



Practical Workshop on Evidence Based Policy Making and Implementation

Latest Tools and factors that influence Successful policy and implementation processes



Essential Tools and Frameworks for Evidence-Based Policy Making and Implementation.

24th – 28th July 2017 at Premier Hotel, OR Tambo Airport, Johannesburg, South Africa

21st – 25th August 2017 at Premier Hotel, OR Tambo Airport, Johannesburg, South Africa

18th – 22nd September, 2017 at Landmark Grand Hotel, Dubai, United Arab Emirates



ABOUT THIS WORKSHOP



There is increasing pressure on policy makers to develop more effective policies and to direct and manage resources in more focused and efficient ways that result in improved implementation and outcomes. Evidence-based policy-making is an approach that has become increasingly prevalent in recent years. It is based on the premise that better policies and better decision-making result when these are based on sound empirical evidence and solid rational analysis. It is also critical to use evidence to improve implementation. Evidence-Based Policy-

Making and Implementation (EBPM&I) therefore focuses on establishing rigorously objective evidence as a key informant of policy, but also for improving implementation of public services. However, there are many areas of government which are not well served by quantitative research, leading to debate about the methods and instruments that are considered critical for the collection of relevant evidence. In addition to data, understanding institutional policy- and decision-making processes, analytical skills and political support are seen as important elements. This Workshop aims to engage with this debate and help leaders understand how evidence can help them to make the best decisions about policies, programmes, services and budgets.

Tools to be discussed include qualitative and quantitative research, empirical research, action research, pilot projects and reflections, clinical trials, stakeholder engagements, expert input, case studies/ diaries/ photographic stories/ autobiographies, evaluations, impact assessments and appraisals and more.

BENEFITS OF ATTENDING THIS WORKSHOP:

- An understanding of the factors that influence policy and implementation processes and the difference between evidence and opinion
- An understanding of the reason for, and the method of constructing, a theory of change
- An understanding of how the use of evidence can improve the performance of leaders and departments as well as the implementation and impact of policies
- An opportunity to reflect on existing policy-making and management processes, their strengths and limitations
- An understanding of tools for evidence-based policy-making and implementation
- An understanding of the role of evidence in managing political and other influences on the policy and implementation process.

TRAINING METHODOLOGY:

We will unpack the different influences on policy-making and implementation processes (facts, experiences, expertise, judgement, politics and institutional capacity) and the ways in which evidence can be incorporated into the management process. It will analyse the different types of evidence and their usefulness in different arenas. The course will be very practical, using case studies and drawing on participants' experiences, as well as global thinking and best practice

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

From International Organizations such as UN Agencies, Government institutions, Major Corporations,

- Policy Officers / Managers Policy Developers / Analysts
- Policy Advisors / Senior Policy Advisors
- Branch / Section / Division Managers
- Program Managers
 - Research Officers
- Evaluation Specialists / Managers
- Stakeholder / Community Engagement
- Policy Consulting
- Service Delivery Managers / Directors.

Program outline

DAY 1 - 9.00 AM - 3.30 PM The Practice Of Evidence Based Policy Policy Making And Implementation

Understanding and utilizing evidence:

- Understanding, ranking and identifying the most effective type of evidence for your organization
- Different types of evidence - Qualitative, quantitative, etc
- Different sources of evidence - Peer reviewed, grey literature, expert opinion
- Skill mixes required in teams working on evidence-based policy development
- The role of research and data at all stages of the policy cycle

Connecting 'evidence' based policy to the realities of policy development:

- Communicating evidence and issues in evidence-based practice to decision-makers
- Overcoming technical language barriers
- Communicating evidence powerfully to key stakeholders

Learning from successes and failures:

- Fostering an evaluation culture within the organization
- Overview of the evaluation cycles most relevant to you
- Reducing policy failure through the use of evidence
- Ensuring that policy failures are learnt from, not forgotten

DAY 2 Essential Tools and Frameworks for Evidence-Based Policy making and Implementation

9.00 - 9.35 Evidence: Its nature and use in policy

In developing policy and delivering government services, what constitutes evidence, where does it come from and how can it be used to enhance government operations? These fundamental questions are often not asked or are taken for granted. But the evidence landscape is vast, and tricks and traps on top of the basics are many. Drawing on extensive academic and public service experience, Professor Phillips will provide what he calls "a user's guide to the evidence galaxy", illustrating a framework to be provided with concrete applications in areas such as defence, immigration, employment and health.

9.35 - 9.50 Questions and Discussion

9.50 - 10.25 CASE STUDY

Evaluating policy implementation: The Trusted Trader Programme example Assessing and reviewing the effectiveness of policy implementation is a critical stage in

the policy cycle. Discussing The Department of Immigration and Border Protection launched The Trusted Trader Programme on 1 July 2015, to facilitate trade and enhance supply chain security.

The programme includes a pilot phase of implementation which will allow industry partners to provide feedback and policy makers to evaluate effectiveness and make necessary adjustments. we will discuss:

- Strategies and tools to monitor the success of implementation
- Measuring the impact of policies
- Engaging stakeholders to solicit feedback during implementation

10.25 - 10.40 Questions and Discussion

10.40 - 10.55 MORNING BREAK

10.55 - 11.35 CASE STUDY Taking an innovative approach in policymaking

Particularly in the area of regulation, the tendency has been towards a prescriptive, "command and control" approach to creating policies and programmes, however this is changing as policymakers seek innovative methods to incentivise behaviour. we will explore:

- A more modern approach to regulation and policy
- How we can encourage innovation
- Motivating desirable behaviours through policy making

11.45 - 12.20 CASE STUDY Communicating effectively to provide quality policy analysis and advice

In international agencies and government departments, we will explore:

- Ensuring the provision of frank and fearless advice in political circumstances
- Improving the provision of research and evidence-based policy advice
- Communicating evidence powerfully

12.20 - 12.35 Questions and Discussion

12.35 - 1.35 NETWORKING LUNCH

1.35 - 2.25 INTERACTIVE PANEL DISCUSSION

Keeping your edge as an experienced policy professional staying sharp, keeping focused and going the distance are the keys to success for the policy professional. Navigating your career through the minefield of political expediency and understanding the complex workings of government and international agencies can undermine your resolve and cloud your vision. In this interactive session, policy

professionals will draw on their variety of experiences to discuss:

- Keeping your policy fresh, relevant and innovative
- Choosing your battles well
- Lessons learned from success, and failure

2.25 - 3.00 CASE STUDY Vision for Change - Police Custody Officer Programme

The mission statement for the Police's Custody Office is to recruit, train, and deploy 400 custody specialists to enable redeployment of sworn staff to deliver a more flexible, responsive, and visible service to the community. In this scenario, we will discuss implementing this scenario policy and the challenges that arose.

- The need for legislation change
- Managing change
- capability requiring policy change

3.00 - 3.15 Questions and Discussion

3.15 - 3.30 AFTERNOON TEA

3.30 - 4.00 EXPERT COMMENTARY STRONG CLOSING REMARKS

Evidence based policy or policy based evidence: What is the difference and why does it matter?

This session will provide an opportunity for interactive discussion on the merits and disadvantages of using evidence in the "policy cycle". The benefits of using evidence to inform policy development and implementation and the risks of not doing so will be discussed, including

The benefits and negatives of using evidence at key stages of the policy cycle

- Policy failure blues – How can evidence reduce the risk?
- The A-B-C of evidence-based policy
- The last line of defence in good policy – A privilege or a burden?

DAY 3 Evidence-Based Approaches To Complex Policy Questions

8.30 - 8.55 MORNING COFFEE

8.55 - 9.00 Opening Remarks from the Chair

9.00 - 9.45 OPENING CASE STUDY Evidence-based approaches to complex policy questions

Decision-makers often have imperfect information when confronting complex policy questions. It can also be difficult to bring all of the pieces of the puzzle together when time is of the essence. There are any number of high profile international case studies where the evidence has been overlooked (or even ignored. this case will look at:

- The risks of group think and failure of imagination
- Establishing 'the evidence' in complex situations
- The need for joined up approaches

9.45 - 10.00 Questions and Discussion

10.00 - 10.45 CASE STUDY Developing, promoting and evaluating large scale strategic policy projects

Directors of Information and Strategic Policy are responsible for the analysis, development, implementation and evaluation of policy regarding the use and sharing of information across governments. Whether working in large or small scale projects, approaching analytics policy goes hand-in hand with the importance of maintaining strategic stakeholder relationships and the communication of the policy project outcomes. We will Explore:

- Approaching analytics policy projects
- Developing and maintaining strategic stakeholder relationships throughout the process
- Deriving insight and communicating the outcomes of policy projects

10.45 - 11.00 Questions and Discussion

11.00 - 11.15 MORNING BREAK

11.15 - 12.00 CASE STUDY Encouraging the uptake and implementation of evidence-based policy within your organization and on the ground

Policy makers face the challenge of creating policy that will be relevant and will have the desired impact on their target stakeholders. In order to facilitate the use and uptake of evidence-based policy advice, it is important to build capability within policy teams and implementation teams, throughout the organisation and with external stakeholders. We will explore:

- Developing capability within a policy team and supporting capability across the Department
- Keeping your policy relevant - Avoiding creating policy "in a bubble"
- Strategies for influencing and engaging with geographically dispersed group

12.00 - 12.15 Questions and Discussion

12.15 - 1.15 NETWORKING LUNCH

1.15 - 2.15 INTERACTIVE PANEL DISCUSSION Balancing stakeholders, evidence, ideology and politics in policy development

Policy makers are challenged to balance a variety of factors when developing robust and resilient policy. The ability to manage the public effectively throughout the policy process has long term benefits for both parties. Policy makers must take into account competing views from other levels and other parts of government, in addition to the stakeholders upon whom their reforms impact. This panel of policy professionals will explore:

- How much influence should a stakeholder or the public have on policies, and where should organizations draw the line?

- Being politically savvy
- Managing policy tensions and emerging issues

2.15 - 3.00 CASE STUDY Value for money in evidence based policy

Value-for-money is a key consideration in government policy making. The Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Acts requires that decisions are efficient. Key policies such as the Commonwealth Procurement Rules list value-for-money as the core rule. So how should value-for-money fit in an evidence based framework? In this session we will discuss, how should policy-makers deal with;

- Unquantifiable costs
- Relating cost to value
- Uncertainty

3.15 - 3.30 AFTERNOON TEA

3.30 – 4.00 Questions and Participant Experiences Discussion

4.00 EXPERT COMMENTARY STRONG CLOSING REMARKS

DAY 4 - 9.00 - 4.30 Enhancing Your Leadership, Communication and Influencing Skills For Excellence As A Policy Professional

Policy professionals seeking to break through to the next level of their careers must refine their communication, stakeholder engagement and people management skills in order to succeed. Aspiring leaders who develop these key capabilities will be able to inspire teams and organisations to change their expectations, perceptions and motivations to work towards common goals.

Now, more than ever, there is also the opportunity for policy professionals to use their initiative and skills to transform their organisations from within by influencing their colleagues and their own managers.

This interactive workshop will provide practical strategies which to help you become more effective in your current role and as you progress further in the Public Sector. Liaising with Key Stakeholders for Policy and Project Success: We will discuss

- Understanding the communication preferences of key stakeholders
- Planning your stakeholder interactions in order to be more persuasive and effective
- Effectively communicating technical outcomes to key, non-expert stakeholders
- Collaborating with policy and other external teams to build beneficial partnerships
- Communicating Powerfully to Efficiently Drive Results:
- Structuring and leading meetings to ensure productivity
- Setting-challenging objectives to efficiently drive results

- Honing your presentation and persuasion skills to improve the way critical information is delivered and understood
- Developing your Individual Leadership Skills:
- Understanding the differences between technical expertise, people management and leadership
- Increasing your emotional intelligence to better connect and communicate with diverse teams
- Developing your self-awareness to encourage an active learning culture in your team
- Seeking and encouraging feedback in order to improve your leadership skills
- The evolving role of the Policy Officer:
- Identify future opportunities, strategies and directions that will aid professional development
- Responsibilities outside your remit: Gaining skills to achieve the next step in your career
- Keeping your edge as an experienced policy professional – Building upon and acquiring new and existing skill sets
- Discussion: Career pathways and progression available for policy professionals

DAY 5 9.45 - 11.00 INTERACTIVE ROUNDTABLE Current and future challenges for evidence-based policy development

This interactive round table discussion will provide delegates with an opportunity to revise the themes and topics covered over the course of the four days of **Essential Tools and Frameworks for Evidence-Based Policy making and implementation**, providing scope to continue conversations raised, brainstorm solutions to common challenges faced and cover the essential skills needed to deliver outcomes and values. We will Discuss:

- Day-to-day challenges faced by policy professionals
- Future opportunities, strategies and directions for evidence- based policy development
- Career pathways and progression for policy professionals

11.15 - 12.00 Closing Ceremony and Corporate Gift Presentation

12:00 Workshop Closes

Practical Workshop on Evidence Based Policy Making and Implementation

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KINDLY CHOOSE YOUR CONVENIENT DATE AND FEE OPTION

☐ 24th – 28th July 2017

☐ 21st – 25th August 2017

☐ 18th – 22nd September, 2017 Dubai, UAE

- ☐ **Fee Option 1: South Africa –**
 5 day Workshop = **USD 3,550.00 per delegate** include 6 nights bed & breakfast, round trip airport transfer, lunch, conference documentation and limited refreshments
- ☐ **Fee Option 2: South Africa –**
 5 day Workshop = **USD 2,500.00 per delegate** include, training material, lunch, limited refreshment

- ☐ **Fee Option 1: Dubai –UAE**
 5 day Workshop = **USD 3,650.00 per delegate** include 6 nights bed & breakfast, round trip airport transfer, lunch, conference documentation and limited refreshments
- ☐ **Fee Option 2: Dubai – UAE**
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