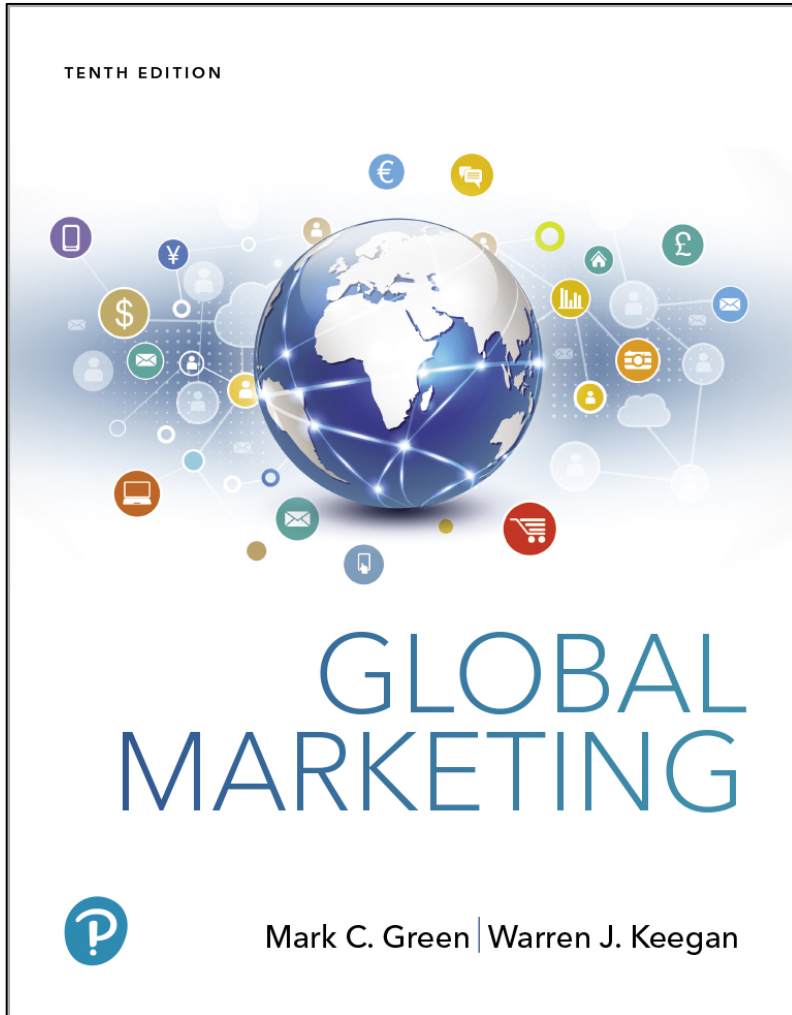


Global Marketing

Tenth Edition



Chapter 6

Global Information Systems and Market Research

Learning Objectives

6.1 Discuss the roles of IT, MIS, and big data in a global company's decision-making processes.

6.2 Describe the various sources of market information, including direct perception.

6.3 Identify the individual steps in the traditional market research process and explain some of the ways global marketers adapt them.

6.4 Compare the way a multinational firm organizes the marketing research effort with the way a global or transnational firm approaches the organizing issue.

6.5 Explain how information's role as a strategic asset affects the structure of global corporations.

Information Technology, Management Information System & Big Data

IT: An organization's processes for creating, storing, exchanging, using, and managing information.

MIS: A means for gathering, analyzing and reporting relevant data to provide managers and other decision makers with a continuous flow of information about markets, customers, competitors, and company operations.

Big Data: Extremely large data sets that can be subjected to computational analysis to reveal patterns and trends.

Business Intelligence Network

- A component of MIS
- Major Objective of BI:

To enable interactive access to data, enable manipulation of these data, and to provide managers and analysts with the ability to conduct appropriate analysis. By analyzing historical and current data, situations, and performances, decision makers get valuable insights upon which they can base more informed and better decisions.

IT Infrastructure (1 of 3)

- Intranet: A private network that allows insiders or outsiders to share information securely and without paper
- RTE: Real Time Enterprises are companies like Google, Amazon, FedEx that leverage big data
- EDI: Electronic Data Interchange systems allow computer systems to speak the same language

IT Infrastructure (2 of 3)

- ECR: Efficient Consumer Response is a joint initiative of supply chain members to optimize the supply chain to benefit customers.
- EPOS: Electronic Point of Sale data read on checkout scanners help firms identify sales patterns & geographical consumer preferences.

IT Infrastructure (3 of 3)

- CRM: Customer Relationship Management is a philosophy that values two-way communication between the company & the customer.
 - Touchpoints are any point of contact between the two.
 - 360-degree view of the customer
 - SFA: Sales Force Automation software automates routine sales & marketing functions
 - Data warehouses

Sources of Market Information

- **Personal Sources**

- As much as 2/3 of corporate information
- Executives based abroad, company subsidiaries, affiliates, and branches communicate with distributors, consumers, customers, suppliers, and government officials
- Domestic companies often don't look outside their home countries so may miss new opportunities and trends.

Direct Sensory Perception

- Seeing, feeling, hearing, smelling, or tasting firsthand to find out what is going on in a country

“We often find consumers can’t articulate it. That’s why we need to have a culture where we are understanding. There can’t be detachment. You can’t just live away from the consumer and the brand and hope to gain your insights from data or reading or talking to academics. You have to be experiential. And some of our best ideas are coming from people getting out there and experiencing and listening.”

Jim Stengel, CMO Procter & Gamble

Formal Marketing Research (1 of 3)



Formal Marketing Research (2 of 3)



EXAMINE DATA AVAILABILITY

Can Secondary Data Be Used?

- Advantages and disadvantages of secondary research
- Sources of secondary data
- Types of problems that can be solved using secondary data



ASSESS VALUE OF RESEARCH

- Cost-Benefit Analysis

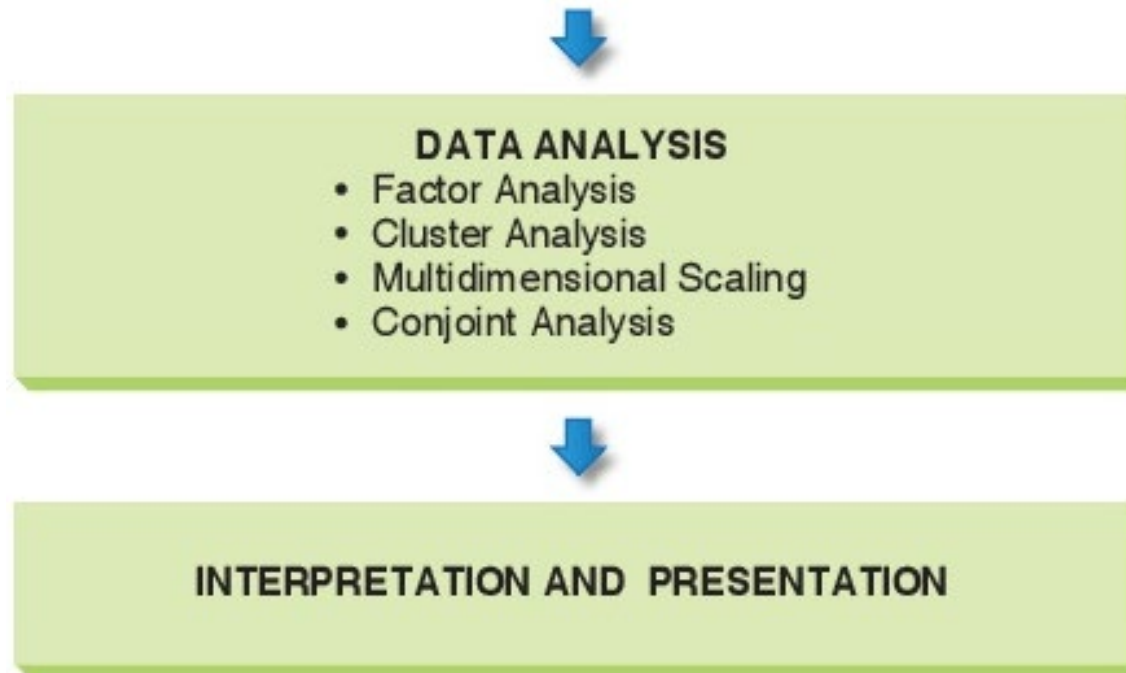


RESEARCH DESIGN

- Instrument Design
- Scale Development

Formal Marketing Research (3 of 3)

Figure 6-2 Market Research Process



Step 1: Information Requirement

Table 6 - 1 Subject Agenda Categories for a Global Marketing Information System

Category	Coverage
1. Market potential	Demand estimates, consumer behavior, review of products, channels, communication media
2. Competitor information	Corporate, business, and functional strategies; resources and intentions; capabilities
3. Foreign exchange	Balance of payments, interest rates, attractiveness of country currency, expectations of analysts
4. Prescriptive information	Laws, regulations, rulings concerning taxes, earnings, dividends in both host and home countries
5. Resource information	Availability of human, financial, physical, and information resources
6. General conditions	Overall review of sociocultural, political, and technological environments

Step 2: Problem Definition

- Be aware! The Self-Reference Criterion is at work when a person's home-country values and beliefs influence the assessment of another country.
 - Mattel execs thought Japanese girls would like Barbie just like American girls. They didn't.
 - Disney's detailed code about personal appearance was an insult to French culture, individualism, and privacy when Disneyland Paris opened.

Step 3: Choose a Unit of Analysis

- Single country
- Region
- Global
- City, state, or province

Step 4: Examine Data Availability (1 of 2)

- Can secondary data be used?
- When does management need the information in order to make a decision?
- Secondary data are less expensive than a formal market study that may take months and be very expensive.
- U.S. Government Resources
 - Statistical Abstract of the United States
 - National Trade Data Base (Dept. of Commerce)
 - Bureau of Economic Analysis
 - Census Bureau

Step 4: Examine Data Availability (2 of 2)

- Eurostat
- Canadian Trade Commissioner Service
- Statistical Yearbook of the United Nations
- CIA World Factbook
- The Economist & Financial Times
- Market [Research.com](https://www.research.com)

Step 5: Assess Value of Research

- If secondary data are not available, managers may conduct further studies of the area
- Assess the cost of research vs. what the information is worth
- Would the company enter the market without spending big money on research?
- Small markets may merit only modest research expense

Step 6: Research Design (1 of 2)

- Primary Data
 - when secondary data not available
 - provides accurate data which give exact answers to a given research problem
- Possible problems
 - difficulties in gaining the data
 - cost
 - more time is necessary to gather the data

Step 6: Research Design (2 of 2)

- Use multiple indicators rather than a single measure
- Individual companies should develop customized indicators specific to the industry, product market, or business model
- Always conduct comparative assessments in multiple markets
- Observations of purchasing patterns, other behavior should weigh more heavily than reports or opinions about purchase intention or price sensitivity

Qualitative Research Use

- To provide consumer understanding; to “get close” to the consumer
- To describe the social and cultural contexts of consumer behavior, including cultural, religious, and political factors that impact decision making
- To identify core-brand equity and “get under the skin” of brands
- To “mine” the consumer and identify what people really feel

Issues in Data Collection

- Standardization vs. Extension of Marketing Mix?
- Demand & profit potential may depend on whether the market is existing or potential
- Existing Markets are being served by one or more companies
- Potential Markets
 - Latent: An undiscovered segment
 - Incipient: A market will emerge if an economic, demographic, political, or sociocultural trend continues

Research Methodologies

- Survey Research: Qualitative or Quantitative
 - May use Back or Parallel translation technique to ensure accuracy
- Consumer Panel: Respondents' behavior tracked over time; Nielsen Media tracks television audience measurement (TAM)
- Observation: Trained observers or a mechanical device (video camera) watch & record actual or potential consumers
- Focus Groups: Moderator leads 6-10 person discussion
- Scale Development: Likert scale; be aware of bias
- Sampling: Convenience or Quota samples

Step 7: Data Analysis

Data must be cleaned & tabulated

- Factor analysis
- Cluster analysis
- Multidimensional Scaling/Perceptual mapping
- Conjoint analysis
- Comparative analysis
- Market estimation by analogy
- Comparative analysis

Step 8: Interpretation & Presentation

- The report should clearly link to the problem or opportunity identified in Step 1
- Use language with which managers are comfortable
- Simplify complex quantitative analysis

Current Issues in Global Marketing Research

- Where to locate control of the firm's research?
- Comparability means that research can be used for valid comparisons between countries
- Emic analysis studies a culture from within
- Etic analysis is detached & used in multi-country studies

Copyright



This work is protected by United States copyright laws and is provided solely for the use of instructors in teaching their courses and assessing student learning. Dissemination or sale of any part of this work (including on the World Wide Web) will destroy the integrity of the work and is not permitted. The work and materials from it should never be made available to students except by instructors using the accompanying text in their classes. All recipients of this work are expected to abide by these restrictions and to honor the intended pedagogical purposes and the needs of other instructors who rely on these materials.