

15 days

Certificate in Applied Evaluation

From Theory of Change & Strategic Planning to Monitoring & Evaluation

This three week certificate course focuses on how to capture the changes arising from your development interventions. Building on your recently acquired Theory of Change learning, you develop monitoring and evaluation skills which together support you in your strategic decision making. It includes a 1-1 professional coaching session after you return to work to help embed your learning further.

Why choose this training course

This course is for development professionals who plan for and implement projects and programmes and for those wanting to improve their M&E skills. This course will focus on the practical aspects of M&E, from the participatory development of a results framework to monitoring programmes and projects, managing evaluations and making use of evidence findings. A Theory of Change approach will bring learning into practice to promote strategic decision making.

What you will learn

Through a mix of practical activities, theory and examples of effective practice you learn how to:

- communicate a Theory of Change overview
- identify a desired change - understanding how change happens
- use participatory methodologies to enhance your strategic planning
- capitalise meta-skills for change
- clarify results at the programme level using logic models and plan a project using the logical framework
- develop indicators and targets
- combine qualitative and quantitative approaches to gather and interpret data
- design and manage evaluation
- use your findings to stimulate learning, improvement and stakeholder buy-in
- develop and work with a practical M&E system.

Daily Course Objectives

Subject to change to reflect participants' needs.

Day 1

Week 1: Theory of Change and Strategic Planning

- definitions and key concepts - 4 dimensions of Theory of Change
- relationship with M&E: complementarities and innovations
- desired change: understanding how change happens
- ecosystem analysis.

Day 2

Develop a Theory of Change

- assess our work: attribution or contribution to change?
- meta-skills and self-development in the ToC process
- explore pathways of change: alternative ways to contribute to change
- the power of assumptions: how does our thinking affect our actions?

Day 3

Complexity, power and learning for social change

- stakeholder engagement: understanding complexity and power dynamics
- develop pathways of change: alternative ways to contribute to change
- indicators of change: how we know we are contributing to change.

Day 4

Scenario Planning for Adaptive Strategies

- assess contribution to change
- participatory methods and tools for contribution assessment
- reflect on our assessment practices.

Day 5

Integrating learning into practice

- revisit our M&E system from a contribution assessment perspective
- meta-skills for facilitating Theory of Change processes
- learning synthesis and steps forward.

Day 6

The changing role and practice of M&E

- M&E fundamentals
- results approaches: outputs, outcomes and impact
- relate M&E to your programme and project cycle
- identify stakeholders and their differing needs and roles.

Day 7

Results framework

- develop logic models
- work with and beyond logframes.

Day 8

Developing M&E frameworks

- criteria for indicators
- develop project indicators
- identify means of verification.

Day 9

Gathering and using data/information

- quantitative and qualitative approaches and instruments
- data organisation, quality assurance and analysis
- design baseline, evaluation and impact studies.

Day 10

M&E system and plan

- prepare M&E plan
- M&E system overview
- learning synthesis.

Day 11

Data gathering in practice: fieldwork

- practice data gathering tools
- use different tools to gather data in a live context
- field work reflection.

Day 12

Theory of Change

- develop a theory of change from the live data gathered during fieldwork
- relate theory of change thinking to M&E.

Day 13

Information for decision-making

- review monitoring data
- use M&E information and evidence for decision-making.

Day 14

Fostering a learning culture

- identify ways to foster a learning culture
- become M&E change agents and champions
- coaching and preparation for participant presentations.

Day 15

Using what you have learnt

- participant presentations
- embedding learning for personal and organisational benefit
- collective course reflection.

How long: 15 days

Cost: £4900

Please note if your sponsor is registered in the UK, VAT will be added to this course fee at 20%. Which is reclaimable for all registered charities.

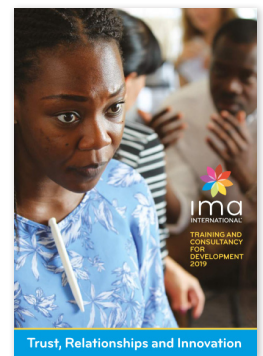


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“ I liked the way the course is designed, the duration, methods of training used and above all the selection of facilitators. ”

Futhie Ngcamphalala,
United Nations Mission
in South Sudan



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