

World Bank
SASHD, SASSD, and the Human Development Network
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REGIONAL IMPACT EVALUATION WORKSHOP
Evaluating the Impact of Development Programs:
Turning Promises into Evidence

Dhaka, Bangladesh
Date: October 9-13, 2011

The objective of this course is to give participants an overview of impact evaluation. This includes cutting edge techniques of impact evaluation, an understanding of its importance for policymaking and program design, a clear understanding of how to construct a results chain, and practical skills in the application of impact evaluation techniques to their own projects.

The workshop is a highly interactive mix of small and large group sessions involving the “hands on” application of what is learned throughout the week. The first day is a plenary discussion for all participants. On days 2 and 3, participants choose between parallel tracks -- one targeted to policy makers, one targeted to researchers — which cover the same topics, but with different degrees of econometrics. Both tracks are designed to ensure consistency and the diffusion of key messages to both groups. From the very first day of the workshop until the last one, participants (policymakers, technical staff and World Bank task team leaders) will work together as project teams with expert moderators on the “hands-on” design of a high quality impact evaluations and implementation plans for their projects. On the final day of the workshop, the teams present their proposed evaluation plans to the whole group and receive guidance from each other and the course moderators.

Workshop Structure:

The workshop is organized into plenary, parallel and small group sessions. The plenary sessions are for all participants, while the parallel sessions are divided between “Policymaker” and “Technical Track” tracks.

- **Policymaker Sessions** are designed for professionals working in an operational capacity and responsible for oversight, implementation and logistics of impact evaluations. These sessions provide the theoretical foundation for identifying causality and the different evaluation methodologies. The policy sessions also cover practical techniques for building high quality impact evaluations into new programs, including sampling designs, roll-out strategies and other operational tools.
- **Technical Track Sessions** are geared towards professionals that want to deepen their knowledge of econometric estimation methodologies as applied to impact evaluations.. These sessions cover the theoretical foundation for identifying causality and the different evaluation methodologies used to conduct impact evaluations, using econometric and statistical notation as well as case studies that illustrate the clear link between theory and practice.
- **Small Group Sessions** reinforce the material covered in the plenary and parallel tracks and foster participation and interaction among participants. Expert moderators will work with each group to guide the conversation and provide technical support. On days 1, 2 and 4, groups focus on the development of a rigorous impact evaluation design for their own projects. On day 3, groups will work on a case study. On day 5, working groups present the impact evaluation design for their own projects to the larger group for feedback.

1. Evaluation for Policymakers: managing studies and using results for more effective programs

1. Why evaluate and the causality problem
2. Using evaluation results for decision making
3. Linking monitoring systems/data and impact evaluation
4. Mainstreaming impact evaluation and evidence-based policy into government systems
5. Impact evaluation methodologies
6. Designing and planning an evaluation
7. Managing an evaluation
8. Dealing with operational constraints
9. Case studies from practitioners and policy makers

2. Evaluation for Technicians: theory and methods

1. Causal Inference
2. Experimental designs: Randomization
3. Quasi-experimental designs: Difference in Difference
4. Instrumental variables
5. Regression discontinuity
6. Matching
7. Case studies from practitioners and policy makers

Sunday, October 9

9:00 - 9:30 AM	Registration
9:30 - 10:00 AM <i>(Plenary Session)</i>	Welcome and Introductory Remarks Ellen Goldstein, Bangladesh and Nepal country director, World Bank Dan Biller, Lead Economist, World Bank Laura Rawlings, Lead Social Protection Specialist and SIEF Manager, World Bank
10:00 - 11:00 AM <i>(Plenary Session)</i>	Evaluating Impact: From Promise to Evidence Emmanuel Skoufias, World Bank <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why evaluate? • The policy impact of rigorous evaluation • Types of evaluations • Counterfactuals • Introduction to quantitative methods for evaluating development programs
11:00 – 11:30 AM	Coffee Break
11:30 - 12:30 PM <i>(Plenary Session)</i>	Monitoring and Evaluation: the Foundation for Results Laura Rawlings, World Bank <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global Focus on Results • Monitoring vs. Evaluation • Using a RESULTS Chain • Results in Projects • Moving Forward
12:30 - 2:00 PM	Lunch
2:00 - 2:30 PM <i>(Plenary Session)</i>	Plenary Exercise: Where in the World? Adam Ross, World Bank
2:30 – 2:45 PM	Group Work Assignments Adam Ross, World Bank
2:45 – 5:00 PM <i>(Group Session)</i> <i>Coffee Break</i> <i>(4:00 – 4:30)</i>	Group Work 1: Establishing a Results Chain* Moderators: Impact Evaluation Specialists Participants will be assigned to sectoral groups. Each group will select one project on which it will work for the remainder of the week. In this session, the group will establish a results chain for the chosen project. At the end of the session, each group will submit their results chain in electronic format to their moderator, using a Powerpoint template.
5:30 PM	Cocktail

Monday, October 10

9:00 – 9:30 AM	Measuring Impact - Introduction to the Parallel Sessions Paloma Acevedo, World Bank	
9:30 - 12:30 PM <i>(Parallel Session)</i> (Coffee Break: 10:30 – 11:00)	POLICYMAKER SESSION Nazmul Choudhury, World Bank Measuring Impact I <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact Evaluation • Efficacy vs. Scalability • Causality 	TECHNICAL SPECIALIST SESSION Celine Ferre, World Bank Sergio Urzua, University of Maryland Measuring Impact I: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Causal Inference • Experimental Design • Difference in Difference
12:30 - 2:00 PM	Lunch	
2:00 - 2:30 PM <i>(Plenary Session)</i>	Plenary Exercise: Where in the World (Results from Exercise) Adam Ross, World Bank	
2:30 - 4:00 PM <i>(Plenary Session)</i>	Building Global Knowledge on Sustainable Development Interventions Chair: Dan Biller, World Bank Afghanistan – National Solidarity Program , Elliot Mghenyi, World Bank Bangladesh - Social Investment Program Project , Elliot Mghenyi, World Bank Nepal – Poverty Alleviation Fund , Gayatri Acharya, World Bank	
4:00 - 4:30 PM	Coffee Break	
4:30 - 6:00 PM <i>(Group Session)</i>	Group Work II: Research Questions, Indicators and Data Moderators: Impact Evaluation Specialists Each project group will continue to work on their chosen project. The group will determine what are the research questions to be answered by the impact evaluation, and the corresponding indicators and data. The results will be recorded in the project's Powerpoint template.	
6:30 – 8:00 PM	***** OPTIONAL ***** STATA Training for Impact Evaluation Paloma Acevedo, World Bank	

Tuesday, October 11		
9:00 - 12:30 PM <i>(Parallel Session)</i> (Coffee Break: 10:30 – 11:00)	POLICYMAKER SESSION Nazmul Choudhury, World Bank Measuring Impact II <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designing an evaluation in an operational context • Sampling and power statistics 	TECHNICAL SPECIALIST SESSION Celine Ferre, World Bank Sergio Urzua, University of Maryland Measuring Impact II: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instrumental Variables • Regression Discontinuity • Matching
12:30 - 2:00 PM	Lunch	
2:00 – 3:30 PM	Building Global Knowledge on Human Development Interventions Chair: Laura Rawlings, World Bank Stipends to girls in government secondary schools in Punjab, Pakistan , Dhushyanth Raju, World Bank Conditional Cash Transfers to Private Schools in Sindh, Pakistan , Dhushyanth Raju, World Bank Impact Evaluation of a Human Development Case Study , TBC	
3:30 – 4:00 PM	Coffee Break	
4:00 - 5:30 PM <i>(Group Session)</i>	Case Study I: Telephone Campaigns to Encourage Child Vaccination (courtesy of MIT-JPAL) Moderators: Impact Evaluation Specialists (Participants will be divided into cross-sectoral groups in order to interact with new colleagues) The theoretical concepts discussed in Day 2 and Day 3 in the policy and technical sessions will be reinforced through group work on a case study. The case study will focus on the various identification strategies and methodologies for constructing a counterfactual.	
5:30 - 6:00 PM	Telephone Campaigns to Encourage Child Vaccination: Plenary Discussion Emmanuel Skoufias, World Bank	
6:30 – 8:00 PM	***** OPTIONAL ***** STATA Training for Impact Evaluation Paloma Acevedo, World Bank	

Wednesday, October 12

9:00 - 10:00 AM <i>(Plenary Session)</i>	Operational Issues: How to Incorporate Impact Evaluation into Projects Laura Rawlings, World Bank
10:00 - 10:30 AM	Coffee Break
10:30 – 11:30 AM <i>(Plenary Session)</i>	Operational Issues: How to Implement an Impact Evaluation Luis Alberto Andres, World Bank
11:30 - 12:30 PM <i>(Group Session)</i>	Evaluation Clinic - Group Work III Project teams will work in small groups, along with moderators, to design an impact evaluation strategy for their chosen project, They will also think through the sampling, rollout and other design issues. The proposed design will be recorded in the project's PowerPoint template.
12:30 - 2:00 PM	Lunch
2:00 - 6:00 PM <i>(Group Session)</i>	Evaluation Clinic – Group Work III (Continued) Moderators: Impact Evaluation Specialists
(Coffee Break: 3:30 – 4:00)	Project teams will work in small groups, along with moderators, to design an impact evaluation strategy for their chosen project, They will also think through the sampling, rollout and other design issues. The proposed design will be recorded in the project's PowerPoint template.
Evening	Group Dinner

Thursday, October 13

9:00 - 12:00 PM <i>(Plenary Session)</i> (Coffee Break: 10:30 – 10:45)	Project Evaluation Proposals: Group Presentations Moderators: Impact Evaluation Specialists Project teams will present their results to the plenary group using their PowerPoint template. Practical feedback on the designs, and implementation and monitoring arrangements will be given by the moderators and the other teams. Moderators will verify that the proposed impact evaluation design is robust and that a well specified process exists for mainstreaming the impact evaluation into project implementation. Each team will leave with a fully developed evaluation design and implementation plan.
12:00 – 12:30 PM	Certificates and Closing Tahseen Sayed Khan, Operations Adviser, World Bank Dan Biller, Lead Economist, World Bank Laura Rawlings, Lead Social Protection Specialist and SIEF Manager, World Bank
12:30 - 2:00 PM	Lunch

Workshop Core Faculty and Moderators:

Paloma Acevedo, Monitoring & Evaluation Specialist, World Bank
Gayatri Acharya, Senior Economist, World Bank
Salman Asim, Consultant, World Bank
Luis Alberto Andres, Senior Economist, World Bank
Dan Biller, Lead Economist, World Bank
Nazmul Choudhury, Country Sector Coordinator, World Bank
Celine Ferre, Economist, World Bank
Lorenza Icaza, Consultant, World Bank
Atshusi Iimi, Senior Economist, World Bank
Elliot Mghenyi, Economist, World Bank
Luisa Mimi, Consultant, World Bank
Dhushyanth Raju, Senior Economist, World Bank
Laura Rawlings, Lead Social Protection Specialist, World Bank
Adam Ross, Economist, World Bank
Emmanuel Skoufias, Lead Economist, World Bank
Sergio Urzua, Assistant Professor, University of Maryland
Gonzalo Vazquez Bare, World Bank