



ANNUAL RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM – SRI PALEE CAMPUS, UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO

Abstract Writing Guidelines

Authors are invited to submit abstracts reporting **original research, conceptual analyses, or practice-based studies** relevant to the symposium themes. Abstracts should be **clear, concise, and informative**, enabling reviewers to assess the relevance and quality of the proposed paper or poster.

Length and Language

- The abstract must not exceed **350 words** (excluding keywords).
- Abstracts must be written in **English** using **academic and formal language**.
- Abbreviations should be avoided; if necessary, define them at first use.

Structure of the Abstract

Abstracts should be **structured** and include the following components:

1. Title

- Clear, concise, and reflective of the study's content.
- Use **Title Case** (APA style).
- Do not include author names or affiliations in the abstract document (for blind review).

2. Background / Purpose

- Briefly introduce the research problem, context, or theoretical background.
- Clearly state the **purpose or research objective(s)**.

3. Methodology

- Indicate the research design, approach, or methods used.
- Include information on data sources, participants/sample, and analysis techniques where relevant.

4. Results / Findings

- Summarize the key findings or expected outcomes of the study.
- Avoid vague statements such as “results will be discussed.”

5. Conclusion / Implications

- Highlight the main conclusion and its academic, policy, or practical significance.
- Indicate the contribution of the study to knowledge or practice.

Keywords

- Provide **3–5 keywords** immediately after the abstract.
- Keywords should be separated by commas and written in **lowercase**, unless proper nouns are used.

Formatting and Referencing

- Abstracts must conform to **APA (7th edition)** style.
- Use **Times New Roman**, 12-point font, single-spaced.
- Do not include citations unless absolutely necessary; if included, follow APA in-text citation style.
- No tables, figures, or footnotes should be included in the abstract.

Originality, Ethics, and Declaration on Non-Use of AI

- Abstracts must represent **original work** not previously published or under consideration elsewhere.
- **Authors are required to submit a signed declaration confirming that no Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools (including but not limited to ChatGPT, Bard, Claude, or similar systems) were used in the writing of the abstract.**
- Any violation of this declaration will result in **immediate disqualification** of the abstract from the review process.

Declaration Statement (to be signed by the corresponding author)

I hereby declare that this abstract is entirely my/our original work and that no Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools were used in its preparation. I/we accept full responsibility for the content of this submission.