**TEMPLATE FOR CONCEPT NOTES**

# RESEARCH PROJECT TITLE:

# DURATION & WHEN (Max. period of 24-30 months):

# WHERE WILL RESEARCH BE CONDUCTED (country and district):

# TOTAL FUNDING REQUESTED FROM SUMERNET (specify in Swedish Krona (SEK) with US$ equivalent):

# COUNTERPART FUNDING (in-kind or cash (in SEK with US$ equivalent) – indicate whether secured or tentative:

# RESEARCH PARTNERS (give names of two or more institutions from at least two countries in the Mekong Region, and at least one of them a member of SUMERNET):

POLICY CHAMPION (provide at least one organization that will be part of the research team and can implement research findings)

# RESEARCH GOAL, SPECIFIC PURPOSE, ORIGINALITY (200 words)

In this section explain:

* The specific project purpose: what the project will achieve and how it will contribute to the development goal
* Why the project is an original contribution to water insecurity literature and policy
* How the project will address gender and social equity, social justice, conflict sensitivity, governance and poverty reduction are considered part of the research (at least 1-2 research questions)

# RESEARCH DESCRIPTION AND APPROACH (max 700 words)

State 3-5 research questions that your research seeks to answer. Describe research approach, methodology, cross-country implementation, means of implementation, and plan for capacity building.

If the proposed research has been funded or is being funded by other funders, state clearly which activities SUMERNET 4 All will contribute to – this should not duplicate other funding sources.

# LINKS TO SUMERNET THEME AND GOALS (100 words):

In this section describe: how the research links to the SUMERNET mission and the chosen research theme.

# LINKS TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AGENDA 2030 GOALS (100 words):

In this section describe: how the research links to the Sustainable Development, Agenda 2030 goals.

# FEASABILITY OF RESEARCH (400 words)

In this section explain: why the research idea is feasible considering past, existing and future research and development undertakings in the region

# CONSORTIUM DESCRIPTION INCLUDING ROLE OF WOMEN (100 words)

Briefly describe the management structure, including why it is strategic and gender balanced. State partners and roles including researchers, policy champions, end-users, and other partners. Specifically list women’s organizations you will be working with and other groups for marginalised entities. Include reference to young researchers.

# BOUNDARY PARTNERS (100 words)

Mention a few key boundary partners that the project will try to influence or work with directly, and how they will be engaged. Specifically list women’s organizations you will be working with and other groups for marginalised entities.

# POLICY IMPACT (max 150 words)

Provide a causal narrative explaining how the project will inform policy during the project cycle. State what policy and planning outcomes will be achieved or how the research will positively impact policy and planning processes at local, subnational, national or regional levels.

# IMPACT STRATEGY (max 100 words)

Describe how the outputs of research will continue to influence non-government and government organisations. Please indicate any environmental, social, economic, or financial sustainability that the research may bring in or contribute to.

# RESEARCH OUTPUT (max 100 words)

Identify the research outputs that the project will produce by the end of project period. These must include:

* At least two peer-reviewed papers
* One policy brief
* One product for dissemination to the wider public per annum (e.g., news article, press release, podcast, short film, or TV interview of the project researchers)

# BUDGET OUTLINE (100 words)

A summary budget indicating the main lines of expenditure e.g. professional fee, direct cost for different activities (in SEK with US$ equivalence).

Indicate potential co-funding if it is available.

# PROPOSED MENTOR (50 words)

Proposed name and contact address of the regional experts that the project team would like to get advice from.

# APPENDICES

* References
* Short CVs (1-2 pages) of lead researchers/key personnel of each organisation, including at least one female key personnel
* Short descriptions (max 100 words/project) of 1-3 projects managed by the administrative lead institution to demonstrate capacity to manage research projects and multi-country partnership.