Monash Business School and ERIA Research Project on

# Global Trade and Economic Recovery in the Post Pandemic World

Template for Proposals

I. Motivation and hypothesis

* What is your research question?
* What is the hypothesis?

This section should clearly explain why there is a need for addressing this research question –that is, what is the motivation. The motivation needs to be striking and sufficiently well developed, as one key outcomes of the project is publication of a special issue in a good (SCOPUS/SSCI) journal, apart from publishing a set of papers in an edited book.

Utilising a different econometric approach and/or dataset (unless the dataset is unique and, say, is not in the public domain or is exclusive) per se to test a hypothesis that has been tested in previous studies offers only a limited contribution to the literature and may therefore be of limited interest. There should be some (albeit minor) innovations to existing hypotheses, leading to telling something new.

What is the theory or conceptual framework that motivates your hypothesis? Empirical analysis should be guided by a well-established theory.

II. Literature

What work has been done and what has been found? This should be succinctly explained. What gap(s) exist in the literature? How can your research questions address at least one of these gaps?

III. Contributions

What are the expected contributions – both academic and policy? The contributions need to be economically (not on an ad hoc basis) placed within public policy debates and academic literature. That is, what do we expect to learn from your work that we currently do not understand? The contribution has to be sufficiently appealing to academic researchers and policymakers and should form the basis for future research and/or public policy proposals on the proposed theme.

This is a key part of the proposal’s success.

IV. Data, empirical approach, and robustness tests

What data will be used? Where is this data (that is data source)? What empirical tools will be used?

What are the key issues surrounding robustness for credibility of your hypothesis test and what will you do to address these issues? A clear, not artificial or speculative, discussion on robustness tests is needed.