

Impact Evaluation 102

Free course | May 12-15, 2025 | Virtual

This 4 half-day virtual course, hosted by the Strategic Impact Evaluation and Learning (SIEL) programme, will focus on how to design and implement quantitative impact evaluations (primarily randomised controlled trials) to inform FCDO programming and drive value for money. The interactive training is open and free of charge to all FCDO staff who wish to improve their impact evaluation skills. A basic knowledge of quantitative impact evaluations is recommended.

Learning Goals

By the end of the course, participants will be able to:

- Identify opportunities for—and strengths and weaknesses of—different quantitative impact evaluation methods, focusing particularly on randomised controlled trials
- Understand key elements of effective quantitative impact evaluations, including power calculations, compliance, attrition, and data collection
- Engage in conversations with partners and researchers about the design and implementation of quantitative impact evaluations
- Submit strong funding proposals for quantitative impact evaluations to SIEL and beyond

Prerequisites

Familiarity with the basics of impact evaluations—through direct experience or participation in Impact Evaluation 101—is recommended for participation in this course. The course will particularly target those who are or will be directly involved in commissioning and managing impact evaluations at FCDO.

Agenda (tentative)

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
11:30 - 12:30 GMT			GROUP WORK B Design considerations	GROUP WORK B Mitigating challenges
12:30 - 1:00	<i>Break</i>	<i>Break</i>	<i>Break</i>	<i>Break</i>
1:00 - 2:15	PRESENTATION Impact Evaluations: Randomised evaluations	NO PRESENTATION GROUP WORK B Choosing an impact evaluation method	PRESENTATION Mitigating potential challenges to quantitative impact evaluations	PRESENTATION Collaborating on an impact evaluation from start to finish
2:15 - 2:30	<i>Break</i>	<i>Break</i>	<i>Break</i>	<i>Break</i>
2:30 - 3:30 (3:45 on Tuesday)	PRESENTATION Impact Evaluations: Quasi-experimental methods	PRESENTATION Designing an effective quantitative impact evaluation	PRESENTATION Considerations for data collection, commissioning, and use	PRESENTATION Next steps: How to engage with SIEL and other FCDO evaluation resources
3:30 - 4:00	<i>Break</i>	<i>Break</i>	<i>Break</i>	<i>Break</i>
4:00 - 5:00	GROUP WORK A Choosing an impact evaluation method	GROUP WORK A Design considerations	GROUP WORK A Mitigating challenges	

Participants who opt in to group work will have a choice between attending session sequence A or B and will be expected to attend all three sessions within the chosen sequence.