CMU Africa AFRINIC Project
Pasqua Ruggiero

Student Questions:

1. *How do you like working with students from Africa? Any cultural differences you've noticed?*
   Honestly, I don't see any really big cultural differences between me and the students at CMU Africa. I think there are too many confounding factors that prevent me from making an accurate assessment of their culture. My teammates have a wide variety of academic interests, personalities and backgrounds that make it hard for me to find a common feature and pinpoint that to being a cultural difference.

2. *What are differences you have noticed with the MSIT students and the MSP students?*
   I think one of the biggest differences between the MSIT and MSP students is the difference in program structure. If I understand correctly, the MSIT program contains various tracks and takes over a year to complete. For instance, one of my teammates is on the cybersecurity track, while the other two are on the data science track. Even the data science track seems to be different from the MSP program due to the various electives they have the opportunity to take, as well as a focus on coding in Python as opposed to R.

3. *In terms of data collection, is there any difficulty could be expected?*
   Yes, there has been a bit of difficulty with data collection so far. The first problem comes from the formatting of the data-some data is only displayed through the dashboards, and we must perform web scraping to draw out the various points of interest. Another issue is missing data for various African countries. We are having some trouble attaining data that includes information on the metrics measures for all African countries.

4. *Could you elaborate on what subject matter expert opinions you will be using for this project and how are you going to obtain them?*
   We have been provided with an expert opinion graphing tool from our advisor, which is a prototype that collects users ranking on the importance of various types of metrics on determining internet resiliency. We hope to have time to redesign this tool so that the metrics included are our final metrics for the aggregate index, and send it to our client and advisor for them to distribute to SMEs. By having the SME's expertise on our metrics ranking, we can validate our initial weighing choices for each individual metric.

Data Questions:

- *Do you have any data?*
  Yes, we were able to obtain some of the data needed for our metrics of interest. It is a process that is taking longer than we expected.

- *Is it the right data or only illustrative data for now?*
  This would be the right data-we plan to use this data to build our aggregate index.

- *Is it a subset of the data you need, or all of it?*
  We only need a subset of the data. A lot of the sources we have found so far contain unnecessary columns and sometimes non-African countries that we must remove.

- *If you don't have all of the right data yet, what is/are the impediments?*
  We're learning how to do some web-scraping to obtain data from those only displayed in GIS dashboards. Our client has kindly offered to set up meetings with each of us to show us how to extract the different types of data as well.