



European Institute of Public Administration
European Centre for the Regions

Seminar

Evaluation of Public Policies: Learning from Comparative Experiences

Barcelona, 11-12 February 2010



Organised by:
The European Institute of Public Administration –
European Centre for the Regions (EIPA-ECR), Barcelona

With the collaboration of:



Learning & Development ★ Consultancy ★ Research

Introduction

Objective

The seminar aims to extend participants' knowledge about evaluation systems of public policies in Europe and to improve their skills in designing, managing and monitoring evaluation activities.

Target Group: Directors or civil servants responsible for designing evaluation systems, managing and monitoring evaluations carried out by external evaluators; as well as those responsible for controlling public administrations at different government levels, and who need to develop or are interested in developing their knowledge about public policy evaluation. The seminar does not aim to train participants on how to use evaluation techniques; however, those techniques will be presented and explained with the aim of analysing the advantages and disadvantages that justify the use of some techniques above others. The aim is to raise awareness of the importance of evaluation, to learn how to design an evaluation, prepare and define the scope of work, how to negotiate with evaluators, quality control of an evaluation, etc. Experiences of institutionalising evaluation systems in different European countries will also be presented.

Content

The seminar sessions will be divided according to the following scheme: the first sessions will focus on the reasons for evaluation, on showing its critical importance in the policy formulation process, and on how to design an evaluation. The following sessions will be devoted to seeing how institutional capacity can be developed for a better evaluation through different experiences of European public administrations. The final sessions will include the evaluation in practice, the role of evaluators and various methods and tools which are regularly used in evaluation. Participants will also have the opportunity to present problems or queries on evaluation issues that they face in their own practice, and will be offered suggestions on how to address them.

Method

Presentations on real experiences, group work, debates with a practical perspective. The sessions will be complemented by referenced material and documentation that will offer an adequate source of information to those wishing to gain more in-depth knowledge.

Duration: Two days

European Institute of Public Administration
– European Centre for the Regions (EIPA-ECR)
(C/ Girona, 20 / 08010 – Barcelona)
<http://www.eipa.eu/regions>

Project Leader

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Organisation

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Programme Thursday, 11 February

08.45 hrs **Registration of participants**

09.00 hrs **Opening of the seminar**

Javier Sánchez Cano, Director, European Institute of Public Administration – European Centre for the Regions (EIPA-ECR), Barcelona

09.15 hrs **Introduction to the seminar: presentation of the methodology to be followed during the seminar**
"Tour de table": presentation of participants

Gracia Vara Arribas, Expert, Project Leader, EIPA-ECR, Barcelona (ES)

What is evaluation and why do we do it? Structures & institutionalisation

09.30 hrs **Main concepts of evaluation: what is evaluation about and why do we do it? Where does it stand in the public policy cycle?**

Gracia Vara Arribas

10.15 hrs **Institutionalisation and development of the EU evaluation system**

Eduardo Zapico Goñi, Advisor, DG Budget, Ministry of Economy and Finance (ES)

11.15 hrs **Coffee break**

11.45 hrs **Developing evaluation capacities in an organisation: how to design an evaluation? Terms of reference, evaluation criteria and indicators**

Juan Murciano, Institute of Economics Studies, Evaluation and Job Creations S.L (Instituto de Estudios de Economía, Evaluación y Empleo, S.L.), Sevilla (ES)

12.45 hrs **Preparation of a group exercise about evaluation design: two case studies based on two concrete examples**

Speaker's team: topics discussed will include: the reasons for evaluation, the evaluation expectations, and the need for adequate terms of reference

13.15 hrs **Lunch**

Structures & institutionalisation (continued)

15.00 hrs **Presentation of the group work, analysis and comments on the findings**

Speaker's team

16.00 hrs **Developing a strategic approach to evaluation: the case of the World Bank**

Osvaldo Feinstein, former Evaluation Manager and advisor at the World Bank; Professor of the Master in Evaluation, Universidad Complutense de Madrid (ES)

Preparation of the consultation session "Evaluation diagnosis"

Participants will be invited to present a case in max. 100 words. The document will be handed to the Project Leader of the seminar at the beginning of the second day. A selection and grouping of the more representative cases will be made. For the cases not selected, those could always be discussed bilaterally after the plenary session.

17.00 hrs **End of the first day**

Programme Friday, 12 February 2010

Evaluation methods and tools

- 09.00 hrs** Collection of the participants' cases
- 09.15 hrs** Evaluation methods and tools: quantitative & qualitative techniques
Carmen Vélez, Department of Industrial Organization and Business Management, University of Seville (ES)
- 10.15 hrs** Coffee break
- 10.45 hrs** Theoretical and practical challenges in applying methods and techniques of public policy evaluation: appraisal of evaluation – dealing with external evaluators
Carmen Vélez
- 11.45 hrs** Working group led by the two speakers
Applying the concepts and experiences presented in the modules of the previous sessions to create and/or develop the evaluation capacity in a public organisation
- 1) Which of the presented approaches is similar to what happens in your country/organisation?
 - 2) Which kind of elements of the presented approaches could contribute to the further development of evaluation in your country/organisation? And which ones certainly do not? Why?
 - 3) What are the main challenges in your country/organisation regarding the creation or development of the evaluation methods or capacity?

Evaluation in practice

- 12.45 hrs** Evaluating policies on employability and access to child care: the case of the Scottish government "Working for Families Fund" programme
Ronald W. McQuaid, Director, Employment Research Institute, Edinburgh Napier University (UK)
- 13.45 hrs** Consultation session "Evaluation diagnosis": introduction to the session and exchange of views with the authors of the proposed cases
Oswaldo Feinstein
- 14.00 hrs** Lunch
- 16.00 hrs** Presentation of the cases to be analysed, and detailed explanation of the problems encountered by the participants
Discussion on each one of the presented problems, backed up by documentation, tips and suggestions, and exchange of opinions with the experts
Chairs: *Oswaldo Feinstein and Gracia Vara Arribas*
- 17.00 hrs** Presentation of conclusions on the "Evaluation diagnosis" session
Oswaldo Feinstein
- 17.15 hrs** Closing of the seminar
Gracia Vara Arribas

General Information

Seminar venue

Auditorium
Catalan School of Public Administration (EAPC)
Girona street, 20
E-08010 Barcelona

Working language

English and Spanish, simultaneous interpretation will be provided throughout this two-day seminar

Fee

The participation fee is € 850 and includes documentation, 2 lunches, 2 coffee breaks and a certificate of attendance. Accommodation and travel costs are at the expenses of the participants or their administration.

Deadline for registration: 1 February 2010

Payment before the deadline is a condition for participation. For cancellations received after 1st February we will have to charge an administration fee of € 150 unless an alternative participant is nominated.

Hotel reservations in Barcelona

The EIPA-ECR will be pleased to make reservations for you at these hotels (where special rates are applied for EIPA-ECR participants):

Hotel Europark***

(Aragó, 325 - Tel.: +34.93 457 92 05, www.nnhotels.es)
€ 109 Double room for single use, € 135 Double room (Breakfast included) + 7% VAT

To get the best Web fare available, upon confirmation of your registration a code will be sent to you so that you can make the reservation directly on the hotel website. The above-mentioned fare is the maximum amount that can be charged for the room.

Hotel NH Podium****

(C/Bailén, 4-6; Tel.: +34.93 265 02 02; www.nh-hotels.com)
€ 110 Double room for single use, € 120 Double room (breakfast included) + 7% VAT

Should you wish to make use of this possibility, please indicate the dates of arrival and departure on the registration form. Payment is to be made directly and personally to the hotel on checking out. **Please note that if you register after the closing date, hotel reservations cannot be guaranteed.**

Information and Registration

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You can also submit the online registration form which can be found on EIPA's web site: www.eipa.eu

Confirmation

Confirmation of registration will be sent to participants on receipt of the completed registration form

Registration Form

Evaluation of public policies: learning from comparative experiences
Barcelona, 11-12 February 2010

Surname: Title: M/F
First name: Current position:
Organisation: Department:
Work address:
Postal code & town: Country:
Tel. no: Fax no:
E-mail address:

INVOICES DATA:

Name of the Institution or Organisation:
Fiscal number:
Department:
Address:
Postal code, city: Country:

Registration Fee (See conditions in general information)

cludes a documentation folder, 2 coffee breaks, 2 lunches and a certificate of attendance

€ 850

Method of payment

Bank transfer

It is necessary to state the name of the participant and the reference "0960302"

ECR's account n° IBAN: ES27-0182-6035-43-0018000225,

BIC: BBVAESMM at the BBVA, Plaça Catalunya 5, 08002 Barcelona (ES)

Credit card

MasterCard N° Expiry date: CVC

Visa Card N° Expiry date: CVC

(Exempt from VAT by virtue of Article 11, para. 1 (o), subpara. 2 of the Dutch Law on VAT of 1968)

Hotel Reservation

Please reserve hotel accommodation for me at

Hotel Europark***

Double room for single use

NH Podium ****

Double room

No hotel reservation required

Date of arrival:

Date of departure:

No. of nights:

Place and date:

To ensure the optimal organisation of the seminar, please return the completed registration form by fax or e-mail before 1st February 2010 to: Natalia Doménech, Programme Organiser, Tel.: +34/ 93 567 23 89; Fax: + 34/ 93 567 23 99; E-mail: n.domenech@eipa-ecr.com, <http://www.eipa.eu>

The registration will be confirmed by e-mail.



Your name and address will be part of EIPA's database for our mailing purpose only.
Please tick if you do not want to be included in our mailing database