

# Collaborative Research Guidelines

Research and Development Department  
Lumbini Banijya Campus  
Butwal, Rupandehi, Nepal

## **What is Collaborative Research?**

- Collaboration is a mutually beneficial and well-defined relationship entered into by two or more researchers or organizations to achieve common goals.
- Collaboration in practice is a continuum – as the relationship moves from stage to stage, the level of engagement of the partners moves from low to high; the importance of the relationship to each collaborator's mission shifts from peripheral to strategic; the magnitude and nature of resources allocated to the relationship expand significantly; the scope of activities encompassed by the partnership broadens; partners' interactions intensify; the managerial complexity of the alliance increases; and the strategic value of the collaboration escalates from modest to major (Austin 2000).
- A collaborator is a person who does not necessarily have research experience per se but who has a wealth of experience in relation to the research question – someone who can assist the researcher by providing substantive feedback and personal support. Collaborators can provide data as well as participate in the formation of the research question, selection of data gathering methods, data analysis, and presentation of the information.

A collaborative relationship includes a commitment to:

- A definition of mutual relationships and goals
- A jointly developed structure and shared responsibility
- Mutual authority and accountability for success
- Sharing resources and rewards (Mattessich and Monsey 1992)

## **Why do it?**

Collaborative research can enhance the quality of research through exposure to new perspectives on specific research problems and to access to new or different expertise, data, in-kind support services or specific facilities, communities or financial resources. Normally, collaborative research requires a broad range of expertise and participants, with collaboration between researchers in other disciplines, sectors, institutions and geographic locations.

- Synergy offers ways to overcome obstacles and manage inescapable interdependencies
- Make services more accessible and effective
- Increase the integration of research results into other sectors (e.g., industry, government agencies or departments, community groups, universities) and offer opportunities to aid the dissemination of results
- Diversify capability to accomplish tasks (e.g., provide opportunities for trainees to spend time in different laboratories, interaction and exchange of personnel between institutions and sectors)
- Foster ties between researchers in the academic, community, private and public sectors

- Funders like it

While collaboration may introduce economies of scale and scope and reduce costs in some research projects, other projects may incur higher costs associated with directing, managing and integrating the activities of the collaboration. Funders often encourage collaboration; check their guidelines on the limitations to supporting collaborative research. When collaboration increases the research budget, detail the contribution collaboration plays in the intellectual direction and conduct of the research and the special opportunities made available by encouraging and establishing the collaborative framework.

### **Research collaboration must include:**

- One Faculty of Lumbini Banijy Campus
- One Bachelor or Master's Level Student of Campus
- One Researcher Outside from Campus (having at least Master's Level Academic Degree and at least two research papers published **with DOI**)
- Action/Applied
- At least 5,000 – 10,000 words
- Empirical literature review of not more than last 5 years
- Use of Indexed Journals as Citations
- There should be a submitted letter of agreement or formal MOU conducted among the collaborative researchers.
- Collaborative researchers are required to specify their roles and responsibilities while submitting proposal.
- Action/Applied research must be conducted under the specified sectors that contribute for the all-round development of the local and national levels.
- Qualitative or Quantitative or mixed methods of research will be accepted.

### **Sectors Identified for Collaborative Research:**

- General Management, Management Science and IT
- Accounting and Finance
- Economics, Mathematics and Statistics
- Education, English Language, Psychology and Sociology
- Sustainable Development Goals as per UN
- Other social sciences

### **Guidelines for Collaborative Research Project-Proposal**

- ❖ The Collaborative Research Project should be typed on ISO A4-size white bond paper
- ❖ Proposal must be written in only one side of the page
- ❖ Margins: Top, bottom and right margin should be 1 inch and left margin should be 1.5 inch
- ❖ Font size: Use Times New Roman with 12 point font size
- ❖ Line Spacing: The line spacing should be 1.5 in all text lines. However, single spacing should be used only in the table of contents, charts, graphs, tables, quotations, and references.
- ❖ Page number: Page number of proposal should be placed at top right corner of the page. It should be kept in Arabic numerals. For e.g.: 1, 2, 3.....35, 36.....

- ❖ Figures and Tables: Table and Figure should be prepared in APA 7<sup>th</sup> edition format. The Title of Table and Figure should be written in below mentioned format.
- ❖ References should be written in APA Format
- ❖ Except for text in the tables, all other text must always be justified.
- ❖ Plagiarism checked report should be attached with a report (15% or less than will be acceptable)

❖ **Contents of the Proposal for Collaborative Research Project**

- Title Page
- Table of Content
- Introduction and Background of the study
- Problem Statement
- Research Questions
- Objectives
- Hypothesis (if any)
- Rationale
- Limitation
- Literature Review
- Research Methodology
- Expected Outcome
- References