



COUNCIL FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

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ANNOUNCEMENT

Training Course on Research Methodology in Social Sciences

September 12-23, 2011

Aims and Scope

A common challenge faced by almost all social science researchers is that of choosing an appropriate methodology for their research and evaluation work i.e. Selection and formulation of the problems; review of relevant literature; conceptual framework; selection of research design; formulation of research questions/ hypothesis and testing of hypothesis; selection of sampling methods and its techniques; preparing of interview schedules, questionnaire and other relevant tools for data collection; collecting data from the field and field management; choosing suitable techniques of data analysis; using computer and information technology for data collection analysis & report writing; interpreting the data and reporting on the findings of the research study.

This training course has been designed keeping these problems in view. It aims at enhancing the knowledge of, and skills in, some of the widely applied survey research methods, basic statistical techniques and scientific report writing. The course addresses the needs of academic researchers and of the practitioners of development in the field.

Course Objectives

The objectives of the course are to:

- Explain the difference between social and natural science; pure and applied science and pure, applied & action research;
- Formulate and test a research questions/hypotheses;
- Describe different types of sampling techniques;
- Discuss the techniques of data collection, processing and analysis through the following methods:
 - Participant Observation, Focused Group Discussion (FDG), Case Study, Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) and Rapid Rural Appraisal (RRA);
 - Questionnaire & interview techniques and Statistical methods;
 - Computer Applications – Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS) and Geographical Information System (GIS);
- Indicate the implications of social science researches in formulation, planning and implementation of various socio-economic development programmes and schemes; and
- Discuss the major sections/ chapters to be included in scientific report or thesis writing.

Target Participants

Research students/ academicians/ professionals from any social science background coming from universities, research institutions, government departments and Non-Governmental Organizations.

