

## CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The **Italian Centre for International Development (ICID)** - created by *CEIS* of the *University of Rome Tor Vergata*, the *Department of Social Sciences and Economics of Sapienza University of Rome*, and the *Department of Economics of Roma Tre University* – jointly with the *Rossi-Doria Centre for economic and social research* and in partnership with the *International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD)* are organizing the:

# 6<sup>th</sup> Edition of the International School for Advanced Training “Impact Evaluation of Development Policies: Concepts, Methods, Applications” 17-28 June 2024

### Objective

The School is designed to serve the needs of government and non-governmental organization officials, private professionals and practitioners, researchers and doctoral students with an interest in development and public policy evaluation. The objective is to provide participants with the skills and competencies for impact evaluations of development policies and programs. This will be achieved through a focus on both a “hands-on” approach to the discussion of specific examples of policies and programs, and also on the most recent analytical techniques.

### Organization

The School focuses on three pillars:

- **CONCEPTS**  
Identification of the policy framework (e.g. policy maker’s objectives, program beneficiaries, contextual factors).
- **METHODS**  
Identification of the key instruments for assessing the policy’s impact. How to select the most suitable tool in light of the specific context and how to apply it.
- **APPLICATIONS**  
The practice of the policy’s impact evaluation. How to carry out the evaluation exercise, useful data sources and data collection, software and main statistical packages. This will be mainly achieved in the hands-on sessions in the afternoon.

The School will be held **from 17<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> June 2024 in the form of an on-line course**. The morning sessions will provide an introduction to the topics, with practical applications to specific case studies in the field. The afternoon sessions will be devoted to technical, hands-on sessions. The course will include students’ assignments under supervision and tutorship.

### Scientific Committee

Gero Carletto (*World Bank*), Pierluigi Montalbano (*Sapienza University*), Silvia Nenci (*Roma Tre University*), Carlo Pietrobelli (*Roma Tre University*), Furio Camillo Rosati (*Tor Vergata University*), Federica Saliola (*World Bank*), Luca Salvatici (*Roma Tre University*), Sara Savastano (*IFAD*) and Máximo Torero (*FAO*).

Organisation Office: Veronica Notaro.

## Agenda

Dates	Topics	Morning	Afternoon (Lab. Sessions)
Monday 17 June	Impact evaluation for development: the state of the art	<p><b>9:30-11:30</b> <i>Opening remarks and Introduction to the School</i></p> <p><i>Overview of the main techniques applied during the School</i></p> <p>11:30-12:00 Break</p> <p><b>12:00-13:00</b> <i>Opening Keynote Speech, David Laborde (FAO)</i></p>	<p><b>14:30- 17:00</b></p> <p><i>STATA crash course</i></p>
Tuesday 18 June	Difference in Differences (DiD) and Randomized Controlled Trial (RCT)	<p><b>9:30-11:00</b> <i>Difference in Differences: applications to health economics</i></p> <p>11:00-11:30 Break</p> <p><b>11:30-13:00</b> <i>Measuring Remittances: a Randomized Controlled Trial</i></p>	<p><b>14:30- 17:00</b></p> <p><i>Hands-on Difference in Differences (DiD)</i></p>
Wednesday 19 June	DiD Assignments & Tutoring		
Thursday 20 June	Propensity Score matching (PSM)	<p><b>9:30-11:00</b> <i>FAO's approach to Impact Assessment (TBC)</i></p> <p>11:00-11:30 Break</p> <p><b>11:30- 13:00</b> <i>IFAD's approach to Impact Assessment</i></p>	<p><b>14:30- 17:00</b> <i>Introduction to the main econometric packages</i></p>
Friday 21 June	PSM Assignments & Tutoring		
Monday 24 June	Generalized Propensity Scores (GPS) and Meta-analysis of Impact Evaluations	<p><b>9:30-11:00</b> <i>Generalized Propensity Score</i></p> <p>11:00-11:30 Break</p> <p><b>11:30-13:00</b> <i>Aggregation of impact evaluations through meta-analyses</i></p>	<p><b>14:30- 17:00</b> <i>How to use Generalized Propensity Score (GPS)</i></p>
Tuesday 25 June	GPS Assignments & Tutoring		
Wednesday 26 June	Machine Learning (ML) for impact evaluation	<p><b>9:30-11:00</b> <i>Machine Learning for Impact Evaluation I</i></p> <p>11:00-11:30 Break</p> <p><b>11:30-13:00</b> <i>Machine Learning for Impact Evaluation II</i></p>	<p><b>14:30- 17:00</b> <i>Hands-on Session on Casual Machine Learning</i></p>
Thursday 27 June	Synthetic control, Regression Discontinuity Design (RDD), Designing and Data	<p><b>9:30-11:00</b></p> <p><i>A guide on how to estimate causal impacts in case of one or few treated units</i></p> <p><b>11:30-13:00</b> <i>Regression Discontinuity Design</i></p>	<p><b>14:30- 17:00</b> <i>Designing and evaluating development policies: practitioners' perspectives from the World Bank</i></p>
Friday 28 June	Practitioners' perspectives and concluding remarks	<p><b>9:30-11:00</b></p> <p><i>Integrating qualitative and quantitative assessments.</i></p> <p><i>Integrating estimation and simulation</i></p> <p>11:00-11:30 Break</p> <p><b>11:30-12:30</b> <i>Closing Keynote Speech, Jyotsna Puri (IFAD)</i></p> <p><b>12:30-13:00</b> <i>Wrap up and course evaluation</i></p>	<p>Optional: Test for Internships</p>

## Faculty

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Our faculty members are drawn from academia, research centers, and international organizations. Here are the faculty members from previous editions: Celli Viviana (*Sapienza University*); Cerulli Giovanni (*CNR*); Cerqua Augusto (*Sapienza University*); D'Errico Marco (*FAO*); Daidone Silvio (*FAO*); De Arcangelis Giuseppe (*Sapienza University*); Garbero Alessandra (*IFAD*); Giua Mara (*Roma Tre University*); Gourlay Sydney (*World Bank*); Kilic Talip (*World Bank*); Kopinska Joanna (*Sapienza University*); Laborde David (*FAO*); Letta Marco (*Sapienza University*); Magrini Emiliano (*FAO*); Mariani Rama Dasi (*Roma Tre University*); Osborne Theresa (*World Bank*); Porreca Eleonora (*Bank of Italy*); Torero Maximo (*FAO*); Vurchio Davide (*University of Bari*).

## Scholarships

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The School offers **4 scholarships** covering tuition fees for the best candidates.

To be eligible for a scholarship, candidates must come from a country of the Global South<sup>1</sup>, be currently enrolled in a PhD or Master's university course and be conducting research activities in development studies. If you are applying for a scholarship, you must upload your national ID or passport along with the student status certificate.

## Internship Opportunities

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Internship opportunities are offered by United Nations Development Agencies based in Rome. Specifically, selections for the Research and Impact Assessment Division (RIA) will be made at the end of the training activities.

## Registration and Fees

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**The regular fee amounts to 1000€** for the entire course. The fee includes a temporary license of STATA for all participants. **Reduced fees apply for Master/PhD students (500€) and University Staff (800€)**. To this aim, participants must apply and provide proof of their full-time student status or university membership for the current academic year.

## Important Dates

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Applications should be made using [this application form](#) by **15<sup>th</sup> May 2024**. Notification of acceptance will be provided to applicants by **20<sup>th</sup> May 2024**. The deadline for registration is **30<sup>th</sup> May 2024**.

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<sup>1</sup> Nationality from any of the following regions: MENA, Latin America and the Caribbean, Sub-Saharan Africa, Eastern or West Africa, South and South-East Asia.