

TO EVALUATE THE EFFECT OF RESEARCH METHODOLOGIES ON THE
PROPOSAL WORK PLANS, BUDGET AND COMPLETION TIME (A CASE
STUDY OF JKUAT RESEARCH FUNDED PROJECTS)

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DECLARATION

This research dissertation is my original work and has not been presented for a degree in any other university.

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DEDICATION

This work is dedicated to my daughter Sherine Wamalwa, family and friends whose encouragement and advice has contributed immensely towards achieving this noble task. I also wish to dedicate this work to all professionals who worked tirelessly to shape its direction.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

DECLARATION	ii
DEDICATION	iii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	iv
TABLE OF CONTENTS	v
LIST OF TABLES	vii
LIST OF FIGURES	viii
LIST OF APPENDICES	ix
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	x
ABSTRACT	xi
1. INTRODUCTION	1
1.1. Background information on the study	1
1.2. About JKUAT	1
1.3. Research projects in JKUAT	2
1.4. Statement of the problem	2
1.5. Objectives of the study	3
1.5.1 Overall Objectives	3
1.5.2 Specific Objectives	3
1.6. Research questions	4
1.7. Justification of the study	4
1.8. Organization of the research work	5
2. LITERATURE REVIEW	6
2.1. Proposal work plan	6
2.2. Proposal budget	7
2.3. Proposal completion time	8
2.4. Conceptual framework	11
3. METHODOLOGY	13
3.1. Target population	13
3.2 Study design	13
3.2 Sampling design	14
3.3. Data collection	15
3.4. Data analysis	15
4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION	17
4.1. Test of goodness fit	17
4.2. Research proposal work plan	17
4.3. Research proposal budget	20

4.4. Research completion time-----	23
5. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS -----	27
5.1. Conclusion -----	27
5.2. Recommendations-----	28
6. PRODUCTION OF COMPEDIUM OF RESEARCH ACTIVITIES AND PUBLICATIONS -----	29
6.1. Importance of CRAP -----	29
6.2. Challenges on Production of CRAP-----	30
6.3. Recommendation of improvement of production of CRAP -----	31
6.3.1. <i>Data Ownership</i>	31
6.3.2. <i>Research Database</i>	31
6.3.3. <i>Reward</i>	32
7. MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF RPE DIVISION FUNDED PROJECTS ----	33
7.1. Definition of Monitoring and Evaluation-----	33
7.2 Importance of Monitoring and Evaluation -----	33
7.3. Tools of Monitoring and Evaluation -----	34
7.3.1. <i>Gantt Charts</i>	35
7.3.2. <i>Annual Work Plans</i>	35
7.3.3. <i>Progress Reports</i>	36
7.3.4. <i>Key Projects Outcomes Forms</i>	36
7.3.4.1 <i>Human resource development</i>	36
7.3.4.2 <i>Scientific publications</i>	36
7.3.4.3 <i>Conferences</i>	37
7.3.4.4 <i>Infrastructure</i>	38
7.3.4.5 <i>Deliverables</i>	38
7.3.5. <i>Financial Reports</i>	38
7.3.6. <i>Site Visits</i>	39
7.3.7. <i>Laboratory Notebooks</i>	39
7.4. Challenges of Monitoring and Evaluation in JKUAT -----	40
7.4.1. <i>Lack of Monitoring Policies</i>	40
7.4.2. <i>Conducting Impact Evaluations</i>	40
7.4.3. <i>Sharing of Information from Monitoring and Evaluations Process</i>	41
7.4.4. <i>Delay in Release of Research Funds</i>	41
7.4.5. <i>Slow Procurement Process</i>	41
7.4.6. <i>Composition of Monitoring and Evaluation</i>	42
7.4.7. <i>Conflict of Interest Due to Involvement in Multiple Assignment</i>	42
7.4.8. <i>Tools for Monitoring and Evaluation</i>	43

8. WRITTEN REVIEW OF PROPOSALS REPORTS	44
8.1. Title of the First Project	44
8.1.1. Abstract	44
8.1.2. Background Information	44
8.1.3. Goals and Objectives	44
8.1.4. Methodology and Activities	45
8.1.5. Research and Personnel	45
8.1.6. Budget	46
8.1.7. Rationale Justification	46
8.1.8. Conclusion	46
9. CAPACITY BUILDING	47
9.1. Topic of Presentation	47
9.2. Presentation Slides	47
9.3. Evaluation of Presentation	55
10. CONSULTANCY	58
10.1. Questionnaire Development	59
10.2. Identification of a Research Topic	59
10.3. Statistical Analysis	59
10.4. Statement of the Problem	60
10.5. Abstract	60
10.6. Research Design	60
REFERENCES	61

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1: Response and explanatory variables for logistic regression	14
Table 2: Accumulated analysis of work plan from logistic regression.....	18
Table 3: Estimates of parameters of work plan from logistic regression	19
Table 4: Accumulated analysis of budget from logistic regression.....	21
Table 5: Estimates of parameters of budget from logistic regression.....	22
Table 6: Accumulated analysis of completion time from logistic regression.....	24
Table 7: Estimates of parameters of completion time from logistic regression	25
Table 8: A summary of seminar evaluation parameters	56
Table 9: Areas of Consultation	58

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1: Interaction between dependent and independent variables	11
Figure 2: Number of publications from 2006/2007 to 2010/2011 academic year	30
Figure 3: The Intern with JKUAT Monitoring and Evaluation Committee	34
Figure 4: Evidence for providing funding for MSc. student	37
Figure 5: Site visit to one experimental site that was funded by JKUAT	39
Figure 6: Seminar session on R	47

LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Data collection checklist-----	63
Appendix 2: Key Performance Outcome Form -----	64
Appendix 3: JKUAT Research Guidelines -----	65
Appendix 4: Seminar Poster -----	67
Appendix 5: Evaluation Questionnaire for Seminar Presentation-----	68

LIST OF ACRONYMS

ANSI	American National Standards Institutes
BEED	Biomechanical and Enviromental Engineering Department
CTA	Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation
FST	Food Science Department
IEET	Institute of Energy and Enviromental Technology
ICSIT	Instititute of Computer Science and Information Technology
ITROMID	Instititute of Tropical Medicine and Infectious Disease
ITC	Instititute of Information Technology
JKCAT	Jomo Kenyatta College of Agriculture and Technology
JKUAT	Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology
JKUCAT	Jomo Kenyatta University College of Agriculture and Technology
NHI	National Institute of Health
RPE Division	Research, Production and Extension Division
RUFORUM	Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture
SHRD	School of Human Resource Development
SMART	Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Time Bound
SSC	Statistical Service Centre
URCO	University Research Coordination Office

ABSTRACT

This study evaluated to what extent research methodologies influence proposal work plan, budget and completion time. The study involved a sample size of twenty randomly selected proposals out of a total of 52 on-going research projects. Data were analysed using logistic regression. The results from the study at alpha 0.05 showed that statement of the problem; research design; objective of the study and justification of the study had a significant effect on work plan, budget and completion time. The background of the study, hypothesis, goal, significance of the study and abstract had no significant effect on work plan, budget and completion time. Interestingly, literature review had significant effect on budget but no significant effect on work plan and completion time. Based on results of the study, it was concluded that research methodologies influence proposals' adherence to work plan, budget and completion time. As a result, it was recommended that the problem and justification of the study needs to be clearly stated, technically feasible with cost-benefit analysis well spelled out; research design to be scientifically acceptable, related to the objectives (or hypothesis) of the study and achievable within the time plan; objectives of the study to be SMART; and literature review to be comprehensive, relevant and current. This paper also discusses tasks conducted by researcher during internship; that is, production of compendium of research activities and publications; monitoring and evaluation of JKUAT on-going research projects; review of proposal reports; capacity building; and offering consultancy in research methods.

Key Words: Research Methodology, Work Plan, Budget, Completion Time