Programme

Windows on Evaluation Matters

November 23 - 27 2020

12.30-14.00 GMT

Online - Zoom

Pre-registration essential

Register online: www.evaluation.org.uk/events

Special Online Event 2020 for evaluation professionals and those working or with an interest in the diverse field of Evaluation.

UK Evaluation Society

Overview

The UK Evaluation Society is hosting a Special Online Event for evaluation professionals and those working, or with an interest, in the diverse field of evaluation.

This event complements the UK Evaluation Society Annual Conference which will take place May 26th – 27th 2021.

Evaluation matters because evaluative thinking, analysis and judgement make a difference to people's lives. Knowing what works and what does not, knowing why, and for whom, in what context, under what conditions, and knowing the potential for replicability are significant factors in decisions for investing time, effort and funds. This has been at the forefront of all our minds during COVID with the evidence for policies scrutinised daily in the news.

Evaluation 'matters' impact everyone. However, many people do not self-identify as working in evaluation or as users of evaluative skills. This is 'good news' in that evaluation practice is far more widespread than many imagine, and 'not so good news' in that it is easier to improve that practice, if we know what it is, and learn from others.

'Windows on Evaluation Matters' welcomes everyone who identifies themselves as an evaluation professional, and all those engaged, or with an interest in any aspect of this diverse field. Each 'Window' looks into a topic of live interest in evaluation. This is an opportunity for Delegates to hear, discuss, interrogate, meet fellow professionals and those working in a variety of roles, places, and sectors, indeed to broaden your network - online!

'Windows' start at 12.30 GMT each day, with an earlier introduction at 12.15 on Monday 23rd Delegates benefit from time between to absorb and reflect on each 'Window" and build knowledge, perspective, insights and greater confidence in evaluation matters.

Speaker and panellist contributions will be recorded and made available to Delegates after the event. Delegates will have access to these recordings, after the event.

The UK Evaluation Society is also hosting a **Delegates' WeBiBar** at 17.00 GMT hours on Thursday 26th November.

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All times GMT

Monday November 23rd 2020

1215 - 1230: INTRODUCTION: WINDOWS on EVALUATION MATTERS
Dr Tim Chadborn, President UK Evaluation Society

1230 - 1400: Window 1: 'Learning To Be Different: Why Evaluation Matters'
Speaker:
Dr Peter Taylor, Director of Research, Institute of Development Studies (IDS), UK
Respondent: *Catherine Cameron*, Co-Director, Agulhas Applied Knowledge
Moderator: *Dr Tim Chadborn*, President, UK Evaluation Society

Our world is experiencing global volatility, unprecedented levels of humanitarian crises and vulnerability, coupled with the impacts of climate change, migration, inequalities, and constantly emerging threats to peace and security. Against this backdrop, the fallout from a global pandemic has left no country unaffected, with the potential for a severely negative impact for many in the future - particularly those who are most vulnerable.

Our under-preparedness for Covid-19 suggests we have learned insufficiently from the past. At the same time, a crisis such as this pandemic brings opportunity- for a genuine, systemic transformation of ideas, policies, programmes and practices. To take advantage of this opportunity, we need, urgently, to foster collaborative and comparative learning across the experience of different countries and localities, if we are to avoid returning to conditions that do not serve us well. To do so we need to be bold. But we also need to revisit the ways in which we learn from our collective experiences, by re-examining evaluation's relevance and contemporary contribution, its methodological range, and its cultural and contextual resonance. If we are to learn to be different - responding to immediate needs for climate, racial and gender justice, but also to look forward to a different world where structural inequities and inequalities are fundamentally changed - then we also need to learn differently. This presentation aims to make the case, supported by practical examples, that evaluation matters precisely because it helps us in learning to be different.

Tuesday November 24th 2020

1230 - 1400: Window 2: 'What do Delphi and Medici bring to Evaluation?'
Speakers:
Dr Wendy Asbeek Brusse, Director, Independent Evaluation Service (IOB), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Netherlands;
David Drabble, Senior Researcher, Medici Project Lead, Tavistock Institute, London
Moderator: *Bridget Dillon*, Vice-President, UK Evaluation Society

Evaluation matters, as it reveals. The Delphi technique is a group knowledge acquisition method used for qualitative issues and decision-making. Dr Asbeek Brusse shares how it works with reference to the recently published, Delphi Panel on Counter-Terrorism and Preventing Violent Extremism (IOB, 2020). https://english.iob-evaluatie.nl/publications/sub-studies/2020/02/27/ct-delphi-panel. Evaluation matters for the protection of vulnerable and disadvantaged groups in society. The Medici Project maps and shares practices integrating vulnerable and disadvantaged groups in the Digital Society across 27 EU Member States and UK. Mapping the Evolving Digital Inclusion landscape to support Cohesion and Integration.

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Wednesday November 25th 2020

1230 - 1400: Window 3: 'Who Needs to Know What in Evaluation: A Provocation'

Speaker:
Professor Nick Tilley OBE, FAcSS, Jill Dando Institute of Crime Science at University College, London
Respondents:
Dr Alison Girdwood, Director of Evaluation, British Council;
Adeline Sibanda, Co-Chair EvalPartners, Former President African Evaluation Association, Managing Director ADESIM Developments
Moderator: *Professor Murray Saunders,* Professor of Evaluation, University of Lancaster, UK, and UKES Council Member

Evaluations have tended to be tailored to satisfying wants rather than needs. Professor Tilley will argue that needs should be prioritised over wants and that evaluators should focus on what they can say that is relevant to needs, whilst eschewing promises to meet wants that cannot be met. Much evaluation is commissioned, conducted and used by those who don't know what they need to know. He will try to spell out who needs to know what in evaluation to produce findings which can realistically inform decisions in the interest of social betterment.

Thursday November 26th 2020

1230 - 1400: Window 4: 'The Covid-19 pandemic has spotlighted the use of evidence in Government decision-making: Does the public care about how evidence is presented and used?'

Presentation and panel discussion supported by the Campaign for Social Science

Speaker:
Kelly Beaver, Ipsos MORI, Managing Director Public Affairs, Board member of Campaign for Social Science
Panellists:
Dr David Halpern, FAcSS, Chief Executive, Behavioural Insights Team, National What Works Adviser to UK Government;
Tracey Brown, OBE, Director of Sense about Science;
Dr Audrey MacDougall, FAcSS, Scottish Government Chief Social Researcher, and Deputy Director Communities Analytical Division;
Dr Siobhan Campbell, FAcSS, Head of Central Research Team and Deputy Chief Scientific Adviser, Department of Transport, UK Government;
Moderator: *Professor Murray Saunders*, Professor of Evaluation, University of Lancaster, UK, and UK Evaluation Society Council Member.

2020 has been a year like no other for the UK and its government: a new government, Brexit, a global pandemic, the start of a global recession and much more. And with these big challenges have come big decisions which the government has been making almost daily. These decisions and data informing them have been laid bare on national television and the wider media, and the scrutiny around them has been intense. In many ways, the use of evidence in decision making has been front and centre of the communications, but what are the issues in the way data is being used, presented, and discussed and to what extent does the public care?

Thursday November 26th 2020 - WebiBar

1700 - 1800 GMT: The Delegates' WeBiBar (Zoom):

'Evaluation Matters in an Era of Fake News - Learning from Experience!'

Come and discuss with fellow Delegates at The Delegates WeBiBar! Share your own experience and learning from working in the field of evaluation in an era of fake news. The WeBiBar is an informal, lightly moderated space where Delegates mingle at the Main Bar, chat by the Fireside, gather in the Nook …and benefit from the flexibility to dip in and out of different exchanges, pick up insights and tips for their practice...

At the Main Bar, you will find Bar Hosts Bridget Dillon, Vice-President, and Pete Welsh, Council Member. We warmly welcome 'First Pitchers' who start the discussion:
Enrique Mendizabal, Director of Onthinktanks,
Dr Rachel Iredale, Head of Evaluation at UK Economic and Social Research Council.
Cormac Quinn, Private Sector MEL Lead, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office

As the discussion develops, Delegates choose to stay in Main Bar or move (virtually) to other areas of the Bar to continue discussion with a smaller group. At Last Call, Bar Hosts briefly summarize key learning points. Chatham House Rules prevail, consequently there is no recording.

Delegates' WeBiBar
Opening time: 16:50 - for Delegates to find their way around the Bar
First Pitcher: 17:00 – start the discussion
Last Call: 18:00 – brief learning summary
Bar remains open +/- 20 mins for those who wish to linger longer

Friday November 27th 2020

1230 - 1400: Window 5: 'In the Evaluation Hot Seat!'

What are hot topics in evaluation? Three speakers, acknowledged in the field, will each share an aspect of evaluation they feel passionately about in 10-minute Talks.

Delegates are invited to respond, ask questions, challenge!

'Evaluation – Let's Go Gardening!'
Leadership in the evaluation ecosystem
Speaker: *Dugan Fraser,* Director, CLEAR, Anglophone Africa, Johannesburg, South Africa

'Going to Where the Audience Gathers'
Looking at institutionalization of evaluation
Speaker: *David Rider Smith,* Senior Evaluation Co-ordinator, Evaluation Service, UNHCR, Geneva, Switzerland

'Another One Bites the Dust'
The trials and tribulations of an in-house evaluator
Speaker: *Dr Barbara Leach,* Director, Magenta Research and Evaluation, West Midlands, UK

Moderator: *Bridget Dillon*, Vice-President, UK Evaluation Society

1400: CLOSING REMARKS
Dr Tim Chadborn, President, UK Evaluation Society

BIOGRAPHIES OF SPEAKERS

UK Evaluation Society is privileged to welcome a widely acknowledged and distinguished set of Speakers and Panellists. We share short biographies below.

Dr Peter Taylor

Peter Taylor is Director of Research at the Institute of Development Studies (IDS). Previously he was Director, Strategic Development, at the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Ottawa, Canada where he was responsible for leading IDRC's strategic planning processes. During his ten years with IDRC, he also served as Acting Director of the Inclusive Economies Program Area, and as Associate Director for the Think Tank Initiative, a ten-year, multi-partner programme that supports strengthenPeter Taylor is Director of Research at the Institute of Development Studies (IDS). Previously, he was Director, Strategic Development, at the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Ottawa, Canada where he was responsible for leading IDRC's strategic planning processes. During his ten years with IDRC, he also served as Acting Director of the Inclusive Economies Program Area, and as Associate Director for the Think Tank Initiative, a ten-year, multi-partner programme that supports strengthening of policy research organizations in Africa, South Asia and Latin America. Peter has more than 30 years of experience in international development. He also worked at IDS as a Research Fellow, Head of Graduate Studies, and Leader of the Participation, Power and Social Change Team; as Education Technical Advisor with the Swiss NGO Helvetas in Vietnam; as Lecturer in Agricultural Education at the Agricultural Extension and Rural Development Department at the University of Reading, UK. He has research, teaching and writing interests in the theory and practice of organizational development and capacity strengthening, evaluation and learning, and facilitation of participatory and social change processes in a diverse range of international contexts..

Catherine Cameron

Catherine Cameron is co-Founder and a Director of Agulhas, Applied Knowledge, an evaluation, knowledge and learning for strategy consulting practice based in London. She leads the Agulhas Climate Hub working on climate action, a just transition and building climate resilience. An economist by training she is a Visiting Professor at the University of Essex, and a Visiting Fellow at the Centre for Understanding Sustainable Prosperity (CUSP) at the University of Surrey. She contributed to Jorgen Randers best seller '2052: a forecast for the next 40 years.'

Dr Wendy Asbeek Brusse

Wendy Asbeek Brusse has been Director of the Evaluation Service at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, The Netherlands since 2015. She chairs the OECD-DAC Evaluation Network. Prior to that she held various positions at the interface of policy and research. She was Director of the Netherlands Scientific Council for Government Policy (WRR), Senior Policy Adviser at Chief Scientist and Directorate for Citizenship Education and Integration of the former Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and Environment. She has worked as a University Lecturer at the University of Groningen's Policy and Management in International Organisations programme and Leiden University's History programme. She gained her doctorate at the European University Institute in Florence and has numerous publications to her name.

BIOGRAPHIES OF SPEAKERS CONTINUED

David Drabble

David Drabble is a Senior Researcher and Consultant at the Tavistock Institute in London.
A sociologist by training, David has a specialised role in data presentation, analysis and project management. He has worked on over 40 projects in his current post, including project manager and researcher for Macmillan Cancer care on a systems redesign programme at Imperial College Healthcare Trust, and managing evaluations for the National Association of Primary Care, and also the project lead for European Commission Medici Project.

Professor Nick Tilley

Nick Tilley is a member of the Jill Dando Institute of Crime Science at University College London. He has conducted and advised on numerous evaluations and reviews. He has authored or edited around 15 books and published some 200 chapters, journal articles and research reports. Amongst his publications is *Realistic Evaluation,* written with Ray Pawson. Nick was awarded an OBE for services to policing and crime reduction in 2005 and elected a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences in 2009. Some colleagues (Graham Farrell and Aiden Sidebottom) kindly edited a festschrift for him, published in 2019 by Routledge as *Realistic Evaluation for Crime Prevention.*

Dr Alison Girdwood

Alison Girdwood is currently Director of Evidence, Evaluation and Learning at the British Council. Prior to this she spent 14 years in the UK Department for International Development (DFID), including 4 years in DFID's Aid Effectiveness Team, where she worked on a range of joint and bilateral evaluations, including those on General Budget Support, Public Financial Management, Technical Co-operation and the Education For All Fast Track Initiative. Alison has also worked on humanitarian evaluations, including responses to Typhoon Haiyan and the Ebola epidemic in West Africa. She also led the initial development of DFID's Education Research portfolio. Earlier in her career she worked on higher education for the Commonwealth Secretariat, and as a researcher at the University of Bath, where she gained her PhD in the political economy of tertiary education reform in Ghana.

Adeline Sibanda

Adeline Sibanda is the Founder and Managing Director of ADESIM Developments. Adeline has experience in strategy, program design, planning, monitoring and evaluation with specific focus on gender responsive and human rights' based evaluations. She works throughout Africa and beyond with Civil Society Organisations, Community Based organisations, Governments, donors and development agents. She is Co-Chair of EvalPartners, Past President of the International Organisation for Cooperation in Evaluation (IOCE) (2018-April 2020) and Past President of the African Evaluation Association (AfrEA) (2015-2019). Adeline has been raising awareness and advocating for the Made In Africa Evaluation an AfrEA initiative promoting evaluation practice rooted in African contexts and priorities, as well as the South-South Cooperation in Evaluation (S2SE), an initiative of five regional evaluation associations from the Global South.

BIOGRAPHIES OF SPEAKERS CONTINUED

Kelly Beaver

Kelly Beaver is the Managing Director of Ipsos MORI's Public Affairs business in the United Kingdom. She is responsible for a team of around 250 people who provide robust research and analysis to help clients across every area of government policy to monitor and understand public opinion, behaviours and societal trends, design public services and policies, and to determine what works in achieving social and economic policy objectives. Kelly holds several honorary positions outside of Ipsos. These include a Senior Research Fellowship at the Kings Policy Institute, a Board Member for the Campaign for Social Sciences in the UK, and a Trustee for the Early Intervention Foundation. Kelly was a Director of the UK Evaluation Society between 2011 and 2017.

Tracey Brown

Tracey Brown has been the director of Sense about Science since 2002. Tracey leads the Transparency of Evidence initiative, to get more of the evidence behind government decisions reported and published, and launched the first ever Evidence Week in the UK parliament, which brings together researchers, community groups and parliamentarians to share ideas about research and policy. In 2014 She was recognised by the Science Council for her work on evidence-based policy making and in June 2017 she was made an OBE for services to science.

Dr David Halpern

David Halpern has been the Chief Executive of the UK Government's Behavioural Insights Team (unofficially known as the Nudge Unit) since its inception in 2010. Prior to this, David was the founding Director of the Institute for Government, and between 2001 and 2007 the Chief Analyst at the Prime Minister's Strategy Unit. David was also appointed as the What Works National Advisor in July 2013. He has written several books and papers on areas relating to behavioural insights and wellbeing, including Social Capital (2005), the Hidden Wealth of Nations (2010), Inside the Nudge Unit (2015), and was co-author of the MINDSPACE report. David is one of the 56 individuals named by the UK government as contributing to the Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies in response to the COVID-19 pandemic in the United Kingdom, focusing on behavioural changes such as increased hand-washing. He is a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences.

Dr Siobhan Campbell

Siobhan Campbell is Head of Department for Transport's (DfT) Central Research Team and Deputy Chief Scientific Adviser, a role that covers responsibility for evaluation and social research as well as science and engineering. Her interests in this role are to create strong interdisciplinary working and improve the impact of DfT's analytical work on decision-making. Siobhan is also deputy head of the Government Social Research Profession in government, where she helps lead the direction, impact and influence of the profession across government. Prior to joining DfT in May 2016 Siobhan was responsible for policy evaluation in DECC, where she built the evaluation and social research function. Siobhan has also worked as deputy head of the Government Social Research Unit based in HM Treasury, within the Scottish Government leading Justice research; and in a number of different research roles within the Home Office. She has a Ph.D. in psychology from the University of Glasgow and is a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences.

BIOGRAPHIES OF SPEAKERS CONTINUED

Dr Audrey MacDougall

Audrey MacDougall is the Scottish Government Chief Social Researcher and Deputy Director Communities Analytical Division. She has worked in Scottish Government for 14 years and has held this position since 2017. Before that Audrey was head of Education Analysis, Intelligence and Performance from 2011. She gained a PhD in the field of Public Administration/Policy from the University of Edinburgh in 2006. She is a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences.

Enrique Mendizabal

Enrique is an independent policy entrepreneur. He is Director of Onthinktanks and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts. Until December 2010, he worked for the Overseas Development Institute (ODI) where he headed the Research and Policy in Development programme. At ODI he co-founded the Outcome Mapping Learning Community. Enrique is the co-founder of Politics & Ideas, the Peruvian Alliance for the Use of Evidence, and the Premio PODER al Think Tank Peruano del Año. Since 2016, he has organised an annual Evidence Week in Latin America. Enrique worked as adviser to the Multiparty Commission for the Bicentennial of Peru's Independence at the National Congress. He lives in Lima.

Cormac Quinn

Cormac Quinn is currently working in the Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Lead in Private Sector Department, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office. This covers the UK development investment portfolio, financial services and disaster risk finance thematic areas. He has spent 20 years working in the area of international development, including 13 years of field work in Africa and the Middle East. This includes working as an Evaluation Adviser or the UK government in Rwanda, the Palestinian Territories, Mozambique and Zambia; and in Brussels for the European Union as a UK seconded national expert in evaluation.

Dr Rachel Iredale

Rachel Iredale is Head of Evaluation at the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) with lead responsibility for designing, commissioning and delivering ESRC's programme of strategic evaluations. She is also an Associate Professor of Public Engagement in the Faculty of Life Sciences and Education at the University of South Wales where her research career has focused on public involvement in policy making, particularly methodological innovation for engaging the public with difficult topics, including those who are hard-to-reach and young people.

BIOGRAPHIES OF SPEAKERS CONTINUED

David Rider Smith

David Rider Smith is Senior Evaluation Coordinator, Evaluation Service of UNHCR. David leads on building the decentralized evaluation function in UNHCR and is the deputy to the Head of Evaluation. He has over twenty years of experience in evaluation, research and performance monitoring, including roles as head of evaluation capacity and quality at the UK Department for International Development (DFID); as an advisor to the Government of Uganda in the Office of the Prime Minister where he designed the Government Annual Performance Reporting system and the Government Evaluation Facility, and at the Uganda Bureau of Statistics. David has worked in the UN system previously, for two years as the senior officer and team leader in the Joint Inspection Unit of the UN system, and leading a UN system-wide study on change management (2018-19) and at the UNDP Evaluation Office as an Evaluation Specialist (2003-07). He has a strong record in research and publications worked for three years at the Water, Lands and Ecosystems Research Programme of the CGIAR (2014-17) and four years at the Natural Resources Institute (1999-2003).

Dr Barbara Leach

Barbara Leach is Director, Magenta Research and Evaluation is an experienced social researcher and evaluator with particular expertise in resources and waste, climate change, the environment and the arts. Barbara has worked in UK Government, the charity sector, and consultancy, and now runs her own company, Magenta Research and Evaluation. She is a creative, quick thinking multi-disciplinarian and brings the best of numbers and stories, art and science to everything she does.

Dugan Fraser

Dugan Fraser is Director, CLEAR Anglophone Africa. He has extensive experience supporting public and civil society organizations to make better decisions by collecting and using evidence. Previously, as the Program Director at the RAITH Foundation, he was responsible for program strategy design and implementation, monitoring and evaluation, the provision of technical advice to grantees and the Foundation's responsible investment strategy. He has also served as an independent public and development management consultant specializing in M&E for learning, accountability, and performance improvement, and the design and implementation of large scale systems, such as the African Union's African Peer Review System, the South African Presidency's Government-wide M&E System, and the Public Service Commission's Public Service M&E System. He is on the Board of Directors for the Social Justice Initiative and Just Share, and was previously the Chairperson of the Board of the South Africa M&E Association. He holds an MA in Sociology from Wits University.

We'd warmly welcome delegates keeping in touch with the UK Evaluation Society beyond this event. Please contact hello@evaluation.org.uk to subscribe to the UK Evaluation Society's Events Listing.

REGISTRATION

The event fee includes access to each day of the event, access to the evening WeBiBar, recordings of speakers/panellists after the event. Online registration can be found at **www.evaluation.org.uk/events**

Debit/credit card or BACS by invoice accepted.

UK Evaluation Society (UKES) Members: £60 inc VAT per delegate

Non-members: £80 inc VAT per delegate

UKES Membership plus event: £144 inc VAT per delegate

UKES Student Membership plus event: £102 inc VAT per delegate

UKES Institutional membership plus event: Upon request**

**For membership enquiries please email hello@evaluation.org.uk.

WINDOWS ON EVALUATION MATTERS

UK Evaluation Society