



Global Forum for Media Development
Athens World Conference, 7-10 December 2008

Workshop Title: Beyond the Tools – Frameworks for Doing Journalism

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Language: (Please mark one) English, French, Spanish, Russian, Arabic

Workshop description:

1. What are the main points you want to raise in the workshop?

In order to produce the kinds of knowledge citizens need to build and manage democratic societies, it is essential that journalists have a process – *a way to think about what they are doing and why* – that they can use as a framework to apply the journalistic skills and technology they have acquired.

2. Give some background information to the issue you want to raise.

“The Elements of Journalism, What Newspeople Should Know and the Public Should Expect” by Bill Kovach and Tom Rosenstiel is an example of “a master narrative for doing journalism.” Now published in 37 languages, “The Elements” identifies the essential factors that define journalism and its role in society. Over the last 6 years, the Committee of Concerned Journalists has taught “The Elements” to almost 10,000 U-S journalists at 140 news organizations.

The question is whether programs such as this should be identified and taught as a way to help journalists bridge journalism theory with journalism tools and practices.

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3. List three key questions you want the workshop to address.

a) How important is it for a journalist to have a framework to bridge theory and practice?

b) What kinds of frameworks might be most appropriate to journalists in the developing countries?

c) What are the most appropriate methods to teach and/or seed these frameworks? Where in the landscape of training might these processes be introduced so they would have the most impact?

4. What would be the main desired outcome of the workshop?

- 1) To introduce the notion of a practical "framework for doing journalism" to the media training community
- 2) To obtain their thoughts and recommendations
- 3) To consider whether it should be done
- 4) To consider how it might be done
- 5) To share successful curricula and teaching methods

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