

Policy Analysis and the Use of Evidence



One-week professional development workshop
7 to 11 November 2022 in Dubai



BRITISH ACCREDITATION COUNCIL
ACCREDITED SHORT COURSE PROVIDER

PAi is accredited by the
British Accreditation Council
for Independent Further and Higher Education

“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

The COVID-19 pandemic has alerted policy makers and providers of public services to the need to make decisions on the basis of the best available evidence of what works and what doesn't. It also requires monitoring and evaluation that is well designed to be responsive to the day-to-day challenges of service provision.

The COVID-19 pandemic has also demonstrated the delicate interplay between scientific evidence, expertise and judgement in responding to a rapidly changing situation.

Other substantive areas, such as climate change, environmentally-clean economic growth, supply-chain security, disease prevention, poverty reduction and extreme weather, all require decisions based on sound empirical evidence.

This workshop will focus on the use and analysis of evidence to make more informed decisions about policies, programmes and projects. It has been designed to help public policy makers at all levels of government, as well as in national and international NGOs, make better decisions and achieve better outcomes by using analysis, evidence and evaluation effectively.

The workshop has been designed to enhance decision making throughout the different stages of the policy process (i.e. preparation and planning, decision-making, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation) by placing the best available evidence from research and evaluation at the heart of decision making. It also considers how to integrate different types of evidence with other key factors that influence the policy process, including political direction, available resources and the experience and expertise of policy makers.

Who is the workshop for?

The workshop is designed for policy makers and decision makers who plan, implement, manage or 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 these fit 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.

What the workshop will cover

The workshop will focus on the policy process and how evidence can contribute to its different stages. It will consider what constitutes evidence and how evidence needs to combine with decision makers' expertise, experience and judgement.

During the week, the workshop will develop your understanding of:

- The policy making process
- Different types of evidence and the risks associated with them
- Problem identification and specification
- Stakeholder engagement
- Developing policy options and innovative solutions
- Theory of change analysis
- Establishing 'what works' using counterfactual analysis
- Evidence synthesis – harnessing existing evidence
- Business case development
- Developing implementation and delivery plans
- Influencing the policy process using evidence and analysis.

Programme outline

| | AM | PM |
|-------|--|---|
| Day 1 | Welcome and introductions What do you understand by evidence? The policy making process Different notions and sources of evidence Evaluation and the policy process | Situation analysis: identifying the nature, size and driving forces of the problem-in-hand Problem Tree Analysis Group exercise Participants' informal presentations and introduction to action planning |
| Day 2 | Engaging stakeholders and local people Using locally-based evidence Working with delivery partners | Engaging with communities |
| Day 3 | Identifying policy options: What policy options have been considered? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 'do nothing' option • What is already working? • What has worked elsewhere? Deciding on the 'preferred' option | Theory of change analysis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How is a policy, programme or project supposed to work? • Establishing a causal chain of activities, mechanisms, agencies, outputs and outcomes Testing assumptions |
| Day 4 | Establishing the effectiveness of interventions Case studies of establishing the most effective interventions | Developing a monitoring and evaluation framework Planning an evaluation Group Work |
| Day 5 | Principles of economic appraisal evidence Business-case development | Participants' presentations on action plans Evaluation of workshop Presentation of certificates of attendance |

We reserve the right to change the programme as necessary.

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.

How to apply

Please complete the PAI application form online via our website: <https://public-admin.co.uk/booking-form/>

You can also complete our hard copy application form. Please contact us at pai@public-admin.co.uk to obtain a copy. Once completed return to Amanda Anderson, Programme Manager, at the same email address.

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.

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 Dubai. We will provide you with details of the workshop location nearer the time.

Fees

The fee for this workshop is £2,425. The fee includes tuition, presentation material and other documentation. It also includes an Android tablet for you to use during the workshop and take home with you for future reference and follow up as well as a light lunch and refreshments during each working day.

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.

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 28 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. For cancellations received up to 29 days before the start of the workshop we will refund the tuition fee, minus a charge of £200 to cover our administration costs. For cancellations received within 28 days of the start of the workshop, we will charge the full tuition fee.

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 would 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.

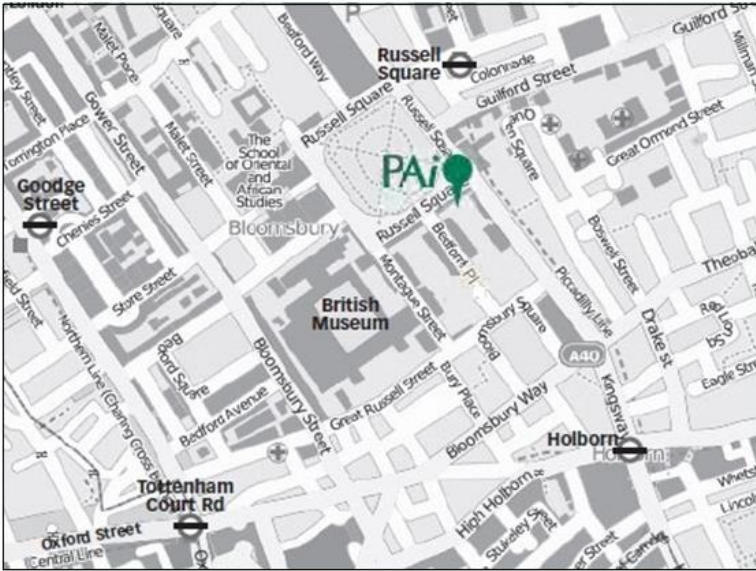
Who we are

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.

Where we are



Public Administration International

56 Russell Square London WC1B 4HP UK

T: + 44 (0)20 7580 3590 F: + 44 (0)20 7580 4746 E: pai@public-admin.co.uk