

World Bank
Latin American and the Caribbean Region, Human Development Network and
Development Economics Research Group
With generous support from the Spanish Impact Evaluation Fund (SIEF)

REGIONAL IMPACT EVALUATION WORKSHOP
Evaluating the Impact of Development Programs:
Turning Promises into Evidence

Lima, Peru
January 26-30, 2009

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. Moderators for the parallel sessions float between tracks to ensure consistency and the diffusion of key messages to both groups. Over the final day and a half, participants (policymakers, technical staff and World Bank task team leaders) work together as project teams on the “hands-on” design of a high quality impact evaluation and implementation plan for their projects. The teams present their proposed evaluation plans to the whole group and receive guidance from each other and the course moderators. At the end of the course, participants have acquired an overview of cutting edge techniques of impact evaluation and its importance for policymaking and program design, a clear understanding of how to construct a results chain and effectively monitor program implementation, and practical skills in the application of these techniques to their own projects.

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” sessions.

- **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 sample designs, roll-out strategies and other operational tools.

- **Technical Track Sessions** are geared towards professionals that want to deepen their knowledge of theoretical econometric estimation methodologies and participate in the design of impact evaluations. These sessions cover advanced econometric and statistical techniques as well as case studies that illustrate the clear link between theory and practice.

- **Small Group Sessions** reinforce the material covered in the parallel tracks and foster participation and interaction among participants. Assigned moderators work with each group to guide the conversation and provide technical support. On day 4, groups focus on the development of a rigorous impact evaluation design for their own projects. On day 5, working groups present their designs 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. Instrumental variables
4. Regression discontinuity
5. Quasi-experimental designs: Difference in Difference
6. Matching
7. Sampling design and statistical power
8. Case studies from practitioners and policy makers

Monday, January 26, 2009

8:30 - 9:00 AM	Registration
9:00 - 9:30 AM <i>(Plenary Session)</i>	Welcome and Introductory Remarks
9:30 - 11:00 AM <i>(Plenary Session)</i>	Evaluating Impact: From Promise to Evidence Paul J. Gertler, Professor, University of California - Berkeley <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>	Integrating Impact Evaluation into Decision Making: The Mexico Experience Gonzalo Hernandez, CONEVAL, Mexico
12:30 - 2:00 PM	Lunch
2:00 - 2:30 PM <i>(Plenary Session)</i>	Plenary Exercise: Where in the World? Sebastian Martinez, World Bank, HDNVP
2:30 - 3:30 PM <i>(Plenary Session)</i>	Linking “M” & “E” Laura Rawlings, SIEF Program Manager and Lead Social Protection Specialist, World Bank, HDNSP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing a results chain • Choosing indicators • How good “M” supports good “IE • Timing of data collection
3:30 – 4:00 PM	Coffee Break
4:00 – 6:00 PM <i>(Group Session)</i>	Group Work 1: Establishing a Results Chain* Moderators: Impact Evaluation Specialists

* Assign to groups by sector and have participants self select into projects.

Tuesday, January 27, 2008

9:00 - 9:30 AM <i>(Plenary Session)</i>	Case Study I: Establishing a Results Chain (Review) Barbara Bruns, Lead Education Economist, LAC	
9:30 - 12:30 PM <i>(Parallel Session)</i> (Coffee Break: 10:30 – 11:00)	POLICY SESSION Paul J. Gertler and Sebastián Martínez Measuring Impact I <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact Evaluation • Efficacy vs. Scalability • Causality 	TECHNICAL SESSION Christel Vermeersch, Felipe Barrera and Norbert Schady Identification Strategies 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) Sebastian Martinez, World Bank, HDNVP	
2:30 – 4:30 PM <i>(Plenary Session)</i>	Innovative Impact Evaluations in Latin America Moderator: (TBC) <i>Peru Handwashing and Sanitation (TBD)</i> Rocio Florez, Water & Sanitation Specialist, World Bank <i>Slum Housing Upgrading in El Salvador, Uruguay and Peru - Un Techo para Mi Pais (TBD)</i> Raimundo Undurraga, <i>Un Techo para Mi Pais- Chile</i> <i>Plan Nacer Maternal Child Health - Argentina</i> Humberto Silva, Plan Nacer Technical Division, Ministry of Health Argentina Martin Sabinoso, Plan Nacer Technical Division, Ministry of Health Argentina	
3:30 - 4:00 PM	Coffee Break	
4:30 - 6:00 PM <i>(Group Session)</i>	Group Work II: Research Questions, Indicators and Data Moderators: Impact Evaluation Specialists	

Wednesday, January 28, 2009

<p>9:00 - 12:30 PM <i>(Parallel Session)</i></p> <p>(Coffee Break: 10:30 – 11:00)</p>	<p>POLICY SESSION Paul J. Gertler & Sebastián Martínez</p> <p>Measuring Impact II</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designing an evaluation in an operational context • Sampling and power statistics 	<p>TECHNICAL SESSION Christel Vermeersch, Felipe Barrera and Norbert Schady</p> <p>Identification Strategies II:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instrumental Variables • Regression Discontinuity • Matching • Sampling and power statistics
<p>12:30 - 2:00 PM</p>	<p>Lunch</p>	
<p>2:00 – 3:30 PM</p>	<p>Building Global Knowledge on Conditional Cash Transfers <i>Moderator:</i> (TBC)</p> <p><i>Does the timing of conditional cash transfers matter? Evidence from a randomized trial in Colombia</i> Felipe Barrera, Senior Economist, HDNED</p> <p><i>Synthesizing Global Experience with CCTs</i> Norbert Schady, Senior Research Economist, DEC Research Group</p>	
<p>3:30 – 4:00 PM</p>	<p>Coffee Break</p>	
<p>4:30 - 6:00 PM <i>(Group Session)</i></p>	<p>Group Work III: Telephone Campaigns to Encourage Child Vaccination (courtesy of MIT JPAL) Moderators: Impact Evaluation Specialists</p> <p>(Participants will be divided into cross-sectoral groups in order to interact with new colleagues)</p> <p>The theoretical concepts discussed throughout the day in the policy and technical track will be reinforced through group work on a case study. The case study entitled “Get out the Vote” will focus on the various identification strategies and methodologies for constructing a counterfactual.</p>	

Thursday, January 29, 2009

9:00 - 10:00 AM <i>(Plenary Session)</i>	Planning Sample Size for Impact Evaluations David Evans, Africa Region, World Bank
10:00 - 10:30 AM	Coffee Break
10:30 - 11:30 AM <i>(Plenary Session)</i>	Ensuring Data Quality Control David Evans, Africa Region, World Bank
11:30 - 12:30 PM <i>(Group Session)</i>	Operational Issues: How to Incorporate Impact Evaluation into Projects Paul J. Gertler, Professor, University of California - Berkeley
12:30 – 2:00 PM	Lunch
2:00 - 6:00 PM <i>(Group Session)</i> (Coffee Break: 3:30 – 4:00)	Evaluation Clinic – Introduction and Group Work Moderators: Impact Evaluation Specialists Project teams will begin applying what they have learned to their own projects. They will work in small groups, along with moderators, to think through the interventions being supported under the project, identify key issues, and think through the sampling, rollout and other design issues.
Evening	Group Dinner

Friday, January 30, 2009

<p>9:00 - 12:30 PM (Plenary Session)</p> <p>(Coffee Break: 10:30 – 11:00)</p>	<p>Project Evaluation Proposals: Group Presentations Moderators: Impact Evaluation Specialists</p> <p>Project teams will present their results to the plenary group. 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.</p> <p>Each team will leave with a fully developed evaluation design and implementation plan.</p>
<p>12:30 - 2:00 PM</p>	<p>Lunch</p>
<p>2:00 – 3:00 PM</p>	<p>Certificates, CDs and Closing TBD</p>

Workshop Core Faculty and Moderators:

Paul Gertler, University of California at Berkeley
Ariel Fiszbein, Chief Economist, Human Development Network, World Bank
Laura Rawlings, SIEF Program Manager, World Bank
Aline Coudouel, Senior Economist, LACSHD, World Bank
Barbara Bruns, Lead Education Economist, LAC, World Bank
Omar Arias, HD Sector Leader, Latin America & Caribbean Region
Sebastian Martinez, HD Chief Economist Unit, World Bank
Christel Vermeersch, Economist, Latin America & Caribbean Region
Felipe Barrera, Senior Economist, HDNED, World Bank
Norbert Schady, Senior Economist, Development Economics Research Group
Gonzalo Hernandez, CONEVAL, Mexico
Adam Ross, HD Chief Economist Unit, World Bank
Carlos Asenjo, HD Chief Economist Unit, World Bank
David Evans, Africa Region, World Bank