

## 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](#), the **Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)**, the **World Bank Institute for Economic Development**, and the **International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD)** are organizing the:

### 7<sup>th</sup> Edition of the International School for Advanced Training “Impact Evaluation of Development Policies: *Concepts, Methods, Applications*” 23<sup>rd</sup> June – 4<sup>th</sup> July 2025

#### 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 23<sup>rd</sup> June to 4<sup>th</sup> July 2025 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

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Gero Carletto (*WB Institute for economic development*), David Laborde (*FAO*), 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: *Rossi-Doria Centre (Roma Tre University)* and *CEIS*.

## 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*); Antonio Scognamillo (*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*); Jyotsna Puri (*IFAD*); Vurchio Davide (*University of Bari*).

## Scholarships

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The School offers **5 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.

## Internship Opportunities

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Internship opportunities with partner international organizations will be available.

## 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 **30<sup>th</sup> April 2025**. Notification of acceptance will be provided to applicants no later than **15<sup>th</sup> May 2025**. The deadline for registration is **25<sup>th</sup> May 2025**.

For more information, please contact: [iedp.school@uniroma3.it](mailto:iedp.school@uniroma3.it)

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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.

## Agenda

Dates	Topics	Morning	Afternoon (Lab. Sessions)
Monday 23 June	Impact evaluation for development: the state of the art	<b>9:30-11:30</b> Opening remarks and tribute address of Prof. Luca Salvatici (C. Alvarez, IFAD; M. Giua, Rossi-Doria Centre) Introduction to the School (S. Nenci, Roma Tre University) Overview of the main techniques applied during the School (P. Montalbano, Sapienza University) 11:30-12:00 Break <b>12:00-13:00</b> Opening Speech, D. Laborde (FAO)	<b>14:30- 17:00</b> V. Celli (Sapienza University)  <i>STATA crash course</i>
Tuesday 24 June	Difference in Differences (DiD) and Randomized Controlled Trial (RCT)	<b>9:30-11:00</b> Difference in Differences: applications to health economics (J. Kopinska, Sapienza University) 11:00-11:30 Break <b>11:30-13:00</b> Measuring Remittances: a Randomized Controlled Trial (G. De Arcangelis, Sapienza University)	<b>14:30- 17:00</b> V. Celli (Sapienza University)  <i>Hands-on Difference in Differences (DiD)</i>
Wednesday 25 June	DiD Assignments & Tutoring (V. Celli, Sapienza University)		
Thursday 26 June	Propensity Score matching (PSM) and qualitative assessments	<b>9:30-11:00</b> FAO's Approach to Evidence-Based Decision-Making (R. Pietrelli; A. Scognamiglio, FAO) 11:00-11:30 Break <b>11:30-13:00</b> Integrating quantitative and qualitative assessments (C. Pietrobelli, Roma Tre University)	<b>14:30- 17:00</b> M. Letta (Sapienza University)  <i>Introduction to the main econometric packages</i>
Friday 27 June	PSM Assignments & Tutoring (M. Letta, Sapienza University)		
Monday 30 June	Generalized Propensity Scores (GPS) and Project Evaluability	<b>9:30-11:00</b> Generalized Propensity Score (E. Magrini, FAO) 11:00-11:30 Break <b>11:30- 13:00</b> Project evaluability (F. Rosati, Tor Vergata)	<b>14:30- 17:00</b> D. Vurchio (Bari University)  <i>How to use Generalized Propensity Score (GPS)</i>
Tuesday 1 July	GPS Assignments & Tutoring (D. Vurchio, Bari University)		
Wednesday 2 July	Synthetic control, Regression Discontinuity Design (RDD), and Data Sources	<b>9:30-11:00</b> A guide on how to estimate causal impacts in case of one or few treated units (A. Cerqua, Sapienza University) <b>11:30-13:00</b> Regression Discontinuity Design (A. Cerqua, Sapienza University)	<b>14:30- 17:00</b> (S. Gourlay, WB Center for Development Data, C4R2)  <i>Designing and evaluating development policies: practitioners' perspectives from the World Bank</i>



The Italian Center for  
International Development



ROMA  
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UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI

Rossi-Doria  
Centro Ricerche Economiche e Sociali  
Dipartimento di Economia - Università Roma Tre



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Thursday 3 July	Machine Learning (ML) for impact evaluation	<p>9:30-11:00 <i>Machine Learning for Impact Evaluation I</i> (G. Cerulli, CNR)</p> <p>11:00-11:30 Break</p> <p>11:30-13:00 <i>Machine Learning for Impact Evaluation II</i> (G. Cerulli, CNR)</p>	<p>14:30- 17:00 M. Letta (Sapienza University)</p> <p><i>Hands-on Session on Causal Machine Learning</i></p>
Friday 4 July	Practitioners' perspectives and concluding remarks	<p>9:30-11:00 <i>Modalities and objectives of impact evaluation</i> (R. Cavatassi, World Bank institute for economic development)</p> <p><i>Aggregation of impact evaluations through meta-analyses</i> (A. Garbero, IFAD)</p> <p>11:00-11:30 Break</p> <p>11:30-12:30 <i>Impact evaluation of development projects</i> (J. Puri, Columbia University)</p> <p>12:30-13:00 Concluding remarks, wrap up and course evaluation (P. Montalbano; S. Nenci; C. Pietrobelli; F. Rosati)</p>	Optional: Test for Internships