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CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The **Italian Centre for International Development (ICID)** - established by *CEIS at the University of Rome Tor Vergata*, the *Department of Social Sciences and Economics at Sapienza University of Rome*, and the *Department of Economics at Roma Tre University* - in collaboration with the *Rossi-Doria Centre for Economic and Social Research*, the *International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)*, the *Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)*, and the *World Bank's Institute for Economic Development*, is organizing:

8th Edition of the International School for Advanced Training "Impact Evaluation of Development Policies: Concepts, Methods, Applications"

22nd June – 3rd July 2026

Objective

The School is designed to serve the needs of government and non-governmental organization officials, private professionals and practitioners, researchers and doctoral students with an interest in development and public policy evaluation. The objective is to provide participants with the skills and competencies for impact evaluations of development policies and programs. This will be achieved through a focus on both a "hands-on" approach to the discussion of specific examples of policies and programs, and also on the most recent analytical techniques.

Organization

The School focuses on three pillars:

- **CONCEPTS**
Identification of the policy framework (e.g. policy maker's objectives, program beneficiaries, contextual factors).
- **METHODS**
Identification of the key instruments for assessing the policy's impact. How to select the most suitable tool in light of the specific context and how to apply it.
- **APPLICATIONS**
The practice of the policy's impact evaluation. How to carry out the evaluation exercise, useful data sources and data collection, software and main statistical packages. This will be mainly achieved in the hands-on sessions in the afternoon.

The School will be held **from 22nd June to 3rd July 2026 in the form of an on-line course**. The morning sessions will provide an introduction to the topics, with practical applications to specific case studies in the field. The afternoon sessions will be devoted to technical, hands-on sessions. The course will include students' assignments under supervision and tutorship.

Scientific Committee

Gero Carletto (*World Bank*), David Laborde (*FAO*), Pierluigi Montalbano (*Sapienza University*), Silvia Nenci (*Roma Tre University*), Carlo Pietrobelli (*Roma Tre University*), Furio Camillo Rosati (*Tor Vergata University*), Federica Saliola (*World Bank*), Sara Savastano (*Tor Vergata*) and Máximo Torero (*FAO*).

Organisation Office: ICID-CEIS (icid@icid.info)

Faculty

Our faculty members are drawn from academia, research centers, and international organizations. Here are the faculty members from previous editions: Celli Viviana (*Sapienza University*); Cerulli Giovanni (*CNR*); Cerqua Augusto (*Sapienza University*); Antonio Scognamillo (*FAO*); De Arcangelis Giuseppe (*Sapienza University*); Garbero Alessandra (*IFAD*); Giua Mara (*Roma Tre University*); Gourlay Sydney (*World Bank*); Kilic Talip (*World Bank*); Kopinska Joanna (*Sapienza University*); Laborde David (*FAO*); Letta Marco (*Sapienza University*); Magrini Emiliano (*FAO*); Jyotsna Puri (*IFAD*); Vurchio Davide (*University of Bari*).

Scholarships

The School offers **5 scholarships** covering tuition fees for the best candidates.

To be eligible for a scholarship, candidates must come from a country of the Global South¹, be currently enrolled in a PhD or Master's university course and be conducting research activities in development studies. If you are applying for a scholarship, you must upload your national ID or passport along with the student status certificate.

Internship Opportunities

Possibility of internship opportunities with United Nations Development Agencies headquartered in Rome.

Registration and Fees

The **regular fee amounts to 1000€** for the entire course. The fee includes a temporary license of STATA for all participants. **Reduced fees apply for Master/PhD students (500€) and University Staff (800€)**. To this aim, participants must apply and provide proof of their full-time student status or university membership for the current academic year.

Important Dates

Applications should be made using [this application form](#) by **25th May 2026**. Notification of acceptance will be provided to applicants no later than **30th May 2026**. The deadline for registration is **8th June 2026**. For more information, please contact: icid@icid.info

¹ Nationality from any of the following regions: MENA, Latin America and the Caribbean, Sub-Saharan Africa, Eastern or West Africa, South and South-East Asia.



The Italian Center for International Development



ROMA TRE
UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI



Rossi-Doria
Centro Ricerche Economiche e Sociali
Dipartimento di Economia - Università Roma Tre

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Investing in rural people



WORLD BANK GROUP
INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Agenda

Dates	Topics	Morning	Afternoon (Lab. Sessions)
22 June	Impact evaluation for development: the state of the art	<p>9:30-11:30 Opening remarks (Corral Rodas, Leonardo Rafael, IFAD; Furio Rosati Tor Vergata U.; Carlo Pietrobelli Roma Tre U. & UNU-MERIT)</p> <p>Introduction to the School (S. Nenci, Roma Tre University)</p> <p><i>Overview of the main techniques applied during the School</i> (P. Montalbano, Sapienza University)</p> <p>11:30-12:00 Break</p> <p>12:00-13:00 Opening Speech, D. Laborde (FAO)</p>	<p>14:30- 17:00 V. Celli/R. Di Stefano (Sapienza U.)</p> <p><i>STATA crash course</i></p>
23 June	Difference in Differences (DiD) and Randomized Controlled Trial (RCT)	<p>9:30-11:00 <i>Difference in Differences: applications to health economics</i> (J. Kopinska, Sapienza University)</p> <p>11:00-11:30 Break</p> <p>11:30-13:00 <i>Measuring Remittances: a Randomized Controlled Trial</i> (G. De Arcangelis, Sapienza University)</p>	<p>14:30- 17:00 M. Letta (Sapienza U.)</p> <p><i>Introduction to the main econometric packages</i></p>
24 June	9:30- 11:00 V. Celli/R. Di Stefano (Sapienza University) <i>Hands-on Difference in Differences (DiD)</i>	DiD Assignments & Tutoring (V. Celli/R. Di Stefano, Sapienza U.)	
25 June	Propensity Score matching (PSM) and Generalized Propensity Score (GPS)	<p>9:30-11:00 <i>FAO's Approach to Evidence-Based Decision-Making</i> (R. Pietrelli; A. Scognamillo, FAO)</p> <p>11:00-11:30 Break</p> <p>11:30-13:00 <i>Generalized Propensity Score</i> (E. Magrini, FAO)</p>	<p>14:30- 17:00 D. Vurchio (Bari U.) <i>How to use Generalized Propensity Score (GPS)</i></p>
26 June	PSM and GPS Assignments & Tutoring (D. Vurchio, Sapienza University)		
29 June	Integrating Quality and Quantity approaches	<p>9:30-11:00 <i>Integrating quantitative and qualitative assessments</i> (C. Pietrobelli, Roma Tre U. & UNU-MERIT)</p> <p>11:00-11:30 Break</p> <p>11:30- 13:00 <i>Geospatial impact evaluation (GIE)</i> (Cristina Chiarella and Rodrigo Salcedo, IFAD)</p>	<p>14:30- 17:00 (S. Gourlay, WB Center for Development Data, C4R2)</p> <p><i>Designing and evaluating development policies: practitioners' perspectives from the World Bank</i></p>



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30 June	Synthetic Control Method & Regression Discontinuity Design	<p>9:30-11:00 <i>A guide on how to estimate causal impacts in case of one or few treated units</i> (A. Cerqua, Sapienza University)</p> <p>11:00-11:30 Break</p> <p>11:30-13:00 <i>Regression Discontinuity Design</i> (A. Cerqua, Sapienza University)</p>	<p>14:30- 17:00 V. Celli/R. Di Stefano (Sapienza U.)</p> <p><i>Hands on Synthetic Control Method (SCM)</i></p>
1 July	SCM Assignments & Tutoring (V. Celli/R. Di Stefano, Sapienza University)		
2 July	Machine Learning (ML) for impact evaluation	<p>9:30-11:00 <i>Machine Learning for Impact Evaluation I</i> (G. Cerulli, CNR)</p> <p>11:00-11:30 Break</p> <p>11:30-13:00 <i>Machine Learning for Impact Evaluation II</i> (G. Cerulli, CNR)</p>	<p>14:30- 17:00 M. Letta (Sapienza U.)</p> <p><i>Hands-on Session on Causal Machine Learning</i></p>
3 July	Practitioners' activities and concluding remarks	<p>9:30-10:30 <i>Modalities and objectives of impact evaluation</i> (R. Cavatassi, World Bank institute for economic development)</p> <p>10:30-11:30 <i>Measuring Cost-Effectiveness</i> (A. Garbero, IFAD)</p> <p>11:30-12:30 <i>Project evaluability</i> (F. Rosati, Tor Vergata U.)</p> <p>12:30-13:00 <i>Concluding remarks, wrap up and course evaluation</i> (P. Montalbano; S. Nenci; C. Pietrobelli; F. Rosati, ICID)</p>	<p>Optional: Test for Internships (M. Letta, (Sapienza U.)</p>