**My Journey into Data Analytics and Visualization**

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Having recently graduated with a passion for numbers, I embarked on a three-month journey to master data analytics and visualization. Little did I know, this experience would not only sharpen my technical skills but also transform Maxwel’s perspective on the power of data.

Through a friend, I found out about a training program at Fablab Winam,an innovation maker space organization, that promised mouth-watering experience and expert guidance.The programme would be funded by world bank. I was drawn to it because I wanted to bridge the gap between raw data and actionable insights as well as the monthly stipend that was assured.Another reason was that since I studied Finance in a higher lerning institution,it would be beneficial to me. My initial goal was to enhance my knowledge and skills in a data-driven world, but I soon realized there was much more to learn beyond my anticipation and stipend-auriented mind.

The first two weeks were dedicated to understanding the fundamentals of data analytics. We amplified into topics like data cleaning,manipulation and validation. The instructors were experienced professionals, with admirable passion for data. However, I quickly discovered that cleaning and manipulating data was more challenging than I expected; considering the amount of mind-blowing and messy data we worked with.

The memorable moments revolve around using data analytics and visualization tools like Python,Excel,Sql,Power Bi and Tableu. I learned how to identify outliers and handle missing values as well as identify and remove duplicates. Although it was frustrating at times, the satisfaction of transforming complexity into clarity made it worthwhile.

As we progressed, we delved into more advanced concepts like predictive analytics and machine learning. I was introduced to Python.I had completely zero knowledge in coding.At some point,lerning python codes almost sent my brain to suicidal thoughts.The instructor would ask me difficult question having realized that I feared python at the onset.Learning to code was verry intimidating and at the same time interesting. I just thank God I’m still breathing.

Fablab Winam would invite various mentors,whle some mentored us virtually.This equipped me with added skills on financial management,communication skills,C.V writing,critical thinking and emotional intelligence.That’s the momment I learned to minimise gambling.However ,I felt dissatisfied whenever the mentor’s topics revolved arround gender.Why always girls?

Through a group project,we developed a predictive model to forecast sales for a small business.I named the project title ‘’Maxwel’s Business Model’’. Collaborating with my fellow trainees taught me the importance of teamwork. Positive comments from instructors during presentation and the fact that am shy significantly boosted my confidence level in regards to addressing a crowed and as well as communication.I guess it will also impact my dating life.

The final weeks of the training focused on data visualization, a topic I was particularly eager to explore. I learned about various visualization tools, including Tableau, and how to effectively communicate insights through visual storytelling. Dashboard creation was enjoyable. I enjoyed choosing colors and layouts that made the data pop while ensuring it was easy to understand.The power bi instructor called it ‘magic’ and I remember him ask, ‘’Maxwel,are you able to see some magic?’’ as he laughs histerically.

I learned that data analytics is about clarity and impact. Seeing my classmates' visualizations inspired me.Looking back, the most valuable skill I gained was the ability to turn complex data into clear insights.

This training has not only equipped me with practical skills but has also shaped my career aspirations. I am now eager to apply what I’ve learned in real-world opportunities. I am also ready to use data analytics and visualization skills to impact everyone including the women and youths from my community who are still infertile on data matters.

My journey in data analytics and visualization has just begun.The fun and momments with my peers during the training,the balanced diet,especially Thursdays’ chapati and beans provided by the organization, remains unforgetful.

For anyone considering a similar path as Maxwel, I recommend embracing challenges and not shying away from asking for help.Every mistake is an opportunity to learn. You can do it.