

programme managers and researchers in terms of budget, time, and data constraints.

#### Module 4: Group work

As a practical complement to the theoretical lectures, the participants will commit a substantial part of their study time to group work. With the steady assistance of the course facilitators and resource people participants will elaborate strategies defining the most appropriate impact evaluation method that can be used given the specific nature of their programme, data and budget constraints, and policy and country context.

Group work is particularly linked to a small number of selected live case studies. These are youth employment programmes that are interested in an impact evaluation and have come to the course with a draft idea of an evaluation that could measure the impact on the target population. The selection of live case studies takes place prior to the course during the standard application process. Applicants interested in having their programme serving as a live case study should provide key information related to the programme and

the evaluation plans. For this purpose, please check the specific questionnaire attached to the general enrolment form.

#### Application and Contacts

To apply, interested candidates should email or fax the attached application form with a confirmation letter from the sponsor. The deadline for applications is October 29, 2010. Early application is strongly recommended since admission is competitive, space is limited, and the time taken to process Schengen visa applications can be long. Acceptance is provisional pending evidence of full financial sponsorship and approval by the course team.

Application and enquiry should be sent to:  
Ms. Anna Damouni  
E-mail: [a.damouni@itcilo.org](mailto:a.damouni@itcilo.org)  
Tel: +39-011-6936409  
Fax: +39-011-6936451

#### The ILO Turin Centre's facilities

Located in an attractive park on the banks of the River Po, the Centre's campus provides a congenial environment in which to live and study.

It contains 21 pavilions with fully equipped modern classrooms, conference halls and meeting rooms fitted out for multilingual simultaneous interpretation, a computer laboratory, and a computerized documentation centre linked to various data banks.

The campus has 287 study/bedrooms, all with private bathrooms, telephones and cable television. It also has:

- a reception desk open 24 hours a day;
- a restaurant, a self-service canteen and a coffee lounge, all catering for international dietary needs;

- a bank;
- a travel agency;
- a laundry service;
- a post office;
- an internet point;
- a recreation room;
- facilities for outdoor and indoor sports;
- an infirmary.

Social events are regularly held both on and off campus, so that participants from different cultural backgrounds can make the most of the stimulating international climate.

#### For additional information please contact:

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Employment and Skills Development Programme  
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10127 Turin (Italy)

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## Monitoring and Impact Evaluation of Youth Employment Programmes

6 – 10 December 2010  
Turin, Italy

# Monitoring and Impact Evaluation of Youth Employment Programmes



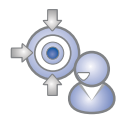
## Rationale

Youth employment programmes are gaining increasing attention among policy makers and social partners in emerging and developing countries. Existing development programmes provide assistance concerning a vast set of thematic areas such as, employment services, skills training, public works, wage subsidies, self-employment assistance, micro finance or a variable combination of the above. Increasingly, the tendency is to provide assistance on both demand and supply oriented activities that target specific groups such as economically disadvantaged youth.

How much reliance shall countries place on such programmes remains however a controversial question. As policy makers consider measures to help vulnerable young people improve their labour market prospects, they are often challenged by the lack of information on what their options are, what has worked well, and what has not worked so well - and why - in improving desirable outcomes.

In this context, conducting rigorous impact evaluations appears essential. It can help us to understand whether or not these programmes have had an impact, how large the impact was, who has benefited, and it ultimately provides the basis for sound policy making. Impact evaluations measure the net change in outcomes among a particular group, or groups, of people that can be attributed to a specific programme. To do so, they use a counterfactual to estimate what the state of the beneficiaries would have been in the absence of the programme. The identification of such counterfactual requires a lot of careful, thorough thought and planning that should be supported by a sound programme monitoring system.

Recognising the need to support the capacity to conduct and interpret impact evaluations, the ILO (International Training Centre and the Youth Employment Programme) together with the Secretariat of the Youth Employment Network are proposing a joint course on monitoring and impact evaluation of youth employment programmes.



## Course Objectives

The main objective of the proposed course is to provide a thorough introduction to the concepts and methods

for conducting impact evaluations and monitoring of youth employment programmes.

Specifically, the training will serve the three following objectives:

- Strengthen the technical capability to monitor youth employment programmes;
- Improve understanding of concepts and methods for quantitative impact evaluation of youth employment programmes;
- Help identify impact evaluation options that recognise budget, time and data constraints, and that best suit the needs of specific programmes, countries and institutional context.
- Provide concrete tutoring and hands-on consultation to selected participant programmes to design a ready-to-implement monitoring and impact evaluation plan.



## Course Implementation

The course will last one week and will be held in Turin, Italy, at the ILO International Training Centre, which offers unique residential facilities in a site shared with other UN agencies. The course will be taught by youth employment experts from the ILO, the Secretariat of the Youth Employment Network, the World Bank, the International Center for Research on Women, and the academia.

The training will rely on the development of a range of advanced training materials bringing together theoretical concepts and practical case studies. The training methodology will balance classroom lecturing with group work. The group work will focus on the preparation and presentation of the monitoring and impact evaluation plans for selected programmes, which will serve as live case studies during the course. These programmes (likely 3 to 4) will be chosen prior to the course on the basis of their draft evaluation plans.



## Language

The course will be conducted in English; therefore a good command of English is essential to fully benefit from it.



## Target Audience

The course is intended to fit the needs of: (i) officials from national, regional or local governments with responsibility for managing employment and education programmes, in particular youth employment programmes; (ii) project managers and chief technical advisors of such programmes, (iii) social partners engaged in the design and implementation of youth employment programmes; (iii) members of the research community and NGOs contributing to the design, implementation and evaluation of youth employment programmes.



## Costs

The fee for the one-week course is 2,000 Euros per participant. The fee includes: tuition costs (1,040 Euros), training materials, and other conference costs, as well as subsistence costs (960 Euros), i.e. full board and lodging at the Turin Centre's Campus, transfer to and from airport. Also covered are laundry, minor medical care and insurance and occasional socio-cultural activities.

A limited number of fellowships to award which may cover part or full of the participation costs. If eligible, early applicants will be given priority. Please enquire early!

Participants are responsible for obtaining all necessary visas to enter the Schengen area.



## Course Description

The course will comprise a set of four modules covering key topics from core monitoring and impact evaluation techniques to implementation issues and recent findings related to the evaluation of youth employment programmes.

### Part One: Core Techniques

#### Module 1: Building an M&E system for youth employment programmes

Integrating monitoring and evaluation (M&E) into youth programme design is critical for determining the

programme's efficacy, efficiency and sustainability. Monitoring is the assessment of ongoing activities and progress. By comparing realized outcomes with specific targets, monitoring can help improve policy design and implementation, as well as promote accountability and dialogue among policymakers and stakeholders. Evaluation, on the other hand, is the episodic assessment of overall achievements and results. It centres mostly on the outcomes and impacts. This module will start by providing specific guidance on the way to elaborate good plans for M&E in the design of youth employment programmes. It will include: (i) a discussion on the importance of results-based programming and management; (ii) insights on key concepts and underlying differences and complementarities between monitoring, evaluation, and impact evaluation; (iii) a discussion on different monitoring tools and hands-on consultation on how to build a results chain for a youth employment programme; and (iv) a discussion of key indicators and instruments for a sound monitoring system with examples of useful tools to track progress and facilitate supervision and change.

### Module 2: Concept and methods for impact evaluations

The session will introduce the main impact evaluation concepts and distinguish its rationale and objective from those of a monitoring system. It will define the standard problem of identifying the counter-factual for impact assessment, review strengths and weaknesses of alternative methods of dealing with the problem, and discuss recurrent problems in setting up an evaluation. In particular, it will look at experimental and quasi-experimental methods. The session will emphasize that in assessing development programmes with a focus on vulnerable groups, it is essential to know more than the average impact - one has to look at how impact varies with respect to the pre-intervention welfare, i.e., the incidence of the programme benefits and impact on expected outcomes.

### Part Two: Implementation Issues

#### Module 3: Conducting impact evaluation under budget, time and data constraints

Moving from concepts to real-world situation, a series of sessions will allow participants to work on the development of sound strategies for monitoring and evaluating the impact of existing youth employment programmes. This hands-on approach will integrate real world experiences and case studies, while special attention will be devoted to the constraints faced by