

Evaluating Labour Market Programmes: An Executive Course

2 -6 July 2017 | Amman, Jordan

As part of ILO's partnership with IFAD, the IFAD financed project "Strengthening gender monitoring and evaluation in rural employment in the Near East and North Africa", an executive course on evaluating labour market programmes is being offered. Participants in the course will learn cutting edge techniques for evaluation, including randomized controlled trials, quasi-experiments and results based management. The course is highly experiential with participants receiving private consultation from specialists on evaluation design and implementation.

For qualified applicants, course fees will be covered by the course organizers. A number of bursaries to cover transport and lodging are also available. Following the course, participants can also apply to receive financial and technical support for the design and implementation of their evaluation.

The course is co-financed by the OECD Development Centre, the International Initiative for Impact Evaluation, GIZ and the Economic Research Forum.

1. CONTEXT

Active labour market programmes (ALMPs) are used in many countries to help job-seekers find and retain better jobs. ALMPs often target vulnerable populations such as inactive women and rural youth. Despite their widespread adoption, the effectiveness of these programmes remains controversial. With the increasing emphasis in many governments and international agencies on evidence-based policy advice, it is important to understand which programmes "work" and which are less successful.

Rigorous results measurement and impact evaluation can help to determine the effectiveness of programmes and understand their impacts on labour market outcomes of target groups. Advanced training on evaluation techniques and methods is essential to strengthen the capacity of policy-makers, researchers, and practitioners to understand, interpret and conduct impact evaluation. Understanding how empowerment affects gender equality and economic outcomes is equally important.

Towards this end, the International Labour Organization's (ILO) will host an executive training course in evaluation with a particular focus on the evaluation of labour market interventions targeted at women and rural youth.

Following the course, participants will have the opportunity to apply for funding and technical assistance to implement a result measurement system and/or evaluation that will be developed during the training.

2. COURSE OBJECTIVES AND CONTENT

The course aims to achieve the following objectives:

- 1) Provide advanced training on appropriate impact evaluation and results measurement strategies for assessing active labour market programmes, with a particular emphasis rural youth, women's empowerment and the agricultural sector.
- 2) Catalyse new partnerships amongst project implementers and researchers with the goal of advancing our knowledge of what works, and what does not, in implementing active labour market programmes for rural youth and women.

The five-day executive training course on designing result measurement systems and evaluating active labour market programmes will provide a thorough understanding of impact evaluations and pragmatic step-by-step training for conducting project evaluations. Throughout the course extensive group work sessions allow participants to develop M&E systems and plan an evaluation for their own projects. Project teams that have already established a results measurement system will learn more about the benefits and methods of impact evaluation and will be coached by experienced evaluation specialists. Guidance will be given to deciding between evaluation designs, choosing an appropriate sample size, selecting appropriate labour market, women's empowerment, skills or entrepreneurship related indicators and common threats and pitfalls to the validity of impact evaluation methods. Thematic sessions of the course will focus on measuring women's empowerment with a focus on the Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI).

The course will include matchmaking sessions that are designed to forge partnerships between researchers and implementing partners working in social programmes in the Middle East and North Africa region and to develop new impact evaluations. Through roundtable exercises, organizations will receive structured guidance from academic experts on how to build evaluation into the design and execution of their specific programmes.

3. TARGET AUDIENCE

The course targets managers, implementers and researchers of active labour market programmes and project from Jordan and the MENA region. It is intended for participants with expertise in monitoring and evaluation and a basic knowledge of impact evaluation methods and techniques. Government officials from Labour and Youth Ministries, representatives from international organizations and other development institutions as well as from non-governmental organizations and private sector initiatives are invited to apply

- *Project teams* that implement an active labour market programme focused on young people, such as rural employment, employability skills trainings, on-the-job trainings, entrepreneurship promotion programmes, job counselling and coaching schemes and/or wage-subsidy schemes. Implementers should have an interest in further developing their result measurement system and collaborating on an impact evaluation.
- *Researchers*: University academics, evaluation investigators, and other invited researchers who study youth employment and are interested in developing new partnerships with implementers. Young scholars who want to improve their understanding of result measurement tools and impact evaluation techniques.

4. REGISTRATION

The registration form can be accessed [here](#). Admission to the course will be competitive. All course fees will be covered by the ILO for applicants who are accepted to the course. Participants are expected to cover travel, accommodation and visa costs. A limited number of bursaries available (for airfares & lodging) will be distributed on a case-by-case basis and preference will be given to early applicants.

All admission decisions will be made on a rolling basis, and participants are encouraged to apply as soon as possible. Places being limited, the organizers will give priority to applicants coming from the target audience of the course.

5. PARTNERS

Main partner



The Executive Evaluation course is offered in partnership with IFAD as part of the **IFAD**-financed project, titled “Strengthening gender monitoring and evaluation in rural employment in the Near East and North Africa.” Through rigorous impact research, this capacity development and learning grant project aims to understand “what works” in the promotion of gender mainstreaming, with the ultimate goal of reaching gender equality in rural employment outcomes across the region

Co-financing



Co-funded by the European Union, the Youth Inclusion project is implemented by the **Development Centre of the OECD** to analyse policies for youth in ten developing and emerging economies, including Jordan. An important objective of the project is to strengthen national capacities to design evidence-based policies that promote youth inclusion and youth well-being.



GIZ's Employment Promotion Programme (EPP) aims to improve the employment situation in Jordan in selected economic sectors and regions. It focuses on expanding evidence-based policy-making through improved M&E systems, strengthening local economic development and employment, and enhancing employment opportunities for women.



3ie is an international grant-making NGO promoting evidence-informed development policies and programmes. 3ie is a global leader in funding and producing high-quality evidence of what works, how, why and at what cost in international development. 3ie believes that better and policy-relevant evidence will make development more effective and improve people's lives.



The **Economic Research Forum** (ERF) is a regional network dedicated to promoting high quality economic research to contribute to sustainable development in the Arab countries, Iran and Turkey. Its core objectives are to build strong research capacity in the ERF region, to lead and support the production of independent, high quality economic research, and to disseminate research output to a wide and diverse audience

6. Draft Agenda: Executive Course in Evaluating Labour Market Programmes, 2 – 6 July 2017 | Amman, Jordan

	Sunday 2 July 2017	Monday 3 July 2017	Tuesday 4 July 2017	Wednesday 5 July 2017	Thursday 6 July 2017
8:30 – 9:00	Registration/Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
9:00 – 10:30	<p>Welcoming Remarks: Ministry of Labour</p> <p>Keynote Lecture: Labour market participation and empowerment of women in MENA Prof. Ragui Assaad, University of Minnesota</p>	<p>Lecture 2: Indicators: Decent work, youth employment, entrepreneurship, empowerment</p>	<p>Lecture 4: Women’s empowerment in employment interventions</p> <p>Interactive learning exercise</p>	<p>Case study 3: How to evaluate a youth business training programme</p>	<p>Group work on presentation</p>
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Coffee Break
11:00-12:30	<p>Panel discussion: What works in rural economic growth and employment? ILO, GIZ, IFAD, MoPIC</p>	<p>Group work on presentation: Evaluation questions, building results framework, selecting indicators</p>	<p>Lecture 5: Data collection & analysis of employment outcomes – interviews and focus groups</p> <p>Case study 2: Analysing qualitative data</p>	<p>Lecture 7: Impact evaluation methods</p>	<p>Finalize Presentations Feedback survey</p>
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
14:00-15:15	<p>Pre-course assessment</p> <p>Lecture 1: Diagnostics of ALMPs, Theory of change, results measurement strategies, and evaluation approaches</p>	<p>Lecture 3: Data collection & analysis of employment outcomes – surveys</p> <p>Case study 1: Analysing survey data</p>	<p>Group work on presentation: data collection tools and data analysis</p>	<p>Group work on presentation</p>	<p>Group presentations</p>
15:15-15:45	Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Coffee Break
15:45-17:00	<p>Group work on presentation: Theory of change, results measurement strategies, and evaluation approaches</p>	<p>Group work on presentation: Data collection tools for employment outcomes</p>	<p>Lecture 6: Introduction to impact evaluations</p>	<p>Lecture 8: Planning and managing M&E systems and impact evaluations</p>	<p>Group presentations</p>