CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The Italian Centre for International Development (ICID) - created by CEIS of the University of Rome Tor Vergata, the Department of Social Sciences and Economics of Sapienza University of Rome, and the Department of Economics of Roma Tre University - under the MoU and in partnership with the International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD) are organizing the:

4th Edition of International School for Advanced Training
"Impact Evaluation of Development Policies:
Concepts, Methods, Applications"
24 June - 8 July 2022

Objective

The School is designed to serve the needs of government and non-governmental organization officials, private professionals and practitioners, researchers and doctoral students with an interest in development and public policy evaluation. The objective is to provide participants with the skills and competencies for impact evaluations of development policies and programs. This will be achieved through a focus on both a "hands-on" approach to the discussion of specific examples of policies and programs, and also on the most recent analytical techniques.

Organization

The School focuses on three pillars:

- **CONCEPTS**
  Identification of the policy framework (e.g. policy maker's objectives, program beneficiaries, contextual factors).

- **METHODS**
  Identification of the key instruments for assessing the policy's impact. How to select the most suitable tool in light of the specific context and how to apply it.

- **APPLICATIONS**
  The practice of the policy's impact evaluation. How to carry out the evaluation exercise, useful data sources and data collection, software and main statistical packages. This will be mainly achieved in the hands on sessions in the afternoon.

The School will be held **from 27th June to 8th July 2022 in the form of an on-line course** (the possibility to attend the hands-on sessions in person will depend on the contemporary evolution of the pandemic). The morning sessions will provide an introduction to the topics, with practical applications to specific case studies in the field. The afternoon sessions will be devoted to technical, hands-on sessions. The course will include students' assignments under supervision and tutorship.

Scientific Committee

Gero Carletto (*World Bank*), Pierluigi Montalbano (*Sapienza University*), Silvia Nenci (*Roma Tre University*), Carlo Pietrobelli (*Roma Tre University*), Furio Rosati (*Tor Vergata University*), Federica Saliola (*World Bank*), Luca Salvatici (*Roma Tre University*), Sara Savastano (*IFAD*) and Máximo Torero (*FAO*). *Organisation Offices:* Stefania Di Natale

Agenda

Dates	Topics	Morning	Afternoon (Lab. Sessions)
Friday 24 June (pre-School activities)	**Participation to the IFAD22 Conference(*)** **School participants are kindly invited to attend**	10:00- 13:00 Viviana Celli *STATA crash course*	*16:00-17:30 IFAD International Conference Keynote Speech:* Joshua Angrist, Ford Professor of Economics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Nobel Memorial Prize in Economics in 2021
Monday 27 June	**Impact evaluation for development: the *state of the art***	9:15-9:30 Opening remarks - Furio Camillo Rosati (CEIS, ICID, University of Tor Vergata) 9:30-10:00 Opening Keynote Speech: Resilience, Adaptation and Mitigation: IFAD's approach to fight Climate Change - Jo Puri (Associate Vice President IFAD) 10:00-10:30 Opening Keynote Speech: *State of the art and the mandate of the international agencies* - Maximo Torero (Chief Economist FAO) - Recorded Video 10:30-11:00 Introduction to the School - Silvia Nenci (Roma Tre University) 11:00-11:30 Break 11:30-13:00 Impact evaluation for development: *Overview of the main techniques applied during the week* - Pierluigi Montalbano (Sapienza University of Rome)	14:30- 17:00 Marco Letta (Sapienza University) *Introduction to the Lab Sessions and introduction to the main econometric packages used during the course*
Tuesday 28 June	**Integrating qualitative and quantitative assessments & Randomized Control Trial**	9:30-11:00 Carlo Pietrobelli (Roma Tre University and UNU-MERIT) *The impact evaluation of Enterprise Cluster Development programs* 11:00-11:30 Break 11:30-13:00 Furio Camillo Rosati (CEIS, ICID, University of Tor Vergata) *Evaluation of cash transfer programs and RCT*	14:30- 17:00 Rama Dasi Mariani (University of Tor Vergata) *Hands-on Randomized Control Trial*
Wednesday 29 June	RCT Assignments & Tutoring (Mariani)		
Thursday 30 June	**Propensity score matching**	9:30-11:00 Silvio Daidone (FAO)/Marco D'Errico (FAO) *Cash transfers and impact evaluation in sub-Saharan Africa* 11:00-11:30 Break 11:30- 13:00 Romina Cavatassi (IFAD) *IFAD's approach to Impact Assessment*	14:30- 17:00 Aslihan Arslan (IFAD) Tbc *How to carry out IFAD's ex-post impact assessments*
Friday1 July	PS Assignments & Tutoring (Letta)		
Monday 4 July	**Generalized Propensity Scores and ex-ante assessments**	9:30-11:00 Silvia Nenci (Roma Tre University) *Generalized Propensity Score: an application to trade preferences* 11:00-11:30 Break	14:30- 17:00 Emiliano Magrini (FAO) *How to use Generalized Propensity Score (GPS)*

		11:30-13:00 Luca Salvatici (Rossi-Doria Centre and Roma Tre University) *Simulation models for impact assessment*	
Tuesday 5 July		GPS Assignments & Tutoring (Magrini)	
Wednesday 6 July	**Synthetic control, data and external validity**	9:30-11:00 Augusto Cerqua (Sapienza University) *"A guide on how to estimate causal impacts in case of one or few treated units".* 11:30-13:00 Alessandra Garbero (IFAD) *Aggregation of impact evaluations through meta-analyses*	14:30- 17:00 Talip Kilic (WB Center for Development Data, C4R2) *Designing and evaluating development policies: practitioners' perspectives from the World Bank*
Thursday 7 July	**Machine Learning for impact evaluation, Designing and Data**	9:30-11:00 Giovanni Cerulli (CNR) *Machine Learning for Impact Evaluation I* 11:00-11:30 Break 11:30-13:00 Giovanni Cerulli (CNR) *Machine Learning for Impact Evaluation II*	14:30- 17:00 Marco Letta (Sapienza) *Hands-on Session*
Friday 8 July	**Roundtable and concluding remarks**	9:30-12:00 *Closing round table* 12:00-13:00 Wrap up and course evaluation	Optional: Test for Internships

(*) The Conference link will be shared with the participants.

Internship & Scholarship Opportunities

Internship and Scholarship opportunities are offered by United Nations Development Agencies based in Rome. Specifically, the Research and Impact Assessment Division (RIA) will provide # scholarships and internships for the best students. Selection for the scholarships will be made before the training activities whereas selection for the internship at the end.

Registration and Fees

The regular fee amounts to 1500€ for the entire course. The fee includes a temporary license of STATA17 for all participants. Reduced fees apply for Master/PhD students (500€) and University Staff (800€). To this aim, participants must apply and provide proof of their full-time student status or university membership for the current academic year.

Important Dates

Applications should be made using this application form by **20th May 2022**. Notification of acceptance will be provided to applicants by **30th May 2022**.