

AUTHORS GUIDE LINES

General Instruction to Authors

- The IDRJ will consider manuscripts that have been submitted only to this journal and not papers that have been published already. In addition, the manuscript must not be under consideration for publication or in press in another journal
- It is highly recommended that the manuscript be proof-read by a competent English language expert before submission.
- Manuscripts should be typed double-spaced on the Microsoft Word, with page numbers at the bottom centre and using Times New Romans font of 12 points.

Types of Manuscript Accepted

Original Research Articles: These should be based on new and carefully confirmed findings. Experimental procedures should be given in sufficient details for others to verify the work. The length of original articles should be between **four and five thousand words** (excluding abstract, references and tables). Tables, Figures or other illustrations should not exceed a total of **six** and should be based on original research.

Reviews: Submissions of reviews and perspectives covering topics of current issues are welcome and encouraged. Reviews should be concise and not longer than **six thousand words** (excluding abstract, references and tables). Reviews must compose critical analyses of the subjects reviewed giving current and balanced view of all the issues. The message carried in reviews should be clear and of significance.

Structure of the Manuscripts

Manuscripts for Research articles submitted to the IDRJ should be divided into the following sections:

Title: should only appear on the first page, be brief and focused on the contents of the paper. The Title page should include the authors' full names and affiliations, the name of the corresponding author along with phone and e-mail contact information. Present addresses of authors should appear on the title page.

Abstract: should be informative but brief. It has to state the scope and objectives of the study, methods employed, major findings, conclusion and recommendations. The Abstract should not exceed **250 words** in length in one paragraph. Complete sentences, active verbs, and the third person should be used, and the abstract should be written using the past tense. Standard nomenclature should be used and abbreviations should be avoided. No sub-heading and literature should be cited in this section.

Key Words: Following the abstract, provide about 5 to 7 key words which clearly explain the manuscript theme and purpose. The first letter of each key word should be in lower case, be separated by a comma and avoid repeating words in the title.

Abbreviations: A list of non-standard abbreviations should be added. In general, non-standard abbreviations should be used only when the full term is very long and used often. Each abbreviation should be spelled out and introduced in parentheses the first time it is used in the text. Only recommended SI units should be used.

Introduction: Should provide the background information, a clear statement of the problem and significance of the research carried out, the relevant literature on the subject, and the proposed approach or solution. It should be understandable to the audience from a broad range of scientific disciplines.

Materials and methods: Should be complete enough to allow replication of the study. However, if new procedures are employed, they should be described in details. Previously published procedures should be cited, and important modifications of published procedures should be described briefly. Sub-headings such as study area, study design, type of population, sample size and sampling technique, data collecting tools, research questions and data analysis and validation methods can be used. Methods in general use need not be described in details.

Results: Should be presented with clarity and precision. The results should be written in the **past tense** when describing findings. Previously published findings should be written in the **present tense**. Results should involve analysis, but without referring to the literature. Discussion, speculation and detailed interpretation of data should not be included in the Results but should be put into the Discussion section.

Discussion: Should interpret the findings in view of the results obtained in past studies on same or similar topic i.e. comparing and contrasting the findings. The results and discussion sections can include sub-headings, and when appropriate, both sections can also be combined.

Conclusions and recommendations: Should come at the end of the paper. Here the author should briefly state what emanates from the study.

Acknowledgments: people who supported the author(s) for comments and in form of grants, funds, or in other ways should be briefly thanked.

Tables: Should be kept to a minimum and be designed to be as simple as possible. Tables are to be typed single-spaced throughout, including headings and footnotes. Each table should be on a separate page, numbered consecutively in Arabic numerals and supplied with a heading and a legend. Tables should be self-explanatory without reference to the text. The details of the methods used in the experiments should preferably be described in the legend instead of in the text. The same data should not be presented in both table and graph form or repeated in the text.

Figure legends: Should be typed in numerical order on a separate sheet. Graphics should be

prepared using applications capable of generating high resolution GIF, TIFF, JPEG or PowerPoint before pasting in the Microsoft Word manuscript file. Tables should be prepared in Microsoft Word. Use Arabic numerals to designate figures and upper case letters for their parts. Begin each legend with a title and include sufficient description so that the figure is understandable without reading the text of the manuscript. Information given in legends should not be repeated in the text.

REFERENCE STYLE

All publications cited in the text should be presented in a list of References as shown in the example below. Citation in the text should refer to the author's name and year of publication. Example: "Kaghuva (2006) argues that...", "This is in agreement with previous report (Kakongo, 2006)". If the authors are more than two, the name of the first author should be used followed by "et al.". In the list of references, however, names of first author and all co-authors should be mentioned.

Use semi-colons to separate multiple references and list in an alphabetical and not a chronological order. Examples:

One author: Mrisha (1992) or (Mngori, 1987).

Two authors: Kaguro and Kahemba (1992) or (Kaguro and Kahemba, 1992)

Three or more authors: Mrisha et al. (1992) or (Mrisha et al., 1992)

More than one identical reference: (Vuvee, 1992a or Vuvee, 1992b)

Multiple references: (Nakimo, 1992; Mnyika, 1995; Mavoo, 2010)

The following illustrates some common referencing formats.

Journal Article:

Mikalista, S. M. (2010). Gender-specific constraints affecting technology use and household food security in Western Province Kenya. *African Journal of Food Agriculture Nutrition and Development*. Vol. 10, No. 4 April 2010.

Book:

Mugenda, O. and Mugenda, A. (1999). *Research methods: Quantitative and qualitative approaches*. African Center for Technology Studies (ACTS) Press, Nairobi. 233 pp.

Article or chapter in a book:

Trottier, B. (1987). Women in aquaculture production in West Africa. **In** Nash. C.E., Engle, C.R. and Crosetti, D. (Eds.). *Women in Aquaculture*. FAO ADCP/REP/87/28, pp. 17-28.

Dissertation or Thesis:

Hague, M. (1992). *The economics and feasibility of Aquaculture in Northern Tanzania*. B.A. Dissertation, University of Stirling, Scotland. 40 pp.

From the Website:

FAO (1997). Participation in practice. Lessons from the FAO people's participation programme. Available at <http://www.fao.org/docrep/010/t9550e/t9550e00.htm> (visited on 10th October, 2010).