



Research process and report writing

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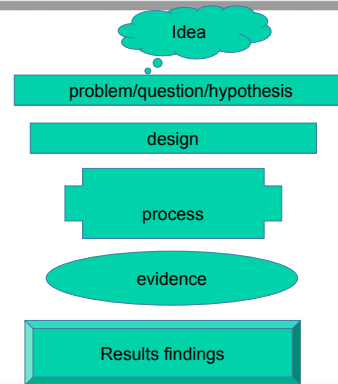
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Outline

- Research process
- Moving from opinion to analysis
- Structure and length
- Usual errors
- Writing style
- Structuring a report
- Finding and using data
- Analysis

‘Writing is easy. All you do is stare at a blank sheet of paper until drops of blood form on your forehead.’ --- Gene Fowler

Research process



Moving from opinion to analysis

- Summarize
 - your problem, topic, knowledge
- Evaluate
 - Straddle your experiencing your own personal response, and analyzing the text.
- Analyze
 - consider the parts of your topic and then examine how these parts relate to each other or to the whole.
- break the whole into parts so that you might see the whole differently.
- In process of analysis, you find things that you might say.
- Synthesize
 - look for connections between ideas. You may have some observations that at first don't seem to gel. Or you may have read various critical perspectives, all of them in disagreement with one another. consider whether these



Writing style

- Each sentence should be a sentence.
- Each paragraph should be a paragraph
- Use active not passive voice
- Do not use obviously, foolishly etc.
- Semicolons are like guns never use them unless you've been trained to.
- Following standards
- Be consistent in style, particularly referencing.
- Adapted from Kirkland in readings

Research process

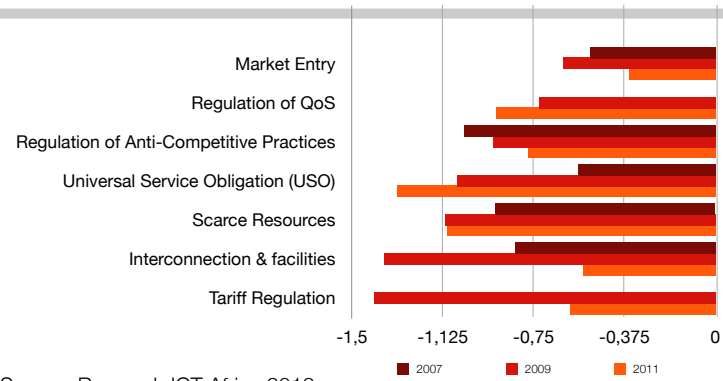
- Identify research problem
- Research question
- Conduct desk study/literature review
- Develop conceptual framework/methodology
- Data gathering - primary and secondary data
- Analysis
- Findings



Report outline/contents

- Executive summary (main findings from each section)
- Introduction/Background (problem statement)
- Research problem/hypothesis/research area
- Literature - comparative research, indices, domestic research, indicators
- Legal and institutional framework
- Macro economic analysis/impact
- Financial analysis
- Telecom - Fixed, Mobile, Internet - indicators - supply side/demand side/
- Broadcasting -free-to-air: public, private, community; Subscription; Digital
- Broadband - International bandwidth, backbone and backhaul networks
- Postal - post offices/agencies, labour forces, letters, courier services
- Spectrum - Auctions, LTE
- Analysis - linkages between components, patterns

Telecommunications Regulatory Environment



Source: Research ICT Africa 2012

WEF- Network Readiness Index

	NRI Ranking	Environment	Readiness	Usage			
				Overall	Government	Business	Individual
Botswana	89	52	98	96	72	87	102
Cameroon	125	118	131	126	118	107	134
Ethiopia	130	84	138	133	85	136	142
Ghana	97	63	99	114	109	102	112
Kenya	93	99	108	91	67	56	109
Mozambique	120	108	87	121	91	115	138
Namibia	105	44	113	106	108	68	111
Nigeria	112	98	123	109	116	77	105
Rwanda	82	33	120	87	31	66	133
South Africa	72	34	94	76	89	34	96
Tanzania	123	102	125	124	114	114	131
Uganda	110	91	107	117	93	108	135