

CoReaP – CFWT Coffee Talk Series

Talk No. 1

# **How to write a research paper without expensive data**

Prof. E.F. Nzunda

Department of Forest Resources Assessment and Management

College of Forestry, Wildlife and Tourism

Sokoine University of Agriculture

Morogoro

TANZANIA

# INTRODUCTION

- Definitions:
  - Research
  - Paper
  - Research paper
  - Data
  - Expensive
  - Expensive data

# INTRODUCTION

- Why write a research paper without expensive data?
  - Value and need for expensive data
  - utilize existing massive expensive data
  - the need for theoretical, conceptual and methodological growth
  - need for a paper when one doesn't have a research project
  - the existence of types of paper in journals that do not need expensive data;
  - etc.

# HOW TO WRITE A PAPER

- Some principles are difficult to name:
  - How did Jesus Christ answer the question “Who is your neighbour?”
  - The story on the discrepancies paper (Nzunda 2012)
- Use theoretical, conceptual and methodological frameworks as a basis
  - e.g. SWOT analysis (Nzunda and Mahuve 2011), SOAR, SCOPE, etc.

# HOW TO WRITE A PAPER

- Thought experiments

# HOW TO WRITE A PAPER

— From Barbara Robson:

- You can do numerical experiments with a mathematical model and report the results.
- You can develop a new and better mathematical model.
- You can develop a new and useful mathematical or analytical method or mathematical proof.
- You can write a review of recent literature in your field.

# HOW TO WRITE A PAPER

— From Barbara Robson:

- You can do laboratory or mesocosm experiments (this is versus expensive field work).
- You can analyse data that are publicly available ([Open Data](#)) in a way that they haven't been analysed before, or re-analyse data that have been published by someone else to reach a new conclusion.

# HOW TO WRITE A PAPER

- From Barbara Robson:
  - You can analyse data that are available to you, though not publicly (data mining or otherwise analysing the literature in your field, for instance).
  - You can conduct a meta-analysis of published data on a topic.
    - Do any of these well, and write up the results, and you will have a research paper.



# HOW TO WRITE A PAPER

- A paper on part of the topic:
  - A Framework for Conceptual Contributions in Marketing
    - Available from:  
<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1509/jmkg.75.4.136>

# REFERENCES

- The unified **neutral theory of biodiversity and biogeography** (here "Unified **Theory**" or "UNTB") is a **theory** and the title of a monograph by ecologist Stephen Hubbell. The hypothesis aims to explain the diversity and relative abundance of species in ecological communities.
- **Author:** [Stephen P. Hubbell](#)

# REFERENCES

- Thought experiments
  - e.g. Albert Einstein's  $E = mc^2$

# REFERENCES

- Barbara Robson from:  
<https://www.quora.com/How-do-I-write-a-research-paper-without-doing-any-field-studies>
- **Nzunda, E.F.** (2012). Discrepancies between targets and achievements in industrial forest production and export in Tanzania. *Forestry Studies in China* 14:210-215 Available online - <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11632-012-0307-y>

- **Nzunda, E.F.** and Mahuve, T.G. 2011. A SWOT analysis of climate change mitigation through REDD. In: Leal Filho, W. (ed.) 2011. *Experiences of Climate Change Adaptation in Africa*. Springer Verlag, Berlin. Pp. 201-216  
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/978-3-642-22315-0>

# CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Good luck!

THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION!  
ASANTENI SANA!