

Workshop on Impact Evaluation of Public Health Programs

July 11-15, 2011 – Chennai

On behalf of colleagues at the Solidarity and Action Against the HIV Infection in India (SAATHII), the National Institute of Epidemiology of India, and the University of California Berkeley, I am writing to invite you to participate in a one-week “**Workshop on Impact Evaluation of Public Health Programs**” from **11-15 July** in **Chennai, India**.

The purpose of the workshop is to provide training and experience in rigorous evaluation of public health programs—particularly those programs designed to prevent HIV/AIDS, TB, and malaria. Long-term, our goal is to improve the evidence base for public health planning in India.

The workshop will be held at the Vijay Park Hotel, near the National Institute of Epidemiology campus in Chennai, and it will last a full 5 days. The organizers will provide breakfast, lunch and tea each day during the week. We will also provide training materials. However, participants will be required to arrange and pay for their own travel to/from Chennai, and pay their accommodation if required. We encourage you to request sponsorship from your home institution if necessary.

You are welcome to contact us at cega@berkeley.edu if you have any questions. Additional details (i.e. conference agenda) will be provided shortly.

Please note that invited participants include research and program staff from Government of India agencies, including the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, the Rural Health Mission, and ART Centres of Excellence; NGO members of the Global Fund Country Coordinating Mechanism; and other public health programming organizations.

The workshop will include an overview of impact evaluation as a tool for policy-making and program management, as well as detailed case studies describing the methods commonly used in rigorous evaluation (including difference-in-differences, randomized controlled trials, regression discontinuity, propensity score matching, instrumental variables, and panel data analysis). Other topics to be covered include strategies for sampling and statistical power calculations, utilization of existing data, research ethics, and cost-effectiveness analysis.

Each participant will leave the conference having completed an impact evaluation design, in the form of a 5-page concept note (developed by small teams of workshop attendees). These designs will include operational plans (i.e. evaluation team, data collection requirements, budget, and financing) and are intended to serve as the first step in launching a new program evaluation.

Faculty members who will lead the training include: Karthik Muralidharan, economist (University of California, San Diego); Harsha Thirumurthy, economist (World Bank); Achyuta Advaryu, economist (Yale University), Gautam Rao, economist (UC Berkeley), Krishna Rao (PHFI); Malathi Velamuri, economist (Victoria University of Wellington); and Temina Madon, health scientist (UC Berkeley).

Workshop Curriculum

MONDAY	
8:30 -9:00	<i>Convening & Registration</i>
9:00- 9:15	Welcome and Introductions
9:15-10:00	[Lecture] Workshop Overview: Why Do Impact Evaluation? Shifting Paradigms for Results-based Program Management
10:00-11:00	[Panel] Overview of Evaluation Programs in India: HIV, Malaria, TB, Rural Health
11:00-11:30	Break
11:30-12:30	[Lecture] Causal inference and Selection Bias; M&E vs. IE
12:30-1:30	Lunch
1:30-2:15	[Lecture] Overview of the Impact Evaluation Toolbox [Exercise] Design a Game Show
2:15-2:45	Break
2:45-4:00	[Panel] Presentations - Public Health Programs in India
4:00-5:00	[Lecture] Randomization: Introduction and Strategies (Clusters, Phased Roll-out, Promotion, Variation in Treatment)
TUESDAY	
8:30 -9:30	[Lecture/Exercise] Quasi-Experimental Methods I: Difference-in-Differences
9:30- 10:30	[Lecture] Quasi-Experimental Methods II: Regression Discontinuity
10:30-11:00	Break
11:00-12:30	[Panel] What Have We Learned from Impact Evaluation of HIV and Malaria prevention programs? [Focus on Incentives for Behavior Change]
12:30-1:30	Lunch
1:30-3:00	[Lecture] Quasi-Experimental Methods III: Propensity Score Matching [Exercise] Game Show Results
3:00-3:30	Break
3:30-5:00	[Panel] What Have We Learned from Impact Evaluation of Public Health programs? [Focus on Supply-Side Incentives]
WEDNESDAY	
8:30-9:30	[Lecture] Quasi-Experimental Methods IV: Instrumental Variables
9:30-10:30	[Discussion] M&E versus IE and the Role of Qualitative Research Methods
10:30-11:00	Break
11:00-12:30	[Panel] What Have We Learned from Impact Evaluation of programs in India? [Examples from Health & Other Sectors]
12:30-1:30	Lunch
1:30-4:00	[Lecture] Steps in Implementing an Impact Evaluation (Example: Andhra Pradesh)
4:00-4:30	Coffee Break
4:30-5:30	[Groups] Project teams conduct causal chain analysis and identify key questions
THURSDAY	
8:30 – 9:15	[Lecture] Measurement Issues: Validity, Reliability, Defining Indicators
9:15 – 10:15	[Discussion] Ethics and Politics in Impact Evaluation
10:15-11:00	[Groups] “The Good, the Bad and the Ugly” Impact Evaluations in the Literature
11:00 – 11:30	Break
11:30 – 12:30	[Lecture/Exercise] IE Methods: Sampling and Power Calculations
12:30-1:30	Lunch
1:30 – 2:30	[Lecture] Comparative Cost-Effectiveness Analysis
2:30 – 3:00	Coffee Break
3:00 – 5:00	[Groups] Project teams work on evaluation designs

FRIDAY	
8:30-12:30	[Groups] Project teams work on evaluation designs for afternoon presentation
12:30-1:30	Lunch
1:30-5:00	[Panel] Presentations from participants
5:00-5:30	Closing Discussion & Next Steps