**UM-SEAS MASTER’S PROJECT PROPOSAL SUBMISSION FORM**

UM-SEAS Master’s Projects are applied research projects for client organizations addressing a sustainability research need or related problem, over a one-and-a-half-year timeframe, with teams of approximately five graduate students spanning multiple disciplines of study within the SEAS master’s degree program. Teams receive back-end support through a UM/SEAS faculty advisor while working directly with client organizations. Projects for this cycle of students will be reviewed in fall of 2025. Those advancing will begin in January 2026 and will be **completed by April 2027**

***For full consideration, email this completed form (all responses below) to:*** ***seas-projects@umich.edu*** ***by the date posted in email communications and online at:***[**https://seas.umich.edu/research-impact/student-research/masters-projects**](https://seas.umich.edu/research-impact/student-research/masters-projects)

**Part 1 – Title of Proposal and Client Basic Information
(*Please answer each bullet*)**

* Proposed Master's Project Working Title / Topic:
* Client Organization Name:
* Client Website:
* Secondary Client Organization (if applicable):
* Secondary Client Website (if applicable):

**Project Contact Information:**

* Name:
* Title (if applicable):
* City:
* State or Country:
* Phone:
* Email:

*[Insert other contacts if appropriate]*

**Check all that apply:**

\_\_\_ I am a SEAS student

\_\_\_ I am a SEAS/SNRE alum

\_\_\_ I am a U-M faculty member, School/Department:

\_\_\_ I am a staff member of a potential client organization

\_\_\_ Our Organization has been a Master's Project client in a previous year

\_\_\_ Other (please specify):

* **Primary Project Location(s)** (City, US State or City, Country):

**Part 2 – Proposal Advisor Status
(*Please answer each bullet*)**

* Have you identified a potential [SEAS Faculty](https://seas.umich.edu/research/faculty) Advisor(s)? If so, list Faculty member(s):
* Have you *secured* a Faculty Advisor commitment? If so, list Faculty member(s):

**Part 3 – Summary of Project Proposal
(*Please answer each bullet*)**

Include a brief overview and a detailed response to each of the topics outlined below. Please be as specific as possible.

* Goals & Objectives: What will this project accomplish?
* Theoretical Justification, Social Benefit, or Significance: Why is this research important? What is the real-world impact of the proposed research?
* Specific Activities & Duration: What research methodologies are appropriate to tackle the proposed research question? Is the scale of proposed research reasonable for a (part-time) year and a half project for ~5 students?
* Integrative Approach: How does the proposed research integrate the skills of disparate team members to generate an effective final product/output?
* Key Words/Themes (Please add here any broad and specific topic descriptors):

**Please check each specific SEAS program areas where expertise is needed. To meet SEAS standards for an interdisciplinary project, your proposal must include substantive work from multiple fields of study. For specific details about these disciplines, please review info web-links of each below:**

 \_\_\_ [Behavior, Education, and Communication](https://seas.umich.edu/academics/master-science/behavior-education-and-communication)

 \_\_\_ [Ecosystem Science Management – Conservation Ecology](https://seas.umich.edu/academics/master-science/ecosystem-science-and-management)
 \_\_\_ [Environmental Justice](https://seas.umich.edu/academics/master-science/environmental-justice)

 \_\_\_ [Environmental Policy and Planning](https://seas.umich.edu/academics/master-science/environmental-policy-and-planning)

 \_\_\_ [Geospatial Data Sciences](https://seas.umich.edu/academics/master-science/geospatial-data-sciences)
 \_\_\_ [Sustainability & Development](https://seas.umich.edu/academics/master-science/sustainability-and-development)
 \_\_\_ [Sustainable Systems](https://seas.umich.edu/academics/master-science/sustainable-systems)

* **Role** (Please briefly describe the role for each area of expertise selected above. Include 2-3 sentences for each discipline you selected. Include all key skills/expertise necessary for a master’s project team to successfully complete this project):

**Identify Expected Products**
**(*Please answer each bullet*)**

Include a detailed description of the final output of the project team and its value to the client organization.

* Deliverables: What documents/products/reports will the team deliver upon completion of this project?
* Implementation: How will project outputs be used by your organization? Will the project team’s recommendations be shared with a broader network/audience?

**Part 4 – Student Benefits, Privacy and Additional Values Impact
(*Please answer each section below*)**

**Professional Career Development Benefits** (Identify skills, knowledge, and contacts that students can expect to develop by working on this project, as well as any other potential career-related benefits—such as opportunities to present findings at a professional conference or meeting, professional networking opportunities with client and partner organizations, individual/group publications, job openings or organizational growth outlook, etc.):

**Funding Sources** (Note if funding is potential or confirmed as well as the amount, if known. While not a requirement, bringing project funding boosts a proposal’s likelihood to advance. Funding can also take the form of paid internships for one more student team members). **Be explicitly clear whether funds are at present assured or lay out any conditions or variables students should be aware of as relates to funding:**

**Privacy Considerations** (Optional: if you have specific privacy concerns related to your proposed research topic, please indicate below)

\_\_\_ My organization has its own IRB and/or rules about doing internal research.

\_\_\_ We will require a non-disclosure agreement (NDA) for some portion of work related to this project. [Note that data or back-end information can be included but that a final report will be publicly available via University of Michigan online publication medium.]

**Values (CSR) and Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) Statements**

Please provide here any Corporate Social Responsibility (or similar) Statement from your organization, or provide as a link or attachment:­­­­­­­­­­

Please provide here any Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (or similar) Statement from your organization, or provide as a link or attachment:

**How does your project proposal align with or advance your above (if provided) CSR or DEI statements or initiatives?**