

Application and Contacts

To apply, interested candidatures should be sent by email (normesturin@itcilo.org) or by fax (+39 011 693 6906), to the Manager of the Standards and Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work Programme. They should be supported by a curriculum vitae and a nomination letter from the sponsoring/funding institution if applicable.

The deadline for applications is September 14, 2009. Early application is strongly recommended since admission is competitive, space is limited, and the time taken to process Schengen visa applications can be long. Acceptance is provisional pending evidence of full financial sponsorship and approval by the course team.

The ILO Turin Centre's facilities

Located in an attractive park on the banks of the River Po, the Centre's campus provides a congenial environment in which to live and study.

It contains 21 pavilions with fully equipped modern classrooms, conference halls and meeting rooms fitted out for multilingual simultaneous interpretation, a computer laboratory, and a computerized documentation centre linked to various data banks.

The campus has 287 study/bedrooms, all with private bathrooms, telephones and cable television. It also has:

- a reception desk open 24 hours a day;
- a restaurant, a self-service canteen and a coffee lounge, all catering for international dietary needs;

- a bank;
- a travel agency;
- a laundry service;
- a post office;
- an internet point;
- a recreation room;
- facilities for outdoor and indoor sports;
- an infirmary.

Social events are regularly held both on and off campus, so that participants from different cultural backgrounds can make the most of the stimulating international climate.

For further information, please contact:

International Training Centre of the ILO
Standards and Fundamental Principles and Rights
at Work Programme

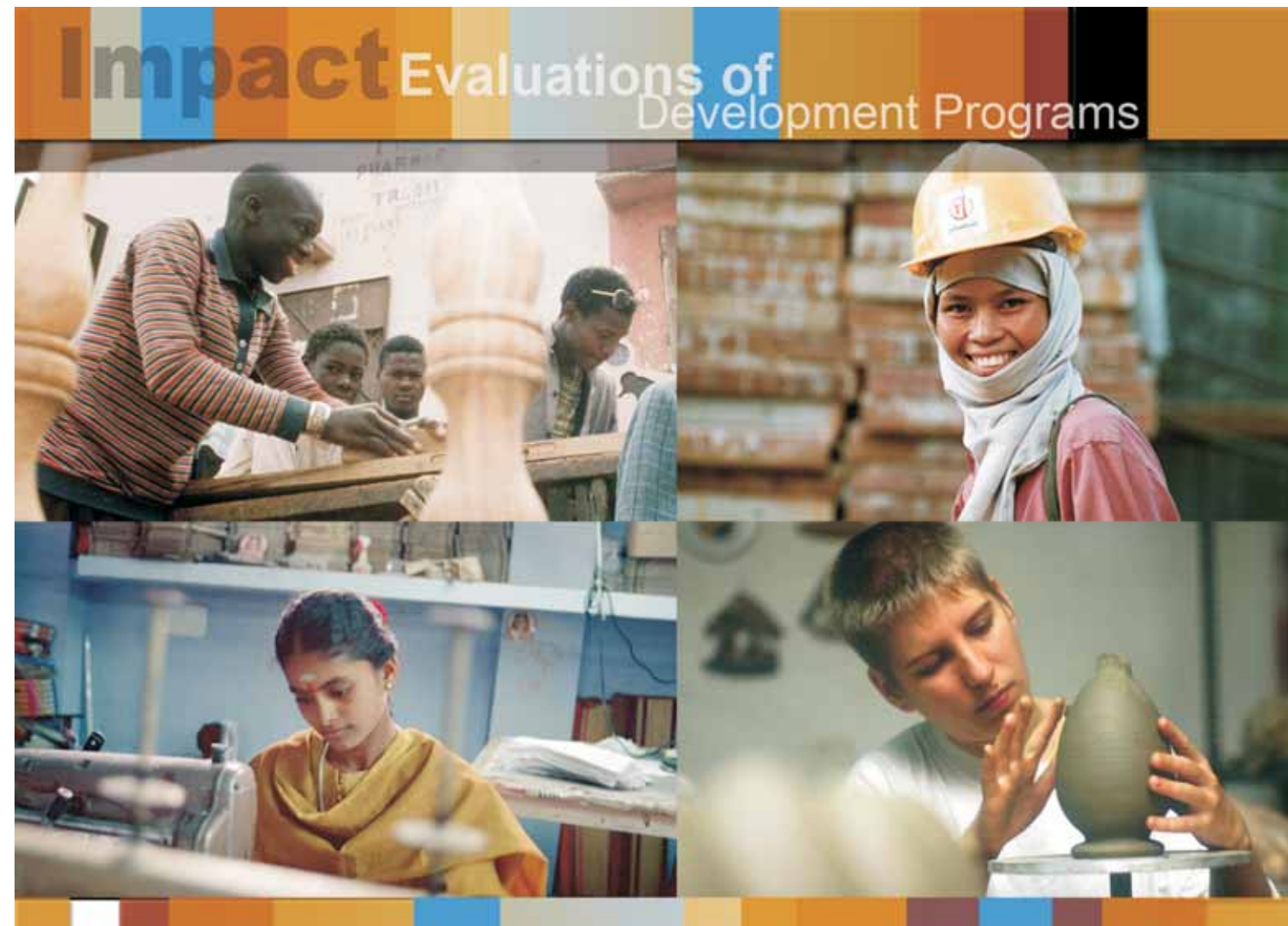
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A901374

Conducting Impact Evaluations of Development Programs: An application to ALMPs, CCTs and Training for Youth

16 – 20 November 2009
Turin, Italy



The World Bank



International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC)



Conducting Impact Evaluations of Development Programs: An application to ALMPs, CCTs and Training for Youth



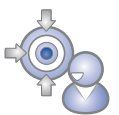
Rationale

Active Labour Market Programs (ALMPs), especially for vulnerable youth, Child Labour Programs, and Conditional Cash Transfers (CCTs) are gaining increasing attention among policy makers and social partners in emerging and developing countries. Particular interventions include employment services, training, public works, wage subsidies, self-employment assistance, and cash transfers conditional on school attendance. These programs are implemented to enhance labour supply (e.g. training), increase labour demand (public works, subsidies), improve the functioning of the labour market (e.g. employment services), or raise school-attendance and mitigate the adverse effects of child labour (e.g. CCTs). ALMPs and CCTs are often targeted to vulnerable groups (discouraged workers, children in poor families) and they have important social as well as economic objectives.

How much reliance shall countries place on such programs remains however a controversial question. As policy makers consider measures to help vulnerable groups improve their education and labour market prospects, they are often challenged by the lack of information on what their options are, what has worked well in what context, and what has not worked so well in improving desirable outcomes. Information is also needed on how the impact came about, what factors can help reach similar outcomes, and how cost-effective are such programs.

In this context, conducting rigorous impact evaluations with additional information on their cost-effectiveness appears essential. It can help us to understand whether or not these programs have had an impact, how large the impact was, who has benefited, in what circumstances it worked, how cost-effective they were, and ultimately provides the basis for sound policy making. The goal of an impact evaluation is to attribute impacts to a program. To this end a comparison group is needed to measure what would have happened to the policy or program beneficiaries had the intervention not taken place. The process of identifying this counterfactual and comparison group, collecting the needed data, and conducting the relevant analysis requires a lot of careful, thorough thought and planning.

Recognising the need to support the capacity to conduct and interpret impact evaluations, the ILO International Training Centre (ITC-ILO), the International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC), the Understanding Children's Work (UCW) research project, the Youth Employment Network (YEN), the Youth Employment Programme (YEP) and the World Bank are proposing to organise a joint course on impact evaluations of development programs, with a focus on, ALMPs, Child Labour Programs, and Training for Youth.



Course Objectives

The direct objective of the proposed course is to provide a thorough introduction to the concepts and methods for conducting impact evaluations of public programs and their

cost-effectiveness to enable participants to identify appropriate methods for specific contexts and manage such impact evaluations. Detailed case studies will be reviewed as examples of rigorous impact evaluation. An additional and related objective is to support the development of good plans for impact evaluation of ALMPs and CCTs.

Specifically, the training will serve the three following objectives:

- Improve understanding of concepts and methods for appropriate impact evaluation and cost-effectiveness of public programs;
- Help identify impact evaluation options that recognise budget, time and data constraints, and that best suit the needs of specific programs, countries and institutional context;
- Strengthen the technical capability to understand, interpret and identify the pros and cons of quantitative impact evaluations.



Course Implementation

The course will last one week and will be held in Turin, Italy, at the International Training Center (ITC) of the ILO, which offers unique residential facilities in a site shared with other UN agencies. The course will be taught by experts from the ILO, the World Bank, the Youth Employment Network, and the inter-agency Understanding Children's Work (UCW) research project.

The training will rely on the development of a range of advanced training materials bringing together concepts and practical case studies. The training methodology will balance lecturing with group work. The group work will consist of the preparation and presentation of plans for an impact evaluation of a specific program.

Language

The course will be conducted in English, therefore a good command of English is essential to fully benefit from it.



Target Audience

The course would be intended to fit the needs of: (i) Civil servants and officials from national, regional or local governments responsible for advising on and/or managing employment and education programs, in particular ALMPs, youth employment programs, and conditional cash transfers programs; (ii) project managers of such programs (iii) social partners engaged in the design of employment and child labour programs; (iii) members of the research community and NGOs contributing to the design, implementation and

evaluation of employment and child labour programs. Participants should be in a programme manager or policy management function that requires the commission and management of impact evaluation for use in further planning and implementation.



Course Description

The course will comprise a set of five modules covering core techniques, implementation issues, and recent findings related to the evaluation of labour programs.

Part One: Core Techniques

- **Concept and methods for quantitative impact evaluations.** The session will introduce the main concepts and difficulties associated with impact evaluation. It will define the standard problem of identifying the theory of change behind the intervention and the counter-factual needed for impact assessment, review strengths and weaknesses of alternative methods of dealing with the problem, and discuss recurrent problems in setting up an evaluation. In particular, it will look at quasi-experimental, non-experimental and experimental evaluation methods. The session will emphasize that in assessing development programs with a focus on vulnerable groups, it is essential to know more than the average impact - one has to look at how impact varies with pre-intervention welfare, i.e., the incidence of program benefits and impact on expected outcomes. Particular emphasis will be on the context of the program and the need for replication and up scaling of the programme
- **From impact evaluations to cost-effectiveness analysis.** Estimating ex-post the causal impact of an intervention is just one input into a comprehensive cost-effectiveness analysis. This session will review the methodological challenges in obtaining good estimates on both the benefit and the cost side, and will draw examples from comprehensive reviews of cost-effectiveness analysis of educational interventions and active labour market programs.

Part Two: Implementation Issues

- **Conducting impact evaluation under budget, time and data constraints.** Moving from concepts to real-world situations, this session will discuss several case studies and the constraints faced by program managers and researchers in terms of budget, time and data constraints. It will draw from the experience of specific ALMPs, CCTs and child labour interventions. It will also illustrate when the evaluation was planned, what data was used/collected in light of the evaluation question and the specific design of the program and how the evaluation fed back into the design of the program. This will consider the full range of impact evaluation approaches will be discussed.
- **Setting-up randomized experiments.** To illustrate clearly the issues of methodological choice, cases of randomized experiments will be analysed. These represent one of the

theoretical ideals for identifying the causal effects of a given policy intervention. But their implementation is quite costly and may need timely planning and careful monitoring. This session will present case studies and discuss practical issues related to the implementation of such trials, including limitations and the use of complementary approaches.

Part Three: Recent Evidence from Impact Evaluations

- **Impact evaluations of ALMPs, CCTs and child labour.** This session will review recent evidence of impact evaluations of labour programs in developed and developing countries. It will highlight the main findings and the lessons to be drawn.



Costs

The fee for the one-week course is 2,000 euros per participant. The fee includes tuition costs (1,040 euros), training materials, and other conference costs, as well as subsistence costs (960 euros), i.e. full board and lodging at the Turin Centre's Campus, transfer to and from airport. Also covered are laundry, minor medical care and insurance and occasional socio-cultural activities.

The price indicated does not include travel costs between participants' home and the course venue. The cost of passports, visas to enter Italy, airport taxes, internal travel in the participant's home country and unauthorized stopovers is not reimbursed.

Participants are responsible for obtaining all necessary visas to enter the Schengen area.

Payment should be made in advance by bank transfer to:

Account No. 560001
Bank: Intesa-Sanpaolo SPA
IBAN: IT36 030 6901 1911 0000 0560 001
SWIFT: BCITITMM701
Address: Viale Maestri del Lavoro 10,
10127 Turin - Italy

Note: On the bank transfer form, kindly state your name and the course code (A901374).

Fellowships

A limited number of fellowships covering part of all of the participation costs are available. If eligible, early applicants will be given priority. Please enquire early!