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14 May 2015

Dear Friends,

Data can be an important guide for decision-making. In this week's newsflash, we are sharing some resources around data and research methods. We hope these will be helpful for you in your work.

Sincerely,

The Firelight Team

*(Resource) Africa Evidence Network*

*(Resource) Web Center for Social Research Methods*

*(Resource) UNESCO Institute for Statistics - Data Centre*

*(Open for Applications) Ford Foundation*

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(Resource) Africa Evidence Network

The Africa Evidence Network is a community of people who work in Africa and have an interest in evidence, its production (in particular but not exclusively through systematic reviews) and use in decision-making. We include researchers, practitioners and policy-makers from universities, NGOs and governments.

Visit their website at: <http://www.africaevidencenetwork.org/>

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(Resource) Web Center for Social Research Methods

This website is for people involved in applied social research and evaluation. You'll find lots of resources and links to other locations on the Web that deal in applied social research methods.

Some highlights of what is available:

- **The Knowledge Base:** An online hypertext textbook on applied social research methods that covers everything you want to know about defining a research question, sampling, measurement, research design and data analysis.
- **Selecting Statistics:** An online statistical advisor! Answer the questions and it will lead you to an appropriate statistical test for your data.
- **The Simulation Book:** A previously unpublished book of manual (i.e., dice-rolling) and computer simulation exercises of common research designs, for students and

researchers to learn how to do simple simulations.

- **Concept Mapping:** A resource guide for learning about structured conceptual mapping. It includes links to general introductory materials, research and case studies illustrating the use of the method, and information about software.

Visit the website at: <http://www.socialresearchmethods.net/>

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(Resource) UNESCO Institute for Statistics - Data Centre

The UIS Data Centre provides access to UIS' new data base, UIS.Stat, where you can build your own tables, graphs and maps. The data base contains all the latest available data and indicators, for education, literacy, science, technology and innovation, as well as culture. It also contains updated country and regional profiles, global rankings and other interactive tools.

Access the Data Centre online at: <http://www.uis.unesco.org/datacentre>

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(Open for Applications) Ford Foundation

The Ford Foundation is committed to achieving lasting change that transforms people's lives. Through our grant making, we support innovative thinkers, leaders and organizations that are working to reduce poverty and injustice and to promote democratic values, free expression and human achievement. When making grants, we think about long-term strategies, knowing that lasting social change requires decades of effort. And because our mission is broad and our resources are limited, we carefully target our support so it can be used most effectively and leverage the greatest amount of impact.

**No submission deadlines.** Applications are considered throughout the year.

For more information and instructions on how to apply,  
visit: <http://www.fordfoundation.org/grants/organizations-seeking-grants>

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As part of the Firelight Foundation's Capacity Building Program, Firelight provides "Newsflashes" to share relevant resources and information with our active grantee-partners via weekly emails and via post on a monthly basis. We hope that by facilitating access to information for grassroots, community-focused organizations, programming for children and families, as well as organizational development, is enhanced. Past editions of the Firelight Newsflash can be found on our website:

<http://www.firelightfoundation.org/resources/newsflash>

We welcome your comments, feedback and ideas for upcoming Newsflashes at [newsletter@firelightfoundation.org](mailto:newsletter@firelightfoundation.org)

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