MAGNA SKILLS DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

Capacity Building • Professional Training • Organisational Development

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Course Profile Document

Environmental, Urban and Regional Planning

Research Methods for Agriculture & Rural Project

Prepared as a professional course profile for delegate review, sponsorship approval and organisational training planning.

COURSE CODE	DELIVERY	DURATION	PREPARED FOR
MSD2629	**Online / Face-to-Face**	**Flexible**	**Organisation Approval**

Register for this Course **View Online Course Page**

Course Overview

Decisionmakers need information that is relevant, timely, accurate, and usable. In rural development, a great deal of the information that is
generated is, in various combinations, irrelevant, late, wrong, or unusable anyway. It is also often costly to obtain, process, analyze, and digest.

Although many professional social scientists have given thought to improving information gathering, it remains a remarkably inefficient activity. Criteria of cost-effectiveness have not often been applied, and manifest inefficiency is sometimes met by demanding not better information, or less, but simply more

Course Outcomes

- Describe the key components of scientific research, including the formulation of research questions, development of testable hypotheses and predictions, gathering and evaluating evidence and deriving and presenting conclusions.
- Define scientific inference and explain the use of inductive and deductive reasoning and the limitations of both.
- Differentiate between quantitative and qualitative observations and explain the concepts of reliability, accuracy and precision as they relate to measurement.
- Understand the consequences of variability and error with specific reference to Type I and Type II errors.
- Understand the principles underlying the design and implementation of experiments, including the function and use of controls, replication and randomization.
- Understand the basis of observer bias and the management of bias.
- Understand the key differences between field and laboratory experiments.
- Construct valid arguments and use evidence correctly and effectively to support their conclusions.
- Understand and apply appropriate methods of data presentation.
- Understand how scientific findings are formally communicated including the peer-review process and the key components of scientific papers and publications.
- Effectively and systematically access information from the scientific literature.
- Critically evaluate scientific communications, including publications and presentations.
- Understand how research is conducted in academic, government and industrial settings, including research funding and accountability.
- Discuss ethical issues in agricultural research including research integrity, animal welfare, privacy and human rights.

Course Outline / Curriculum

- Comprehend the complex nature of the research process and research methods.
- Have critical understanding and application of the basic aspects of the research process in order to plan and execute a research project.
- To effectively use the library and its resources in gathering information related to the student's research project, and to understand the principles and types of plagiarism, and apply strategies to avoid plagiarism.
- Comprehend, critically evaluate and effectively apply the principles of qualitative research methods used to execute and validate qualitative research.
- Comprehend and effectively follow the procedure of sampling, and data collection with questionnaires, and to understand and be able to develop a survey to capture data to answer research questions.
- To effectively interpret the software outputs of structural equation modelling.
- To effectively interpret satistical analyses related to multiple regression analysis, EFA, ANOVA and MANOVA.
- To be able to present, review and publish scientific articles.
- Prepare for and present a conference paper/poster at a national/international conference.

Target Audience

Policy analysts; Researchers; Economists; Development planners and Government employees; Academics and commentators;Legislators;Agricultural Economists; Statisticians and other social scientists However, the short courses are open to anyone responsible for research management and uptake at any research organisation

Key Course Benefits

Work-Ready Skills

Delegates leave with practical tools, templates and methods they can apply immediately at work.

Better Institutional Results

The programme supports stronger planning, reporting, compliance, accountability and service delivery.

Sponsor-Friendly

This document is designed to help supervisors, HR units and sponsors approve delegate participation quickly.

Professional Recognition

Delegates receive training documentation and a certificate of completion after successful participation.

Our Training Centres & Delivery Options

Magna Skills offers flexible delivery through face-to-face training centres across Africa and beyond, plus Online / E-Learning for delegates who prefer remote participation.

Southern Africa

Practical training destinations with strong travel access and delegate support.

- Pretoria, South Africa
- Vic Falls, Zimbabwe
- Livingstone, Zambia

East Africa

Popular regional centres for government, NGO and donor-funded project teams.

- Kigali, Rwanda
- Kampala, Uganda
- Nairob
- Zanzibar, Tanzania

West Africa & Islands

Strategic locations for regional networking and executive capacity building.

- Accra, Ghana
- Port Louis, Mauritius

International Executive Venue

Premium destination training for senior teams and international delegates.

- Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Online / E-Learning

Attend from anywhere through live online, blended or self-paced learning options.

- Online, E-Learning
- Remote Teams
- Flexib

Organisation-Based Training

Magna Skills can also arrange dedicated in-house training for ministries, NGOs and companies.

- Onsite
- Custom Dates
- Group Training

Ready to Nominate Delegates?

Use the links below to register, review the live course page or contact Magna Skills for organisation-based training support.

Register / Apply Online | **View Full Course Page**

About Magna Skills

Magna Skills Development Institute provides practical capacity building programmes for government departments, NGOs, public institutions, donor-funded projects and private sector professionals across Africa. Our training approach combines expert facilitation, real workplace case studies, practical tools, post-training support and professional documentation that helps organisations strengthen staff performance and service delivery.

Government Training | NGO Capacity Building | Corporate Workshops | Online Learning | Face-to-Face Training | Certifica

Approval & Authorisation Form

This section may be completed by the organisation, department, HR office, finance office or sponsor approving delegate participation. It can be attached to an internal memo, procurement request or training approval submission.

Organisation / Department	
Delegate Name(s)	
Approved Course	Research Methods for Agriculture & Rural Project
Preferred Delivery Mode	☐ Online ☐ Face-to-Face ☐ Organisation-Based Training
Preferred Training Venue /Date	
Estimated Number ofDelegates	
Budget / Vote Number	
Contact Person	
Email / Mobile	

Authorised Name	Signature / Stamp	Date