



Training on Impact Evaluation for Evidence-Based Development

About the course

Development programs and policies are typically designed to create change to the target beneficiaries. Whether or not these changes are actually achieved is a crucial public policy question but one that is not often examined. Impact evaluation assesses the changes that can be attributed to a particular intervention, such as a project, program or policy, both the intended ones, as well as ideally the unintended ones.

This course is designed to equip the participants with adequate skills to conduct rigorous impact evaluations for their interventions. The course covers all aspects of planning, designing and implementing an impact evaluation. By the end of the course the participants will be experts who can carry out impact assessment assignments for their organizations or as consultants.

Target Participants

This course is targeted at researchers, project staff, managers, development practitioners, policy makers in government, NGOs and development organizations who want to determine the impact of their interventions.

Course duration

5 Days

What you will learn

By the end of this course the participants will be able to:

- Learn about theories and practices of impact evaluation
- Learn about evaluation problem: Attribution, selection and placement biases
- Understand IE designs: randomized, quasi and non-experimental
- Conduct a rigorous impact evaluation of a project
- Conduct sampling and power calculation
- Learn and practice econometric techniques for impact evaluation
- Carry out impact data analysis using Propensity Matching and Difference-in - Difference
- Report and disseminate impact evaluation findings

Course Outline

Overview of M&E Fundamentals for Impact Evaluation

- Results Framework
- M&E Project Indicators
- Logical Framework
- Performance Evaluation

Introduction to Impact Evaluation

- What is impact evaluation?
- Deciding whether to evaluate
- Cost-effectiveness studies
- Prospective vs retrospective evaluation
- Attribution in impact evaluation

Determining points of Impact Evaluation

- Types of evaluation questions
- Theories of Change
- The results chain
- Evaluation hypothesis
- Impact evaluation indicators

Counter Inference and Counterfactuals in Impact Evaluation

- Causal reference
- Estimating counterfactual in impact evaluation
- Counterfeit estimates of the counterfactual

Impact Evaluation Research Designs

- Randomized Control Trials
- Quasi experimental designs
- Non-experimental designs

Sampling in Impact Evaluation

- Sampling techniques
- Validity in sampling: External and internal validity
- Power calculations: How big a sample do I need?

Data Analysis for Impact Evaluation using Stata

Randomized Impact Evaluation

- Setting the counterfactual
- Statistical Design of Randomization
- Impacts of Program Placement
- Impacts of Program Participation
- Capturing Both Program Placement and Participation
- Measuring Spillover Effects

Propensity Score Matching Technique (PSM)

- Introduction to PSM
- Application of PSM in Impact Evaluation
- Constructing propensity scores
- Matching Analysis (Nearest-Neighbour, Stratification, Radius, Kernel)
- Common support
- Doubly Robust Estimation

Difference in Difference Method

- What is DID?
- Application of DID in Impact Evaluation
- Estimating DID estimator: Single DID, DID with covariates, Quantile DID
- DID for Cross-Sectional Data
- Balancing Tests
- Diff-in-Diff with Propensity Score Matching

Impact Evaluation of Multifaceted Programs

- Evaluating programs with different treatment levels
- Evaluating multiple treatments with crossover design

Producing and Disseminating Impact Evaluation findings

- Impact Evaluation Plan
- Impact Evaluation Reports: Baseline report, Impact Evaluation Reports
- Case studies

Training Approach

For effective delivery of this training, we have grouped the training modules into three main areas:

1. Impact Evaluation Design – 2 Days
2. Sampling and Sample Size Calculation - 1 Day
3. Data Analysis for Impact Evaluation – 2 Days

The course is taught through a mix of practical activities, theory, group works and case studies. Power point presentation, Training manuals and additional reference materials are provided to the participants.

Certification

Upon successful completion of this course, participants will be issued with a certificate.