

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:

5th Edition of International School for Advanced Training “Impact Evaluation of Development Policies: *Concepts, Methods, Applications*” 26 June - 7 July 2023

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 26th June to 7th July 2023 in the form of an on-line course** (upon request and depending on the participants' preferences, we will explore the possibility of attending the hands-on sessions in person). 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 Camillo 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)
Monday 26 June	Impact evaluation for development: the state of the art	<p>9:30-10:00 <i>Opening remarks</i></p> <p>10:00-11:00 <i>Opening Keynote Speech: State of the art and the mandate of the international agencies</i> Maximo Torero (FAO)</p> <p>11:30-13:00 <i>Impact evaluation for development: Introduction to the School and to the main techniques applied</i>, P. Montalbano, S. Nenci, C. Pietrobelli and F.C. Rosati (ICID)</p>	<p>14:30- 17:00 Viviana Celli (Sapienza University)</p> <p><i>STATA crash course</i></p>
Tuesday 27 June	Difference in Differences and Randomized Controlled Trial	<p>9:30-11:00 Joanna Kopinska (Sapienza University - CEIS Tor Vergata) <i>Difference in Differences (DiD): applications to health economics</i></p> <p>11:00-11:30 Break</p> <p>11:30-13:00 Giuseppe De Arcangelis (Sapienza University) <i>Measuring Remittances: a Randomized Controlled Trial (RCT)</i></p>	<p>14:30- 17:00 Viviana Celli (Sapienza University)</p> <p><i>Hands-on DiD and RCT</i></p>
Wednesday 28 June	DiD and RCT Assignments - Tutoring (Viviana Celli, Sapienza University)		
Thursday 29 June	Propensity score matching	<p>9:30-11:00 Marco D'Errico (FAO) <i>Cash transfers and impact evaluation in sub-Saharan Africa: propensity score matching</i></p> <p>11:00-11:30 Break</p> <p>11:30- 13:00 Sara Savastano (IFAD) <i>IFAD's approach to Impact Assessment</i></p>	<p>14:30- 17:00 Marco Letta (Sapienza University)</p> <p><i>Introduction to the main econometric packages</i></p>
Friday 30 June	9:30-11:00 Aslihan Arslan (IFAD) <i>How to carry out IFAD's ex-post impact assessments</i> + PS Assignments - Tutoring (M. Letta, Sapienza University)		
Monday 3 July	Generalized Propensity Scores and Meta-analysis of Impact Evaluations	<p>9:30-11:00 Emiliano Magrini (FAO) <i>Generalized Propensity Score with spillovers</i></p> <p>11:00-11:30 Break</p> <p>11:30-13:00 Alessandra Garbero (IFAD) <i>Aggregation of impact evaluations through meta-analyses</i></p>	<p>14:30- 17:00 Davide Vurchio (University of Bari)</p> <p><i>How to use Generalized Propensity Score (GPS)</i></p>
Tuesday 4 July	GPS Assignments & Tutoring (D. Vurchio, University of Bari)		
Wednesday 5 July	Machine Learning for impact evaluation,	<p>9:30-11:00 Giovanni Cerulli (CNR) <i>Machine Learning for Impact Evaluation I</i></p> <p>11:00-11:30 Break</p> <p>11:30-13:00 Giovanni Cerulli (CNR) <i>Machine Learning for Impact Evaluation II</i></p>	<p>14:30- 17:00 Marco Letta (Sapienza University) <i>Hands-on Session on Casual Machine Learning</i></p>
Thursday 6 July	Synthetic control, Regression Discontinuity Design, Designing and Data	<p>9:30-11:00 Augusto Cerqua (Sapienza University) <i>A guide on how to estimate causal impacts in case of one or few treated units.</i></p> <p>11:30-13:00 Mara Giua (Roma Tre University) <i>Regression Discontinuity Design</i></p>	<p>14:30- 17:00 Talip Kilic (WB Center for Development Data, C4R2) <i>Designing and evaluating development policies: practitioners' perspectives from the World Bank</i></p>
Friday 7 July	Roundtable and concluding remarks	<p>9:30-12:00 David Laborde (FAO). Designing and evaluating food security policies: practitioners' perspectives from the FAO.</p> <p>12:00-13:00 Wrap up and course evaluation</p>	Optional: Test for Internships

Scholarships

The School offers **Ten scholarships** covering tuition fees for the best candidates. To be eligible for a scholarship, candidates must be currently enrolled in a PhD or Master's university course and be conducting research activities in development studies. Candidates from developing countries are especially encouraged to apply. If you are applying for a scholarship, you must submit the scholarship application form along with your application file by **May 21st, 2023**. This separate application with the required documents will be evaluated by a Selection Committee by **May 26th, 2023**.

Internship Opportunities

Internship opportunities are offered by United Nations Development Agencies based in Rome. Specifically, selections for the Research and Impact Assessment Division (RIA) will be made at the end of the training activities.

Registration and Fees

The regular fee amounts to 1000€ for the entire course. The fee includes a temporary license of STATA 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 **21st May 2023**. Notification of acceptance will be provided to applicants by **26th May 2023**. The deadline for registration is **1st June 2023**.