Training course on Evidence-Based Social Protection Policy Formulation

Professional Development Training Course Outline

Category	Social Protection	**Duration**	5 Days
Base Fee	$1,500 USD	**Delivery Mode**	Online / On-site Hybrid

Course Introduction

In today's complex world, effective social protection policies must be grounded in robust evidence, moving beyond anecdotal insights or ideological preferences. Evidence-based policymaking (EBPM) in social protection is a systematic approach that emphasizes the use of rigorous data, research findings, and evaluation results to inform the design, implementation, and refinement of programs. This ensures that interventions are not only well-intended but also effective, efficient, and equitable in addressing poverty, vulnerability, and inequality. The process involves identifying policy problems, gathering relevant evidence, critically appraising its quality, using it to inform decisions, and continuously monitoring and evaluating outcomes. Adopting an evidence-based approach is crucial for optimizing resource allocation, demonstrating accountability, and building public trust in social protection systems. It empowers policymakers to make informed choices that lead to better outcomes for individuals and communities, fostering sustainable development. Training Course on Evidence-Based Social Protection Policy Formulation is meticulously designed to equip with the expert knowledge and practical methodologies to integrate evidence into every stage of social protection policy formulation. The program focuses on understanding different types of evidence, mastering research methodologies, applying evaluation techniques, translating evidence into actionable policy briefs, and navigating the political economy of evidence use, blending rigorous analytical frameworks with practical, hands-on exercises, global case studies, and interactive policy simulation workshops. Participants will gain the strategic foresight and technical expertise to confidently champion evidence-based approaches, fostering unparalleled policy effectiveness, resource efficiency, and sustainable impact, thereby securing their position as indispensable leaders in shaping more impactful and responsive social protection. This comprehensive 5-day program delves into nuanced methodologies for formulating policy-relevant research questions, mastering sophisticated techniques for conducting and critically appraising impact evaluations (including randomized controlled trials and quasi-experimental designs), and exploring cutting-edge approaches to synthesizing diverse forms of evidence, developing compelling policy briefs, and effectively communicating complex findings to decision-makers. A significant focus will be placed on understanding the interplay of quantitative and qualitative evidence in providing a holistic picture of policy impacts, the specific challenges of data availability and quality in social protection contexts, and the practical application of evidence to address

critical issues like targeting, benefit adequacy, and program sustainability.

Programme Curriculum

Training Course on Evidence-Based Social Protection Policy Formulation

Introduction:

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Course Objectives:

Upon completion of this course, participants will be able to:

1. **Analyze core concepts and strategic responsibilities** of **evidence-based policymaking (EBPM)** in the context of social protection.
2. **Master sophisticated techniques** for **identifying policy-relevant research questions** and framing them for empirical investigation.
3. **Develop robust methodologies** for **collecting, analyzing, and interpreting various types of evidence** (quantitative, qualitative, experiential) for social protection.

4. **Implement effective strategies** for **designing and critically appraising impact evaluations** of social protection programs (e.g., RCTs, QEDs).
5. **Manage complex considerations** for **synthesizing evidence from multiple sources** to inform policy recommendations.
6. **Apply robust strategies** for **translating complex research findings into clear, concise, and actionable policy implications.**
7. **Understand the deep integration of cost-benefit and cost-effectiveness analysis** in evaluating social protection policy options.
8. **Leverage knowledge of global best practices and lessons learned** in applying evidence to social protection policy formulation.
9. **Optimize strategies for effectively communicating evidence** to diverse policy audiences and stakeholders.
10. **Formulate specialized policy options** that are directly informed by available evidence and rigorous analysis.
11. **Conduct comprehensive assessments** of the quality and reliability of evidence to ensure its appropriateness for policymaking.
12. **Navigate challenging situations** such as **data limitations, political economy constraints, ethical dilemmas, and competing evidence** in the policy process.
13. **Develop a holistic, data-driven, and pragmatic approach** to **evidence-based social protection policy formulation,** ensuring greater impact and accountability.

Target Audience:

This course is designed for professionals interested in Evidence-Based Social Protection Policy Formulation:

1. **Policymakers & Strategic Planners:** Involved in the design and reform of social protection policies.
2. **Social Protection Program Managers:** Responsible for program implementation and seeking to enhance effectiveness.
3. **Researchers & Academics:** Focused on generating and disseminating evidence relevant to social policy.
4. **Monitoring & Evaluation Specialists:** Designing and conducting evaluations of social protection programs.
5. **Data Analysts & Statisticians:** Working with social protection data and conducting quantitative analysis.
6. **Government Officials:** From planning, finance, and line ministries responsible for social programs.
7. **Development Practitioners:** From UN agencies, World Bank, and NGOs involved in evidence-based programming.
8. **Consultants:** Advising governments and organizations on social protection policy and evaluation.

Course Duration: 5 Days

Course Modules:

- **Module 1: Introduction to Evidence-Based Policymaking (EBPM) in Social Protection**
    - **Defining EBPM**: Core principles, rationale, and its application in social protection.
    - **Why Evidence Matters**: Enhancing effectiveness, efficiency, equity, and accountability.
    - **Types of Evidence**: Quantitative, qualitative, experiential, and administrative data.
    - **The EBPM Cycle**: From problem identification to policy learning and adaptation.
    - **Challenges and Opportunities**: Data gaps, political considerations, and capacity needs.
- **Module 2: Formulating Policy-Relevant Research Questions and Data Sources**
    - **Problem Identification**: Defining social protection challenges clearly and precisely.

    - **Developing Research Questions**: Framing questions that are actionable and answerable with evidence.
    - **Key Data Sources**: Household surveys, administrative records, qualitative studies, and census data.
    - **Data Collection Methods**: Overview of surveys, interviews, focus groups, and observation.
    - **Data Quality and Limitations**: Assessing reliability, validity, and potential biases in data.
- **Module 3: Methodologies for Impact Evaluation of Social Protection Programs**
    - **Understanding Causality**: Distinguishing correlation from causation in policy evaluation.
    - **Randomized Controlled Trials (RCTs)**: Principles, design, advantages, and limitations.
    - **Quasi-Experimental Designs (QEDs)**: Difference-in-differences, regression discontinuity, propensity score matching.
    - **Process and Formative Evaluations**: Assessing program implementation and design.
    - **Mixed Methods Approaches**: Combining quantitative and qualitative methods for comprehensive understanding.
- **Module 4: Analyzing and Interpreting Social Protection Data**
    - **Descriptive Statistics**: Summarizing key features of social protection data.
    - **Inferential Statistics**: Drawing conclusions and making predictions from data.
    - **Data Visualization**: Effectively presenting data through charts, graphs, and dashboards.
    - **Interpreting Evaluation Findings**: Understanding statistical significance, effect sizes, and policy implications.
    - **Addressing Heterogeneity**: Analyzing differential impacts across various population subgroups (e.g., gender, age, rural/urban).
- **Module 5: Economic Analysis for Evidence-Based Policy**
    - **Costing Social Protection Programs**: Methodologies for estimating program expenditures.
    - **Cost-Effectiveness Analysis (CEA)**: Comparing the costs of different interventions to achieve a specific outcome.
    - **Cost-Benefit Analysis (CBA)**: Monetizing both costs and benefits to calculate net societal gain or return on investment.
    - **Fiscal Impact Analysis**: Assessing the budgetary implications of social protection policies.
    - **Economic Modeling and Simulation**: Using models to project long-term impacts and scenario planning.
- **Module 6: Synthesizing Evidence and Formulating Policy Options**
    - **Evidence Synthesis Methods**: Systematic reviews, meta-analysis, and evidence gap maps.
    - **Translating Evidence into Policy Options**: Developing concrete, actionable alternatives.
    - **Policy Brief Writing**: Structure, content, and language for compelling policy briefs.
    - **Developing Policy Recommendations**: Clear, concise, and evidence-supported recommendations.
    - **Considering Context and Feasibility**: Adapting evidence-based options to specific political, economic, and social realities.
- **Module 7: Communicating Evidence and Navigating the Policy Process**
    - **Understanding Policy Audiences**: Tailoring communication to politicians, civil servants, media, and the public.
    - **Effective Communication Strategies**: Storytelling with data, compelling visuals, and concise messaging.
    - **Building Relationships**: Fostering trust and collaboration between researchers and policymakers.
    - **The Political Economy of Evidence Use**: Understanding how values, interests, and power influence policy decisions.

    - **Overcoming Barriers to Evidence Use**: Addressing data accessibility, timeliness, relevance, and institutional capacity.
- **Module 8: Institutionalizing EBPM and Continuous Learning**
    - **Building an "Evidence Culture"**: Promoting a commitment to evidence use within government and institutions.
    - **Institutional Frameworks**: Establishing units, protocols, and incentives for evidence generation and use.
    - **Monitoring and Learning Systems**: Developing mechanisms for continuous tracking and adaptive management of social protection programs.
    - **Ethical Considerations**: Data privacy, informed consent, and equitable representation in research and policy.
    - **Strategic Action Planning for EBPM**: Participants outline steps to integrate EBPM principles into their own work or organization.

Training Methodology

- **Interactive Workshops:** Facilitated discussions, group exercises, and problem-solving activities.
- **Case Studies:** Real-world examples to illustrate successful community-based surveillance practices.
- **Role-Playing and Simulations:** Practice engaging communities in surveillance activities.
- **Expert Presentations:** Insights from experienced public health professionals and community leaders.
- **Group Projects:** Collaborative development of community surveillance plans.
- **Action Planning:** Development of personalized action plans for implementing community-based surveillance.
- **Digital Tools and Resources:** Utilization of online platforms for collaboration and learning.
- **Peer-to-Peer Learning:** Sharing experiences and insights on community engagement.
- **Post-Training Support:** Access to online forums, mentorship, and continued learning resources.

Register as a group from 3 participants for a Discount

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Certification

Upon successful completion of this training, participants will be issued with a globally recognized certificate.

Tailor-Made Course

We also offer tailor-made courses based on your needs.

Key Notes

- Participants must be conversant in English.
- Upcoming Scheduled Sessions

Start Date	End Date	Location	Price
23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	Online	$1,000

Start Date	End Date	Location	Price
23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	Physical	$1,500
23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	Physical	$3,000
23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	Physical	$3,000
23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	Physical	$6,000
23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	Physical	$4,500
23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	Physical	$6,000
23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	Physical	$6,000

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