Evaluation Helpdesk

Summer School 2018

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Evaluation Network Meeting
Brussels, 5-6 March 2018
Summer school this year divided into two sessions:

- **First session** to be held in Brussels on 17-18 April
  - This will be an Introduction to evaluation methods for those with limited experience of carrying out evaluations or managing them
  - It will be given by Elliot Stern and Marco Caliendo, both leading evaluation experts with international reputations
- **Second session** will be held in Hungary at a venue on Lake Balaton on 23-25 May
  - This will be more practically-oriented, with concrete examples of evaluations
  - Those attending the second session will be expected to have either attended the first session or have an equivalent level of understanding of evaluations
**First session** in April on Introduction to evaluation methods

- Purpose: to equip participants with understanding of evaluation design and approach to adopt for different kinds of evaluation

**First day:**

- Starting point - evaluation questions to be answered
- Identification of different types of evaluation questions and discussion of method needed to answer them discussed
- Particular focus on implications of current Regulations - evaluations need to demonstrate causal link between programme activities and outcomes in line with policy aims
- Strengths and weaknesses of different approaches (including statistical methods, experiments, theory-based approaches and methods that identify 'causal mechanisms')
- Session will consist of presentations, questions and answers and examination of actual programme examples
Second day:

- Special sessions on theory-based and counterfactual impact evaluations – two main approaches to evaluating Cohesion policy programmes (though not only ones)

**Session on Theory-based evaluations:**

- Various methods will be discussed, including:
  - Theories of Change
  - Contribution Analysis
  - Realist approaches

**Session on Counterfactual impact evaluations**

- This will cover:
  - Problem of identifying causal effects
  - Randomised controlled trials and field experiments
  - Matching
  - Difference-in-differences
  - Regression discontinuity design
Second part of Summer School

- This will take place over 3 days in Hungary on 23-25 May
- It will be follow-up of first part but practically-oriented
- The aim is to give participants more understanding of what particular types of evaluation involve and the various steps in applying different approaches
- Experts will discuss concrete examples of evaluations and go through the methods used
- Participants will have opportunity to discuss in detail actual evaluations which they are planning to undertake
- Participants will be divided into working groups with expert moderator to allow detailed discussion and interaction
Second part of Summer School

To give an additional incentive to participate, this is the venue:
With a view on to the lake:
And a social event here:
Thank you for your attention