

**Name:** Development Oriented Triangulation (DoT)

**Short Description:** Development Oriented Triangulation (DoT) is a research framework designed to enhance research quality, particularly in development-related studies. It emphasizes the systematic use of multiple data sources and methods to achieve a more robust and comprehensive understanding.

**Full Description:** Development Oriented Triangulation (DoT) is a methodological framework that applies the principles of triangulation to improve the rigor and validity of research, particularly in contexts where development is a central focus. It acknowledges the complexity and multi-dimensionality of development issues, advocating for a multi-faceted approach to data collection and analysis. DoT encourages researchers to move beyond single-method reliance, promoting the integration of diverse perspectives and data types. This approach aims to minimize bias, enhance credibility, and provide a more holistic view of the subject under investigation. The framework is designed to make research more reliable, and defensible. The framework is designed to be flexible, and adaptable to many different research areas.

**Application Area:** DoT is applicable across various research domains, particularly in social sciences, development studies, and interdisciplinary research. It is useful in:

- Evaluating the impact of social programs and interventions.
- Analyzing complex social phenomena and trends.
- Investigating the effectiveness of development policies.
- Conducting participatory research with diverse stakeholder groups.
- Enhancing the validity of qualitative and quantitative research findings.
- Information and communication technology research in development.

**Step-by-Step Guide How to Apply:**

1. **Define Clear Research Questions:** Start by formulating precise research questions that address the development issue you are investigating.
2. **Identify and Select Triangulation Methods:** Determine which triangulation methods are most suitable for your research. Common methods include:
  - **Data Triangulation:** Using multiple data sources (e.g., interviews, surveys, documents).
  - **Methodological Triangulation:** Employing multiple research methods (e.g., qualitative and quantitative).
  - **Researcher Triangulation:** Involving multiple researchers in data collection and analysis.
  - **Theory Triangulation:** Using multiple theoretical perspectives to interpret data.

3. **Plan Data Collection:** Develop a detailed data collection plan, outlining the specific data sources, methods, and procedures you will use.
4. **Collect and Analyze Data:** Systematically collect data from each source and method, ensuring consistency and rigor. Then, analyze the data, looking for convergence and divergence in findings.
5. **Integrate and Interpret Findings:** Synthesize the findings from different sources and methods, identifying patterns, themes, and contradictions. Interpret the integrated findings in relation to your research questions and theoretical framework.
6. **Validate and Reflect:** Critically evaluate the validity and reliability of your findings, considering potential biases and limitations. Reflect on the strengths and weaknesses of your triangulation approach.
7. **Document and Report:** Clearly document your research process, including the triangulation methods used, data analysis procedures, and findings. Report your findings in a clear and transparent manner.

**Link:** <https://ictresearchmethods.nl/dot-framework/>