A Clear Working Title of PhD Research (max 5 words)

Author (Replace with your name and surname)

Date (at least month - year)

**Abstract**

Write one sentence per question: 1. What is the relevance of the study? (Motivation and Justification); 2. What will you do? (Aim of the study); 3. How will you do it? (Methodology); 4. What will you find? (Expected Findings); 5. Why does it matter? (Significance and originality)

**Keywords:** 3-5 relevant keywords for the proposed research

# Introduction

Some background on the research problem, statistics that help understand the extent of the problem. Things to include in this section:

* Common ground (conversation)​ – the phenomenon of interest
* Complication (what’s missing)​ – highlights from the key literature and reference to Section 2 for detailed analysis of recent works
* Concern (why it is important)​ – connections to subsections 1.1 and 1.2
* Course of action (how to study)​ – brief methodological approach and connections to Section 3 for details on the methodology
* Contribution (how it makes a difference) – what do we expect to learn from your PhD research

## Motivation

Why do you want to do this research?

## Justification

Why should this research be conducted?

## Aim and objectives

Main aim of the research and 3-5 objectives that will help achieve the aim of the research

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# Literature Review

A state-of-the-art literature review on the topic. Key early literature can be cited but expecting most of the works to have been published in the last three years.

## A subsection

Use subsections accordingly.

Expecting a synthesis table that shows what we know and what is missing from the literature

# Methodology

Your preferred methodology to address the research problem. It should indicate data sources, sampling logic, methods, and why they are chosen and how they can help answer the research question posed in Section 1.

# Project Plan

A quarterly plan of activities over three years with milestones, and deliverables.

Potential academic and practitioner conferences where you can present your work.

Potential working titles of at least three papers that will be produced in the research. The first paper is almost always a systematic literature review paper.

Please identify potential journals where your work could be published.

# References

Presented in APA Style.

Geng, R., Mansouri, S. A., & Aktas, E. (2017). The relationship between green supply chain management and performance: A meta-analysis of empirical evidences in Asian emerging economies. *International Journal of Production Economics*, *183*, 245–258.

Mansouri, S. A., & Aktas, E. (2016). Minimizing energy consumption and makespan in a two-machine flowshop scheduling problem. *Journal of the Operational Research Society*. https://doi.org/10.1057/jors.2016.4