this work package** | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Description of work** (*where appropriate, broken down into tasks), WP leader and role of the main Participants)*  *Task 2.1:*  *Task 2.2:* | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Deliverables** (*brief description and month of delivery)* | | | | | | | | | | |

* 1. WPs SCHEDULE, DELIVERABLES AND MILESTONES

Present in graphic form (Gantt diagram, for example) a schedule of the WPs with their main tasks.

Provide a table summarizing all the project deliverables (task number, date, title, person & institution responsible). Evaluators should be able to judge the effort in each WP. If awarded, the list of deliverables will be used to monitor the project progress. **Therefore, only a reasonable number of main deliverables should be provided.**

Describe the main scientific and/or technical milestones.

*Table 1: List of work packages*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **WP number** | **WP title** | **Name of the responsible person** | **Person days inside Qatar** | **Person days outside Qatar** | **Start date** | **End date** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | **Total days** | **Total days** |  |  |

*Table 2: List of deliverables*

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Deliverable number** | **Deliverable title** | **Name of the responsible Person** | **Type of deliverable** | **Delivery date** |
|  |  |  | *Document, report, plan designs, prototype, software, website, patent filing, media action, publications, etc.* |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |

*Table 3: Estimated timeline of the proposal*

Indicate in the table below the timeline for each WP and task (T) as per what you entered in the previous sections. Highlight cells of the months and year(s) of each WP and task (T) mentioned above.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| **WPs & Tasks** | **Year 1** | | | | | | | | | | | | **Year 2** | | | | | | | | | | | | **Year 3** | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **6** | **7** | **8** | **9** | **10** | **11** | **12** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **6** | **7** | **8** | **9** | **10** | **11** | **12** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **6** | **7** | **8** | **9** | **10** | **11** | **12** | |
| **WP1** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |
| **T1.1** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |
| **T1.2** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |
| **WP2** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |
| **T2.1** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |
| **T2.2** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |
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1. EXPECTED IMPACT OF THE PROPOSAL

Use quantitative indicators and targets, whenever possible.

* 1. OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES

Describe the specific proposed outputs (examples are provided in the Definitions and Terminologies document – [link](https://www.qnrf.org/en-us/Funding/Research-Programs/National-Priorities-Research-Program-NPRP)) and expected outcomes (peer-reviewed publications, patents, creative works, and others) of this research and indicate which ones you plan to create within the scope of the proposal. Avoid generic descriptions and be as specific as possible.

* 1. SOCIAL, HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

Awarded research projects are expected to focus on Qatar’s development needs and to accelerate research in national fields of excellence.

Describe how your proposal will contribute to:

* improving innovation capacity and the integration of new knowledge in Qatar and/or the region,
* the impact on any other environmental, health, economic and socially important aspects,
* improving research and education capacities in Qatar.

Describe specific future plans and potential research developments after the project’s completion, if applicable. Avoid generic descriptions that could apply to any proposal.

* 1. COMMUNICATION AND EXPLOITATION OF RESULTS

Provide a specific plan for the communication and exploitation of the project’s results as well as the promotion of the project and its findings. Examples could include workshops, public seminars, professional training, policy papers, media outreach. Avoid generic descriptions that could apply to any proposal.

1. RISK ASSESSMENT AND MITIGATION

Assess the risks associated with conducting or completing the research project as proposed, and outline plans for mitigating them. Risks include threats to health and safety to researchers and subjects of research, delays, for example, in recruitment (researchers, students, patients, etc.) or procurement, or in obtaining regulatory (e.g., ethical) permissions. Risks could also be scientific, such as degrees of certainty, long execution times of codes or malfunction of equipment and facilities. You should describe the nature and degree of risk, its likelihood of occurrence, and outline plans of mitigating it.

1. RESEARCH TEAM DESCRIPTION
   1. DESCRIPTION, SUITABILITY AND COMPLEMENTARITY OF THE RESEARCH TEAM MEMBERS

Briefly describe each PI, the research team and their institutional affiliation. Provide an assessment of their qualification to participate in the project and their **specific roles** in the project. Qualifications can include past achievements, research outcome indicators (publications, patents), and the specific expertise the research team member adds to the project, etc.

Show how team members complement each other’s expertise and describe the added value of the collaborations, with a special emphasis on the contribution by the LPI and his/her team. Interdisciplinarity and the inclusion of specific Qatar-based and external research teams must be justified in accordance with the project objectives. Outline how international collaborations (if applicable to your project) will enhance the research capacity and scientific excellence in Qatar.

* + 1. **LPI**

Provide justification of the LPI’s capability to coordinate the project and the research team(s).

* + 1. **PIs**
    2. **Other research staff (RAs, PDFs, students, etc, …)**
  1. RELEVANT PUBLICATIONS

List up to five publications or patents of the research team most relevant to the proposal.

* 1. CONSULTANTS/SERVICE PROVIDERS INVOLVED IN THE PROJECT

Does the participant plan to outsource certain tasks (please note that core tasks with research and intellectual contribution of the project must not be outsourced and carried out by consultants – see definition of a consultant at [link](http://www.qnrf.org/en-us/Funding/Research-Programs/National-Priorities-Research-Program-NPRP))?

If yes, please describe and justify the tasks to be outsourced.

List the consultants and service providers to be involved in the project and describe their contribution.

* 1. INVOLVEMENT OF RESEARCH END-USERS IN THE PROJECT

If the project team involves a research end-user(s) (public organizations, companies, non-profit organizations) that is contributing to the project as a collaborative institution, then describe its contribution. Check the QNRF’s co-funding policy.

Specify in which manner the research end-user(s) may benefit from the project outcomes and how, specifically, it will support the project. Specify for each activity whether the support is a cash and/or in-kind contribution. If the co-funder is not a collaborative institution, provide a short presentation of the co-funder and specify how the co-funder will fund the project.

* Cash contribution: describe and justify the cash contribution of the research end-user(s) that plans to participate in the project. State the value of the cash contribution. Specify who in the project team will benefit from the cash contribution (overall team or some collaborative institutions only).

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Cost category** | **Description** | **Amount (USD)** | **Duration (months)** | **Year (s) of project** | **Inside/Outside Qatar** |
| Personnel |  |  |  | *Year 1, year2,…* | *[write Inside Qatar or Outside Qatar]* |
| Capital Equipment |  |  |  |  |  |
| Materials & Consumables |  |  |  |  |  |
| Services |  |  |  |  |  |
| Travel |  |  |  |  |  |
| Miscellaneous |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Total** | |  |  |  |  |

* In-kind contribution: describe and justify the in-kind contribution of the research end-user(s) that plans to participate in the project. Estimate the value of the in-kind contribution.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Cost category** | **Description** | **Estimated Value (USD)** | **Duration (months)** | **Year (s) of project** | **Inside/Outside Qatar** |
| Personnel |  |  |  | *Year 1, year2,…* | *[write Inside Qatar or Outside Qatar]* |
| Capital Equipment |  |  |  |  |  |
| Materials & Consumables |  |  |  |  |  |
| Services |  |  |  |  |  |
| Travel |  |  |  |  |  |
| Miscellaneous |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Total** | |  |  |  |  |

1. REFERENCES

Include the list of bibliographic references used in the research plan.