

World Bank
SASHD, SASSD, and the Human Development Network
With generous support from the Spanish Impact Evaluation Fund (SIEF)

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

Kathmandu, Nepal
Date: February 22-26, 2010

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

Monday, February 22

8:30 - 9:00 AM	Registration
9:00 - 9:30 AM <i>(Plenary Session)</i>	Welcome and Introductory Remarks Susan G. Goldmark, Country Director, World Bank John Stein, Sector Director, World Bank Laura Rawlings, SIEF Program Manager, World Bank
9:30 - 11:00 AM <i>(Plenary Session)</i>	Evaluating Impact: From Promise to Evidence Dan Levy, Lecturer in Public Policy, Harvard University <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, National Council of Evaluation of Social Development Policy, Mexico (TBD)
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 - 3:30 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
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 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.

Tuesday, February 23

9:00 – 9:30 AM	Measuring Impact - Introduction to the Parallel Sessions Christel Vermeersch, World Bank	
9:30 - 12:30 PM <i>(Parallel Session)</i> (Coffee Break: 10:30 – 11:00)	POLICYMAKER SESSION Sebastian Martinez, World Bank Measuring Impact I <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact Evaluation • Efficacy vs. Scalability • Causality 	TECHNICAL SPECIALIST SESSION Christel Vermeersch & Nazmul Chaudhury, World Bank 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 National Solidarity Program - Community Driven Development in Afghanistan (TBD) Open Defecation Free Program in Bangladesh and India Priti Kumar, 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.	

Wednesday, February 24

<p>9:00 - 12:30 PM (Parallel Session)</p> <p>(Coffee Break: 10:30 – 11:00)</p>	<p>POLICYMAKER SESSION Sebastián Martínez, World Bank</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 SPECIALIST SESSION Christel Vermeersch & Nazmul Chaudhury, World Bank</p> <p>Measuring Impact II:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instrumental Variables • Regression Discontinuity • Matching
<p>12:30 - 2:00 PM</p>	<p>Lunch</p>	
<p>2:00 – 3:30 PM</p>	<p>Building Global Knowledge on Human Development Interventions Chair: Pablo Gottret, World Bank</p> <p>Bangladesh Secondary Education: Reaching Out of School Children Leopold Sarr, World Bank</p> <p>Nepal Community Managed School (TBD)</p>	
<p>3:30 – 4:00 PM</p>	<p>Coffee Break</p>	
<p>4:00 - 5:30 PM (Group Session)</p>	<p>Group Work III: Telephone Campaigns to Encourage Child Vaccination (courtesy of MIT-JPAL) Christel Vermeersch, World Bank 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 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.</p>	
<p>5:30 - 6:00 PM</p>	<p>Telephone Campaigns to Encourage Child Vaccination: Plenary discussion of Group Work III Christel Vermeersch, World Bank</p>	
<p>7:30 – 9:30 PM</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">*****OPTIONAL*****</p> <p>STATA Training for Impact Evaluation Sebastian Martínez, World Bank</p>	

Thursday, February 25

9:00 - 10:00 AM <i>(Plenary Session)</i>	Data Collection and Quality Control (TBD)
10:00 - 10:30 AM	Coffee Break
10:30 - 11:30 AM <i>(Plenary Session)</i>	Operational Issues: How to Incorporate Impact Evaluation into Projects Laura Rawlings, World Bank
11:30 - 12:30 PM <i>(Group Session)</i>	Evaluation Clinic – Introduction and Group Work IV Sebastian Martinez, World Bank Moderators: Impact Evaluation Specialists 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> (Coffee Break: 3:30 – 3:45)	Evaluation Clinic – Group Work IV (Continued) Moderators: Impact Evaluation Specialists 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

Friday, February 26

<p>9:00 - 12:00 PM <i>(Plenary Session)</i></p> <p>(Coffee Break: 10:30 – 10:45)</p>	<p>Project Evaluation Proposals: Group Presentations Moderators: Impact Evaluation Specialists</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Each team will leave with a fully developed evaluation design and implementation plan.</p>
<p>12:00 – 12:30 PM</p>	<p>Certificates and Closing Ariel Fiszbein, World Bank</p>
<p>12:30 - 2:00 PM</p>	<p>Lunch</p>

Workshop Core Faculty and Moderators:

Paloma Acevedo, Monitoring & Evaluation Specialist, World Bank
Luis Andres, Senior Economist, World Bank
Dan Biller, Lead Economist, World Bank
Nazmul Chaudhury, Senior Economist, World Bank
Ariel Fiszbein, Chief Economist, Human Development Network, World Bank
Jed Friedman, Senior Economist, World Bank
Pablo Gottret, Lead Human Development Economist, World Bank
Gonzalo Hernandez, National Council of Evaluation of Social Development Policy, Mexico
Priti Kumar, Senior Environmental Specialist, World Bank
Dan Levy, Lecturer in Public Policy, Harvard University
Sebastian Martinez, Economist, World Bank
Cem Mete, Senior Economist, World Bank
Fernanda Ruiz Nuñez, Economist, World Bank
Dilip Parajuli, Education Economist, World Bank
Laura Rawlings, SIEF Program Manager & Lead Social Protection Specialist, World Bank
Adam Ross, Economist, World Bank
Leopold Sarr, Economist, World Bank
Venkatesh Sundararaman, Senior Economist, World Bank
Christel Vermeersch, Economist, World Bank