

A 5 half-day International Training Course

Using Evidence for more Effective Policies
New Instruments for a Learning Government

*7-11 June 2021, George Washington University
Washington DC, USA*



Target Groups

- Policy Strategists on international, national and local level
 - Coordinators of Policy Research
 - Municipal Clerks
 - Governmental Science Advisors
 - Policy Evaluators
 - Policy Staffers

Both virtual and on-site participation possible (if Covid restrictions permit)

Introduction

In order to ensure that governmental policies are effective and serve the people's needs, we need to strengthen the development of rigor evidence for better policymaking. This was concluded by the international conference [Evidence for Policymakers](#) in The Hague, December 2020. The meeting also emphasized the need for international exchange of expertise. The momentum is obviously now in the USA, where the [Evidence Act](#) has been approved and is expected to deliver new guidance in setting the agenda's.

To reinforce these ambitions for exchange of international expertise, the conference organizers developed a **5 half-day training course** at the George Washington University Campus, where we welcome both **virtual** and **on-site participation**. This course will combine the best available expertise in Washington DC with some leading experts outside the USA with various professional backgrounds. They will demonstrate how to use evidence for more effective policies. Each session will be taught in an interactive manner and includes collective exercises. In order to make this initiative as fitting as possible to the participants' particular aims and needs, an **intake procedure** is part of the registration.

The course aims to give participants a comprehensive understanding of how to effectively use and disseminate evidence for better policymaking, by applying the insights of the various international experts to your own contexts. In all, the course aims to assist you in turning your governmental institute step by step into a learning organization.

Each day addresses a different theme, although some key elements of how to use evidence — such as policy evaluation and data-analysis — are touched upon every day. The modules are focused on either the **Instruments**, **Internal Organisation** or **Interactive Exercises**. The last day ends with a **case study exercise**, in where many elements of the course will return. This way, the knowledge you have gained can eventually be applied to your specific case.

Outline

- **Day 1:** Introduces the speakers, the participants, and the themes of the course with a broad overview of ways to structurally build applicable evidence for more effective policies, with special attention to the roll of evaluation agenda's and big data analysis.
- **Day 2:** How to build evidence **before** policies have started (ex-ante)
- **Day 3:** How to monitor policies through **ongoing** evaluation (ex-durante)
- **Day 4:** How to use evaluations on policy **outcomes** (ex-post)
- **Day 5:** Invites you through a case-study exercise to agglomerate the lessons of the course and present your view to your peers, but leaves also ample time for comprehensive take-home messages and questions.

Draft Programme

Throughout the training course, we have build a variety of sessions which either: (1) provide a sound understanding of certain **Instruments**; (2) provide hands-on examples and suggestions on how to **Organise these instruments internally**, or (3) coordinate **Interactive Modules** to stimulate participants to apply the lessons to their specific context.

All times in EST

June 7: Introduction

<p>Morning Part 1 8:00 AM - 9:15 AM</p>	<p>Kathryn Newcomer Professor, Trachtenberg School of Public Policy and Public Administration, George Washington University, USA</p>	<p>Introduction of the learning goals of the course by the teachers and participants</p>
<p>Morning Part 2 9:45 AM - 11:00 AM</p>	<p>Nick Hart, President of the US Data Foundation</p>	<p>Creating conditions for an evidence-driven government</p>
<p>Morning Part 3 11:30 AM - 12:45 PM</p>	<p>Pieter Duisenberg, Netherlands Association of Universities & former member of Parliament</p>	<p>Connecting the People & Practice to Political Evidence</p>

June 8: Generating Evidence before Policies have Started

<p>Morning Part 1 8:00 AM - 9:15 AM</p>	<p>Kathryn Newcomer</p>	<p><u>Internal Organisation</u> Learning Agenda's and Strategic Evaluation Planning</p>
<p>Morning Part 2 9:45 AM - 11:00 AM</p>	<p>t.b.d</p>	<p><u>Instruments</u> Deliverology: how to structurally set and meet policy targets</p>
<p>Morning Part 3 11:30 AM - 12:45 PM</p>	<p>Pieter Duisenberg</p>	<p><u>Interactive Module</u> Using Scientific Insights to prepare Policy Proposals</p>

All times in EST

June 9: Ongoing Evaluation

Morning Part 1 8:00 AM - 9:15 AM	Jonathan Breckon , Former Director of the Alliance for Useful Evidence and Senior Visiting Fellow at King's College London	<u>Instruments</u> Adapting policies and applying evidence to different contexts.
Morning Part 2 9:45 AM - 11:00 AM	Nick Hart	<u>Internal Organisation</u> The use of administrative records for monitoring, performance measurement/
Morning Part 3 11:30 AM - 12:45 PM	t.b.d	<u>Interactive Module</u> How realistic are real-time, ad-hoc policy adjustments?

June 10: Using Evaluations for Improved Policymaking (ex-post)

Morning Part 1 8:00 AM - 9:15 AM	Kate Tromble , Vice President for Federal Policy & Zach Markovits , Vice President of Local Government at Results for America	<u>Instruments</u> Benchmarks for more effective federal and local policies
Morning Part 2 9:45 AM - 11:00 AM	Patricia Paskov , Analyst in the impact evaluation unit of the development research group, World Bank	<u>Internal Organisation</u> How can we make data actionable, applicable and structurally used?
Morning Part 3 11:30 AM - 12:45 PM	t.b.d.	<u>Interactive Module</u> Bottlenecks for using evidence to analyse policy outcomes

June 11: Case Study & Reflection

Morning Part 1 8:00 AM - 9:15 AM	Experts on Strategic Evaluation	<u>Case Study Exercise</u> Strategic Evaluation Agenda's
Morning Part 2 9:45 AM - 11:00 AM	Experts on Strategic Evaluation	<u>Presentations by participants</u>
Morning Part 3 11:30 AM - 12:45 PM	Frank Zwetsloot , CEO of ScienceWorks & Kathryn Newcomer	<u>Reflections and take home lessons</u>