**Research Application Summary / Extended Abstracts template**

**Summary/ Abstract**

Give a short description of between **250 – 300** words, which should provide context to the problem and proposed interventions/ contribution to knowledge that will better livelihoods or advance further research**. (Any abstract that exceeds will be accepted)**

**Key words:** Use a maximum of six keywords, in alphabetical order, separated with commas.

**Do not include words already in your abstract title.**

**Introduction**

The introduction must include the following:

Give background and identify the problem to be addressed in the research, review, experience and/ or practice

Clearly state the aim and/or the hypothesis of the research paper. Be sure that this aim and/ or objective remains the focus for all the sections of your Research Application Summary.

**Approach/ Materials and Methods/ Methodology**

This will vary depending on the type of study and nature of the paper.

* Empirical quantitative studies: Clearly state when and where the trial was conducted, especially if it was a laboratory, glass/greenhouse or field trial. Also, indicate if it was a one season or multiple season study. State the test crop(s) if applicable; Give a short description of all the treatments; List the parameters that were measured; Give the experimental design and state the number of repetitions; State the level of probability and what test will be used to test for significance between treatment means; Be sure to only give the materials and methods addressing your aim/hypothesis.
* Empirical social/qualitative studies: describe the ethnographic approach(es) used, including sampling frame and sample size and provide justification for the methods
* For the other types of papers (e.g., Reviews, Opinion pieces sharing experiences and/ practice): Describe briefly the approach and/ or considerations used to secure the lines of thoughts and perspectives, including a brief description of how the data were analysed (e.g., content / thematic analysis, discourse and network analysis, etc.) or the guiding prepositions/theories e.g. Contextual Interaction Theory leading to conclusions such as etic and emic perspectives in anthropology, folkloristics, and the social and behavioral sciences

**Results and Discussion**

This section should be the focus of your paper/poster

Here you should present and discuss your data. Only discuss significant differences or if not significant (or not statistically analysed yet) give major trends or other information of importance that the data do imply.

Do not introduce data here that are not relevant to your title and your aim.

Only one Figure and one Table are strongly encouraged but more data may be allowed, provided they support completeness of assertions presented. Follow examples of Extended Abstracts published in the RUFORUM Working Document Series.

**Conclusion**

Give one or two general conclusions.

Do not make conclusions on data not presented in the results and discussion part

Again, make sure that the conclusions address your aim/hypothesis state in the introduction and that it is linked to you title.

**Acknowledgement**

This should be one or two sentences acknowledging the contribution of persons and institutions that are associated with your publication. It should not include the listed co-authors.

**References**

Use not more than 10 key references and use citation and listing format provided in published Research Application Summaries – available from <http://repository.ruforum.org> under the RUFORUM Working Document Series

**Kindly note that all papers will be subjected to plagiarism checks before peer-review.**