

Policy Analysis and the Use of Evidence



Two-week professional development workshop
8 to 12 July 2019



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PAi is accredited by the
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“The UK does particularly well on the quality of policy advice, including on whether it is evidence-based.”

International Civil Service Effectiveness Index 2017

Blavatnik School of Government, Oxford University, and the Institute for Government, UK

About the workshop

This workshop is intended to support better decision-making throughout the different stages of the policy process (preparation and planning, decision-making, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation) by placing the best available evidence from the research and evaluation at the heart of decision making. It considers what constitutes evidence for policy-making purposes and how robust research evidence can be used to improve the quality of decisions.

Different types, notions and sources of evidence will be appraised to determine their value and contribution to policy-making. These include theories of change analysis; evidence synthesis methods; data from censuses, surveys and administrative sources; experimental and quasi-experimental evidence; implementation evidence; economic appraisal methods; case studies and qualitative evidence, including public consultation. The workshop also considers how to integrate these different types of evidence with other key factors that influence the policy process.

For the duration of the workshop you will work in groups to decide on responses to real-life policy issues. You will work with different types of evidence to see how they can be used to inform the policy issues in question.

Who is it for?

The workshop is designed for policy makers and decision makers, who plan, implement, manage and evaluate the impact of policies in public and private sector organisations, international organisations, NGOs, and local government departments and agencies. Whilst there is some technical content from various social, economic and political science disciplines, you do not need to have expertise in these areas.

How participants will benefit

The workshop will enable you to:

- Make better decisions about policies and services by using the best available evidence to form your judgements
- Make critical judgements about evidence from research and evaluation, and understand how this fits with other factors that influence and inform policy-making
- Mentor colleagues in evidence-based policy-making and in how to use research evidence effectively
- Procure and manage research and evaluation, and professional analytical services, effectively and efficiently

“The lecturer was very knowledgeable and an excellent communicator. It has greatly improved my knowledge of making effective policy.”

James Parris

Senior Executive Officer

Training Administration Division, Barbados

What the workshop will cover

During the week you will be able to:

- Gain a better understanding of the meaning, potential and development of evidence-based policy-making
- Understand how to use research evidence and analysis to develop policy strategically and operationally
- Use evidence and analysis to implement and monitor policy effectively and efficiently
- Explore the use of different types of research and evaluation to contribute to policy-making
- Review critical appraisal techniques to identify higher and lower quality evidence
- Know how to compile high-quality evidence in performance-managed government and resource allocation
- Understand how to make use of different professional analytical services
- Learn how to draw upon examples of evidence-based policy-making from different countries.

The workshop has been designed to be flexible so that it can be adjusted wherever practicable to your particular requirements.

You will be invited to give an informal presentation on the different stages of the policy process in your home country.

Programme outline: Policy analysis and the use of evidence

Week 1	AM	PM
Day 1	Welcome and introductions What do you understand by evidence? The policy making process Different notions and sources of evidence	Harnessing existing evidence Exercise Participants' informal presentations Introduction to action planning
Day 2	Theory of Change evidence How is a policy, programme or project supposed to work? Establishing a casual chain of activities, mechanisms, agencies, outputs and outcomes	Using qualitative evidence for developing policy Using qualitative data for developing policy Multiple dimensions of evidence: an index of multi-deprivation
Day 3	Engaging stakeholders and local people Using locally-based evidence Working with delivery partners	Engaging with communities <i>Study visit to meet practitioners</i>
Day 4	Establishing the effectiveness of interventions Methods of establishing a counterfactual	Evidence for effective implementation and delivery Principles of economic appraisal evidence
Day 5	Presenting policy to decisions makers Presentation of participants' action plans	Review, feedback and scope for follow up

Language

The workshop is conducted in English. You will need to have a good working knowledge of the language.

Location and arrival arrangements

The workshop is based in central London. We can arrange travel to and from one of the London airports into central London if you let us have your flight details in good time. The cost of airport transfers is included in the workshop fee.

Fees

The fees for the workshop will be £2,265 and includes tuition, travel to and from the airport in London¹, presentation material and other documentation. It also includes a sim enabled Android tablet for you to use during the workshop and take home with you. We also provide a light lunch and refreshments during each working day as part of the fee.

Other costs

Airfares and daily travel to and from the workshop venue are not included. Our workshops are non-residential and you are responsible for your accommodation costs. We can help you with booking hotel accommodation so please let us know if you would like us to advise you or make a reservation. We suggest that you should allow approximately £160 per day for a modest standard of hotel (for example, three-star), local travel in the UK, meals (apart from a light lunch on working days) and other incidental expenses.

Value Added Tax

We do not have to charge UK Value Added Tax (VAT) if you can provide written confirmation from your government or its accredited representative that you are “employed by the government in furtherance of its sovereign activities.” In all other cases, we will have to charge VAT (currently 20%) in addition to the fee.

Ways to pay

You, or your government agency, can pay by bank transfer or by cheque, made payable to Public Administration International. We accept payment by credit or debit card but there is a surcharge for this way of paying. Please contact us if you would like to pay by credit or debit card.

Discounts

We offer a 10% reduction on the full tuition fee if we receive payment no later than 21 days before the first day of the workshop. If we receive payment after that, we will charge the full tuition fee.

Cancellation

If you have to cancel your booking, you must let us know in writing and we will acknowledge in writing your cancellation.

Substitutions and transfers

If you have booked a place on a workshop and are not able to attend, we will accept an appropriate substitute at any time without penalty but our normal terms and conditions will apply. Also, it is possible to transfer to a future workshop but only one transfer is permitted. Please get in touch with us and we will advise you about transfers.

Please see our website for our full terms and conditions. If you prefer a hard copy of our full terms and conditions, please let us know.

<http://www.public-admin.co.uk/terms-and-conditions-for-booking/>

Insurance

We advise you to arrange travel and health insurance cover before you leave your home country.

¹Travel to and from the airport in London and on scheduled visits in the programme are provided at cost.

Workshop Director

The Workshop Director is Dr Philip Davies. Philip is Executive Director of Oxford Evidentia, a UK-based professional development and consulting company that undertakes capacity building in impact evaluation, evidence synthesis and the use of high quality evidence for policy making, good governance and public service delivery. From 2012 to 2015 Philip was Head of the London office of 3ie, the International Initiative for Impact Evaluation, and had responsibilities for 3ie's Systematic Reviews and Research Synthesis programme. Previously, Philip was a Director of the American Institute for Research in Washington DC, and before this he was a senior civil servant in the UK Cabinet Office and HM Treasury, responsible for policy evaluation and analysis. Before joining the Cabinet Office Philip was a University Lecturer in Social and Political Science at the University of Oxford, and he has held academic positions at the University of Aberdeen and the University of California, San Diego. He has substantive expertise in health and health care, education, social welfare, crime and justice and international development. He has taught courses on policy evaluation, evidence-based policy making, and the analysis and use of evidence across the UK and in the USA, Canada, and various countries of Europe, Africa and Australasia. He is also a consultant on policy making for many governments and international organisations.

Who we are

PAI (Public Administration International) specialises in management consultancy, training and development services for organisations in, and associated with, the public sector worldwide. We provide advice and support for governments going through political, economic, structural and legislative change. Our extensive network of associates includes practitioners, academics and independent consultants. Our key objectives are promoting good governance and good practice in delivering public services. This workshop is one of a number of specialist UK-based professional development workshops designed to meet the needs of public services worldwide.

We pride ourselves on our:

- High quality, practical advice and support for our clients
- Professionalism and integrity
- Ability to offer excellent value for money
- Sound experience and track record internationally
- Networks and partnerships across the world
- Flexible, collaborative approach
- Friendliness and focus on putting people first.

How to apply

Please complete the PAI application form and post, fax or email it to Amanda Anderson, Programme Manager, at the address on the bottom of the page.

You can also apply online via our website www.public-admin.co.uk

If you would like to discuss this workshop, any of our other international workshops or our consultancy services, please contact Claire Cameron, Director.

We also have extensive experience of designing tailor-made training (from one day to two or three weeks) which can be run in your own country or in the UK to meet the specific needs of groups or individuals at all levels within your organisation. Please contact us if you would like further information.

Where we are



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