A 5 half-day International Virtual Training Course

Using Evidence for more Effective Policies

New Instruments for a Learning Government

Target Group

7-11 June 2021, Online

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

Organised by:

ScienceWorks
Connecting Science & Society

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 only virtual training course** 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.

Ambitions

- Identify conditions for an evidence-driven governmental institute

- How to make performance data actionable, applicable & structurally used

- Structurally set and meet policy targets

- Build a framework on how to use real-time data for monitoring policy performance

- How to use data-analysis for more effective (local) policies

- Turn your governmental institute step by step into a learning organization.

Draft Programme

Using Evidence for more Effective Policies

Outline

- **Day 1:** Introduces the speakers, the participants, and the themes of the course with a broad overview of ways to structurally use evidence for more effective policies, with special attention to evaluation agenda's and the role of politics and the public.

- **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.

Throughout the training course, we have build a variety of 75-minute 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) comprise **Interactive Modules** in order to stimulate participants to apply the lessons to their specific context.

All times in EDT **Monday June 7 - Introduction of the themes of the course**

8am **Kathryn Newcomer,** Professor, Trachtenberg School of Public Policy and Public Administration, George Washington University, USA

- **Introducing the Themes and Aims of the Course**

- **Introducing the participants - and their backgrounds and expectations - to one another**

9.15am *Break*

9.45am **Nick Hart,** President of the US Data Foundation

- **Creating conditions for an evidence-driven government**

- **Putting it into practice: Developing and Implementing the Foundations for Evidence Based Policymaking Act**

11am *Break*

11.30am **Pieter Duisenberg,** Chair of the Netherlands Association of Universities & former member of Parliament

- **Connecting the People & Practice to Political Evidence**

- **Interactive exercise**

12.45pm *(Hybrid) lunch and End of Day 1*

Tuesday June 8 - Generating Evidence before Policies have Started

8am   **Kathryn Newcomer,** Professor, Trachtenberg School of Public Policy and Public Administration, George Washington University, USA: **Internal Organisation**

-    **Learning agenda's**

-    **Strategic evaluation planning**

9.15am   *Break*

9.45am   **Nick Rodriguez,** Chief Executive Officer at Delivery Associates: **Instruments**

-    **Deliverology: how to structurally set and meet policy targets**

11am   *Break*

11.30am   **Pieter Duisenberg,** Chair of the Netherlands Association of Universities & former member of Parliament: **Interactive Module**

-    **Using scientific insights to prepare policy proposals**

12.45pm   *(Hybrid lunch) and End of Day 2*

Wednesday June 9 - Ongoing Evaluation

8am   **Jonathan Breckon,** Senior Visiting Fellow at King's College London: **Instruments**
-    **Policy interventions based on real time (local) data**

-    **Applying evidence to different contexts**

9.15am   *Break*

9.45am   **Nick Hart,** President of the US Data Foundation: **Internal Organisation**

-    **The use of administrative records for monitoring, performance measurement**

-    **Management, and evaluation from a substantive perspective**

11am   *Break*

11.30am   **Jonathan Breckon,** Senior Visiting Fellow at King's College London: **Interactive Module**

-    **How realistic are real-time, ad-hoc policy adjustments?**

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

8am   **Nichole Dunn**, Senior Advisor at Results for America **& Zach Markovits,** Vice President of Local Government at Results for America: **<u>Instruments</u>**

- **Setting and meeting Benchmarks for evidence based policies**

- **What Works Cities: using data and evidence for more effective local policies**

9.15am   *Break*

9.45am   **Patricia Paskov,** Analyst in the impact evaluation unit of the development research group & **Daniel Rogger,** Research Economist in the Impact Evaluation Unit at the World Bank: **<u>Internal Organisation</u>**

- **How can we make data actionable, applicable and structurally used?**

- **Fostering a change of organisational culture**

11am   *Break*

11.30am   **Sam Quinney,** Director of The Lab @ DC: **<u>Interactive Module</u>**

- **Bottlenecks for using evidence to analyse policy outcomes**

Friday June 11 - Case Study & Reflection

8am   **Nynke de Witte,** Acting Head of the Strategic Analysis Unit, Inspectorate of the Budget at Ministry of Finance & **Carolien Klein Haarhuis,** Senior Advisor at the Inspectorate of State Finances, Ministry of Finance, The Netherlands

- **Case Study Exercise: Strategic Evaluation Agenda's**

9.15am   *Break*

9.45am   **Nynke de Witte,** Acting Head of the Strategic Analysis Unit, Inspectorate of the Budget at Ministry of Finance & **Carolien Klein Haarhuis,** Senior Advisor at the Inspectorate of State Finances, Ministry of Finance, The Netherlands

- **Presentations by participants**

11am   *Break*

11.30am   **Frank Zwetsloot,** CEO of ScienceWorks & **Kathryn Newcomer,** Professor, Trachtenberg School of Public Policy and Public Administration, George Washington University, USA:

- **Reflections and take home lessons**