

# AEM 301 Lecture 11

Implementation of a research project

14.05.2018

# Assumptions

- You have completed the research proposal
- Ready to embark on the research
- There is clarity on the time frame
- Resources (Money) is available
- Geographical location is finalized
- All systems go
- Ready for take off
- Of course you know your goal

Lets use three scenarios

- 1 Stationed at LARMAT faculty of Agriculture
2. The student is back at home County on lake front
3. The student is based in Nanyuki on one of the ranches investigating best bee keeping technology

# Communications

- Irrespective of the location, communicate to with the right persons on when you will start the work
- Take time to prepare what you will need for 2-3 months
- Interrogate your work plan to ensure there are no logistical encumbrances
- If you are going out of Nairobi make sure you have collected the right tools, material e.g. GPS thermometers, note Book etc

# Prepare a desk study

- All to Know the infrastructure of the labs, field, the ranch or the beach on the lake you will be studying
- Upon arrival introduce yourself to the head of the ranch, chief of whoever is in charge
- Go down to know the technical staff who are critical for your research
- Map out you specific project domain

# Kabete based student

- Revisit your laboratory methods to ensure the reagents, manual etc are available
- Check whether items of equipment, glassware, pots are free or to be purchased
- Ask for green house space, transport to move items, permission to use specialized expensive equipment, irrigation facilities, office space, Establish source of soil, animals, seeds etc.

# Kabete based student cont

- Regularly consult your supervisor
- Cultivate cordial relationships with technical staff
- Be prepared to observe and record your experiments in the lab and green house at odd times. When labs are closed make sure you can have access
- Process your samples for analysis as appropriate

# Lake Victoria Lwanda Kobiero

- Administer the questionnaire of beach management and fish availability including decline of species
- Record state of hygiene in the area and record statistical data on trade, income population of people, transport of fish to major towns
- Record and discuss challenges of small fishers;
- Ask what value your research is adding



# Lake Victoria Luanda Kobiero

- Take landed fish sample for analysis on Pb, Cadmium Hg, etc
- Take water sample for analysis in Nairobi
- Investigate indigenous knowledge how the area has changed over time and which fish species have disappeared;
- Liaise with Siaya County Government esp those in charge of fisheries etc

# Nanyuki Ranch student

- Establish contact with bee coop
- Document how the farmer has managed his bee hives over the years
- Determine whether he is using the latest design of bee hives
- Record honey collection and processing facilities
- Volunteer to assist the rancher on odd jobs as time allows

# Nanyuki based student

- If accommodated at the ranch practice good behavior
- Take photos as much as possible
- Get information on weather records for past and present
- Talk to local people on your topic and related areas
- Keep a daily diary and detailed note book

# Students out of Nairobi

- Identify a local supervisor or expert superior
- Obtain as much data from the county based institutions, NGOs
- Interact with other players, researchers in the neighborhood;
- Maintain regular contact with your supervisor
- When you come across obstacles seek for amicable solutions

# Students out of Nairobi

- As your project comes to an end thank your host
- Hand in all borrowed material and leave your site better than you found it
- Pack any specimens or materials for analysis in Nairobi as best as possible;
- Inform LARMAT technologist that you will bring samples from the field

# For all students

- The data and information you have collected are most valuable asset of your research;
- As you conduct further analysis make sure the data is in a safe custody
- Embark on report writing as soon as possible
- If data is missing from certain sample do not cook the data
- Consult with a biometrician as you analyze your data

# Conclusion on Research project implementation

- Be in charge and remain on the ground all the time;
- In case you must delegate to subordinate staff, provide clear instructions and still supervise
- Recall research ethics
- Remember to share the final results and conclusion with the hosts/stakeholders who supported you
- If you are sponsored that the appropriate institutions

# Conclusion on Research project implementation

- Report your results at a seminar with class
- Take action on comments and observations
- Revise the report and discuss with your supervisor;
- Submit the report preferably three week before final semester examinations;
- The report should present results in tables, graphs, histograms, pie chart etc;
- Good photography convey powerful messages



# Finally

- Prepare your report in a publishable journal format and submit to Dr Anne Karuma.
- The Journal article piece will bear your name as first author and the supervisor as the second author;
- These Journal like pieces are posted in LARMAT website;
- This gives you immediate visibility that you implemented a research project

# Sample Abstract of student Project

# Sample of Budget template