

Making sense of theoretical and conceptual frameworks

A C.O.S.T.A. Research Coaching Tool

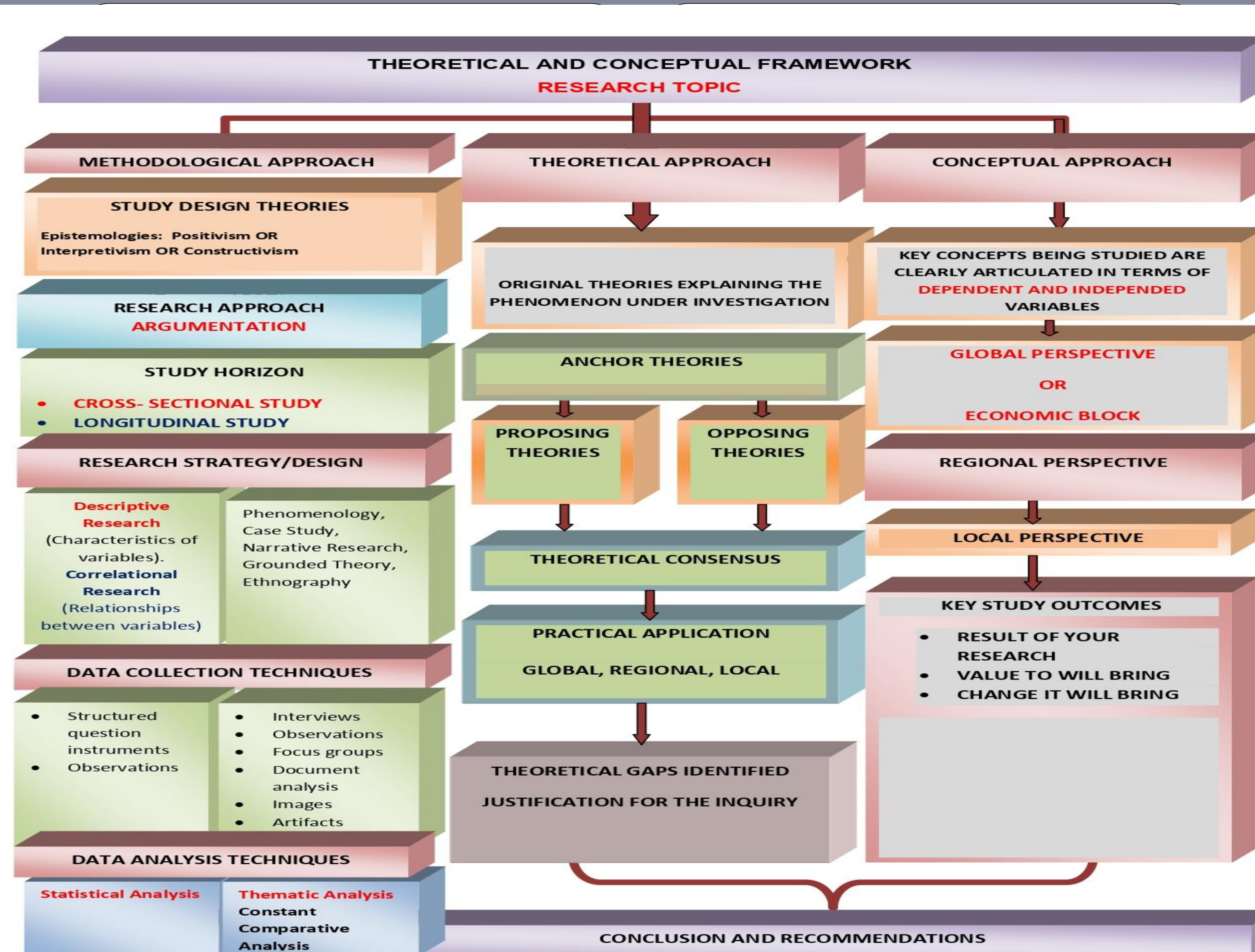
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ABSTRACT

Theoretical and conceptual frameworks play a critical role in building up one's research study trajectory. Researchers need to decide the foundational dynamics of their research inquiry, right from breaking down concepts from the research questions, to formulation of hypothesis/assumptions and deciding on the philosophical basis for the inquiry. It can therefore be asserted that role theory plays is essential in creation of boundaries and shape for the research inquiry.

Reference Cooper, D. R., & Schindler, P. (n.d.). S, 2001, Business Research Methods. McGraw, New York.



RATIONALE

The C.O.S.T.A. Framework provides a pertinent and structured pathway for an orderly investigative approach, which further supports conclusions that theories provide explanations for decisions made in the process of inquiry. These include methodological decisions, theoretical and conceptual decisions. Therefore, it should always be understood that concepts are ideas that are structured. These ideas then inform the way reality is explicated from different paradigmatic perspectives. This statement demonstrates intergration of concepts and theory and then theoretical and conceptual frameworks.

Reference Aldrich, H. E., & Martinez, M. A. (2007). Many are called, but few are chosen: An evolutionary perspective for the study of entrepreneurship. In *Entrepreneurship* (pp. 293–311). Springer.