Research Design

Researcher Name:
Research Title:
Date:

Who

What

Where

How (vertical, left margin)

Participants / Sources

Individual	Partners
Group level	Competitors / Detractors

Motivation

Academic	Sector / Professional	Personal

Research Question

Problem	Topic

Context

Social	Historical
Political	Geographical
Economic	Digital

Impact

Level	Stakeholders - who/where/what

Intersectionality

Gender	Etnic/race
Class	Nationality
Life cicle	Abilities

Methodology

Innovation

Field	Methodology	Impact

Resources

Engagement

Collaboration	Contribution

Resposibility

Ethics	Deconolization

Use of Knowledge / Dissemination

Guiding Questions

The canvas is designed to help you navigate different details that may affect your research design. Some questions will not be pertinent to your research, try to adapt them to your case and if it is not possible leave the blank. This canvas will help researchers identify key aspects they might need to investigate further and some existing biases. You will work on the canvas filling out the canvas, there are guiding questions to ask yourself to include your research's information.

1. **PARTICIPANTS/SOURCES:** Who are my participants? What are my sources? Where am I getting information from (primary and secondary sources)?

2. **Individual:** How will my study impact participants at the individual level? Are there risks associated with their participation?

3. **Group level:** How will my study impact participants at their community and social level? Are there any indirect benefits or risks to the members of their socio, cultural, and political circles?

4. **Partners:** Who are the participant's partners? Is anyone else working with them on the same topics? Do I need to consider their partner's influence on my study?

5. **Competitors/Detractors:** Are there any competitors or detractors that could benefit or leverage from my study's results and outcomes that could potentially jeopardize or negatively impact participants? Could they jeopardize the study? Could they represent a risk to me or participants?

6. **INTERSECTIONALITY:** How does the following characteristics interact to make participants more or less prone to positive and negative impact? Have they worked before on this characteristic or areas? Would I be introducing these concepts to participants?

7. **Gender:** Which are the gender and sexual orientation characteristics among participants in my study?

8. **Ethnic/Race:** Which are the ethnic and racial characteristics among participants in my study?

9. **Class:** Which are the class characteristics among participants in my study?

10. **Nationality:** Participants citizenship status is something to be considered in the study? Are my participants from the Global South or low, and middle-income countries?

11. **Life cycle:** Is my study focused on a specific moment in the life cycle? Could this be relevant for the design of the study, analyzing and/or disseminating data?

12. **Abilities:** Can participants' abilities impact or determine the design, analysis or data dissemination of the study?

13. **MOTIVATION:** What motivates my study? What is my interest in conducting and concluding this research project? (Identifying interests and motivation will help recognize biases).

14. **Academic:** Are there any academic interests to complete the study? Which? (E.g., Position myself, complete a degree, etc.)

15. **Sector/professional:** Are there any professional interests to complete the study? Which? (E.g., I belong to an organization, I am fulfilling a specific need or gap in my sector or field, etc.).

16. **Personal:** Are there any personal interests to complete the study? Which? (E.g., A topic I advocate for, a topic I have personal experience on, etc.)

17. **RESEARCH QUESTION:** Please write down your research question.

18. **Problem:** Briefly. What is the problem I am contributing to solve with my study? Is that a problem for who?

19. **Topic:** Which is my research topic? Is it an interdisciplinary study? Add keywords and identify field(s) of study.

20. **METHODOLOGY:** What methodology am I using? Am I using methodologies from different fields? What kind of data do I need? Is it public/accessible for me?

21. **INNOVATION:** How is my study innovative? (Is it in the contribution to my field(s), in the methodology I am using, or the impact I am anticipating?

22. **RESOURCES:** What do I need to complete the study? Is it feasible as I have envisioned it time-wise? Do I have the necessary funds? Where are funds coming from? Can my funding limit my research outcome and results?

23. **CONTEXT:** Place(s) my study is taking place in. Where are my participants? Which is the origin of the data I will be using to conduct my study? Add key data to these sections. Annotate and acknowledge the points where you identify you need further research.

24. **Social:** Add social contextual aspects. Culture, costumes, religious components, etc.

25. **Political:** Add any political considerations around power structures and/or distribution, political system, relevant recent phenomena.

26. **Economic:** Add any economic considerations like inequality, access to goods and services for the population, economic model, etc.

27. **Historical (Optional):** Add any historical events that might be worth considering for conducting your study (E.g., wars, pandemics, revolutions, etc.).

28. **Geographical (Optional):** Identify if your study has any geographical aspect to consider, especially if you are conducting fieldwork at any point.

29. **Digital (Optional):** Level of digital literacy of my participants or impacted communities to receive and engage with my data results? Are there any issues related to data governance? Are there any contextual issues related to accessing and connecting to digital services related to the study?

30. **IMPACT:** What impact do I envision my study could have? Positive and negative.

31. **Level:** Does my study impact the local, regional, national and/or international levels? More than one? Any relevant correlation between them?

32. **Stakeholders:** Who are my study's stakeholders? Where are they? What message do I want to transmit (if there is any).

33. **ENGAGEMENT:** What kind of engagement do I want to have with reader, field, community or others?

34. **Collaboration:** Who are my collaborators? Or who would I like to collaborate with in the future? How?

35. **Contribution:** Which is my main contribution? A theory? A novel methodology? A framework? A system? A piece? A policy brief? Etc. What makes my contribution valuable?

36. **RESPONSIBILITY:** Think about your responsibility as a researcher and citizen. Which responsibilities are you acquiring and with who?

37. **Ethics:** How will you make sure your study meets high ethical standards? Which processes are you undertaking? Do you have a plan to mitigate risks? How are you giving information back to participants?

38. **Decolonization:** How do you plan or which steps are you taking to ensure your data collection, data analysis and conclusions aren't patronizing, imposing, or prolonging a hierarchical knowledge system between North and South and any other oppressive belief system relevant to your study?

39. **KNOWLEDGE USE & DISSEMINATION:** How do you plan to contribute to the everyday life of those potentially impacted by your study's results and outcomes? How are you presenting your results and outcomes to the individuals and communities you are analyzing in your study (or those who could be potentially impacted)?