**Research Plan Template**

(this template is a suggestion – feel free to add more or edit)

**Background**

* Contextualize the problem: the institutional environment, previous (and recent) studies, and any other relevant information required to put the interventions in perspective.

**Interventions**

* Describe the interventions to be analyzed in the paper. Be as precise as possible.

**Define the Counterfactual**

* What is the baseline against which the interventions will be measured? Most likely this will be a ‘do nothing’ scenario or extrapolation of historical trends. Be as precise as possible.

**Costs and Benefits**

* Describe the costs and benefits that are relevant for each intervention, the underlying logic of estimation, and potential data sources – see table below:

**Table**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Intervention | Costs / Benefits | Underlying logic of estimation | Potential Data Sources |
| **Example:** Facility delivery with skilled birth attendants | Cost: Providing facility services to all mothers who currently do not give birth in a facility or with a skilled birth attendant | Cost = #women giving birth per year \* % not in facility or with SBA \* cost per delivery | - Data source XYZ  - Data source ABC |
| Benefit: Maternal deaths avoided | Maternal deaths avoided = #Women receiving intervention \* reduction in MMR from intervention \* DALYS avoided per death \* value of DALY | - Data source XYZ |
| Benefit: Neonatal deaths avoided | Neonatal deaths avoided = #Children born under intervention \* reduction in neonatal mortality rate from intervention \* DALYS avoided per death \* value of DALY | - Data source XYZ |