



DEV

INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT
University of East Anglia

Impact Evaluation for Evidence-Based Policy in Development

Short Course
8–19 July 2013
Norwich, UK

[www.uea.ac.uk/international-development/
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UEA University of
East Anglia

Impact Evaluation for Evidence-Based Policy in Development

“I loved the training, it was perfect for me since it built skills I needed.”

2012 Short Course participant

Dates	8-19 July 2013
Places	20
Fee	£3,000
Language	The course is conducted in English. Full competence in English, written and spoken is an essential requirement.
Entry requirements	A working knowledge of basic statistics is strongly desirable. We will provide a self-assessment test to judge the level of statistical skills and brief revision of statistics up to multiple linear regression. An introduction to the statistical package Stata will be provided in addition to the specific impact evaluation techniques. It is assumed that participants will be familiar with the Windows operating system.
Target audience	The target audience for this course is early and mid-level professionals, postgraduate students and academics with interests in or working with international agencies, governments in developing and developed countries, think-tanks, NGOs and other donor organisations which need to understand the methods used in evidence-based policy making in order to evaluate and justify continued public spending on particular projects and programmes.
Location	International Development UEA, University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK

Teaching team

This course has been developed by **Richard Palmer-Jones** and **Maren Duvendack** who are both development economists with extensive evaluation experience in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia, especially microfinance, irrigation, agriculture and poverty reduction. Additional tutors will be drawn from the School of International Development UEA, the Overseas Development Institute, 3ie and other (non-quantitative) social scientists involved in IE at UEA and representatives of agencies commissioning modern IE and evidence based policy.

Recent contributors include:

Ben D'Exelle, Bereket Kebede, Sunil Kumar, Elliot Stern, John Young, Nick Scott, Julian Barr and Hugh Waddington.

Institutional Capability

The School of International Development is particularly well constituted to provide a broad based multi-disciplinary environment in which to teach evidence based policy. There is a wide range of academic disciplines among faculty members who have intensive engagement in development practice through academic and funded research and consultancy in many development arenas and geographical regions.

Course content and structure

“I really appreciated the availability of the staff beyond the course schedule to answer questions or provide additional material.”

2012 Short Course participant

Objectives

Given the need for policy makers, programme implementing and funding organisations to justify their choice of social and economic interventions, it has become increasingly important to use ‘evidence-based’ criteria to decide what kind of programmes work, how, for whom, in what circumstances and at what cost. Much evidence is quantitative in nature and this course aims to equip those working in governments, funding agencies, research and non-government organisations to understand, critique and make effective use of such evidence.

While the course focuses on issues of attribution – tracing out cause and effect – and quantification, it is also concerned with the context, criteria and limitations of evidence-based quantitative evaluations. Staff involved in designing and implementing development programmes often find it useful to integrate impact evaluation (IE) mechanisms in their programmes in order to learn from, measure effectiveness of and where possible, judge the replicability of interventions.

The course therefore aims to address an important prerequisite for incorporating IE into programme design: a theoretical and practical understanding of IE approaches to enable selection of appropriate methodologies, coupled with careful appraisal of the resulting evidence. Thus, participants will be introduced to current quantitative as well as qualitative evaluation techniques for impact evaluation and gain critical understanding of the roles they can play in the design and assessment of public policy and development interventions.

Course structure

Teaching will consist of interactive lectures, group discussions and several worked-through examples where participants will analyse data from established IE examples that are drawn from development literature and elsewhere.

Main areas of course content

Theories and practices of evaluation in public policy

The evaluation problem

- Attribution, selection and placement biases

Evaluation research designs

- Observational data, quasi-experiments and correlation studies
- Social experiments, natural experiments and randomised control trials
- Qualitative evaluation designs
- Evaluation survey design

Econometric techniques for impact evaluation

- Revision of basic econometrics
- Instrumental variables technique
- Propensity score matching
- Regression discontinuity
- Difference-in-difference estimation

Systematic review and meta-analysis in development

Replication and research ethics

Communication and dissemination of evaluation evidence

How to Apply

For an application form email devco.train@uea.ac.uk or apply online through the website at www.uea.ac.uk/international-development/dev-co/professional-training

International Development UEA

International Development UEA is a charitable company that has pioneered research, training and consultancy in International Development since 1967. International Development UEA manages both the UK-based and international project activities of the University of East Anglia's School of International Development, as well as work undertaken in partnership

with other Schools. The company works with a wide range of clients, including national and international development agencies, governments, NGOs, international research centres and private clients. Since 2001, we have worked with an estimated 600 different partner organisations and in any year we have 100 or more live projects underway.

“The teaching team was excellent and the administration extremely helpful.” 2012 Short Course participant

We also provide customised training for individuals and groups. Please contact us if you require training in an area which is not covered in one of our scheduled courses.

UEA University of
East Anglia

Further Information

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