**Informed Consent Form**

Name :\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Organization :Martin Luther Christian University

Title of the Research Project: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Part I: Information**

**Introduction**

I am a research scholar pursuing PhD in Martin Luther Christian University, Shillong. I am conducting a research study entitled ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_***. In this connection, I am requesting your participation, which will involve filling up of questionnaire or/and interview or/and taking part in a focus group discussion. This consent form may contain words that you do not understand. Please feel free to ask me for any clarification at any point of time. If you do not wish to decide now, you may take your time to decide and inform me by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Background and purpose of the research study**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

[**Example:** *We are all aware of the environmental degradation and environmental issues that surrounds us in this day and age. I believe that youth play the most important part in bringing about positive change in the communities. I want to find out how aware our youth are about the different environmental issues and understand the factors that play important role in influencing attitudes and behaviours towards the environment. I wish to find out if there is any difference between the attitudes and behaviours among youth from urban and semi-urban areas.]*

The main objectives of the research study are:

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Voluntary Participation and Confidentiality**

The participation in this study is voluntary. You may choose not to participate or to withdraw from the study at any time. If at any time you discontinue the survey, your data will not be used. Your personal information will be kept confidential and secure. Any publication from the research study will not include your name. The data collected will be used for academic purposes only.

**Sharing the Results**

A copy of the report and findings will also be shared with you or/and your institutional head after completion. We may meet as group of participants to share the findings for the benefit of all.

**Who to Contact**

For any clarification and query you may contact me at *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_* and/or *mail me at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*.

You may also contact the Dean Research of Martin Luther Christian University at deanresearch@mlcuniv.in for any confirmation.

This research project has been approved the Doctoral Committee and University Research Ethics Committee of the Martin Luther Christian University. The University has policies to ensure equity of gender, and for the protection of culture and indigenous/tribal social and knowledge systems.

**Part II: Certificate of Consent**

I have read all the information, or it has been read to me. I have had the opportunity to ask questions about it and get clarification on doubts I had. Questions and clarifications that I have asked have been answered to my satisfaction. I consent voluntarily to be a participant in this study

**Name of participant : \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Signature of participant : \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Date : \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

 **Day/month/year**

**Note: If the participant is unable to sign their name, verbal consent may be taken, provided there is a another person present who will sign as a witness. Alternatively, the verbal consent may be taken as an audio recording. A thumb impression may also be used.**

**Statement by the researcher/person taking consent**

I have accurately read out the information sheet to the potential participant, and to the best of my ability made sure that the participant understands that the following will be done:

1. Filling up the Questionnaire

2. Participate in interview

3. Participate in Focus Group Discussion

I confirm that the participant was given an opportunity to ask questions about the study, and all the questions asked by the participant have been answered correctly and to the best of my ability. I confirm that the individual has not been coerced into giving consent, and the consent has been given freely and voluntarily.

 A copy of this Informed Consent Form has been provided to the participant.

**Name of researcher****/person taking the consent :\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Signature of researcher /person taking the consent :\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Date : \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

 Day/month/year