**PhD candidate’s authorship statement, Wageningen University**

**Aim of the authorship statement**

The authorship statement is sent with the thesis manuscript to the opponents to help them judge the candidate’s contribution to (chapters in) the thesis. A PhD study is a learning process, so the candidate is not supposed to have it done all by her/himself.

The promotor may have come up with the research question, for example, or suggested text improvements. Perhaps an MSc student did an experiment under the candidate’s guidance.

**The authorship statement should focus on the candidate’s own contribution**

While it may be needed to mention what others did, in particular when the candidate is not the first author of a chapter, the statement should focus on the candidate’s own contribution. Therefore, the text is written in the first person.

The text must be concise, maximum 1 page A4, about 500 words. If there are authorship statements on chapters that were already submitted or published as paper, these may be re-used in this authorship statement.

Items to address in the research chapters are usually: research question, methodology, research and data collection, data analysis, text and graphs, and the final discussion. For other chapters or for other types of research, the items to address may differ.

**Example of an authorship statement**

PhD candidate’s name : xx xxxxx  
First promotor : xxxx xx. Xx xxxxxxxxxxx  
Title of PhD thesis : xxx xxx xxxx xx xxxxx xxxxxx   
Date of public defence: xx-xx-xxxx xx:xx

*Chapter 1 General introduction.* The general research question and its general scientific and social perspective were proposed by my promotor. I delineated the research question, described how it fits in the current scientific literature and described its potential social impact. I revised the text two times, after comments of my co-promotor.

*Chapter 2 . . .*

*Chapter 3* . . .

*Chapter 4 . . .*

*Chapter 5 . . .*

*Chapter 6 General discussion*. I wrote the first draft of the text after just one discussion with my co-promotor on the subjects and arguments to be included. I revised the text once, after comments of my promotor and co-promotor.

Date  
Signature PhD candidate  
Signature promotor for agreement

**Authorship statement**

PhD candidate’s name :

First promotor :

Title of PhD thesis :

Date of public defence :

Chapter 1 *title*.

. . .

. . .

Date:

Signature PhD candidate

Signature promotor for agreement