



AFRICAN SCHOOL OF EVALUATION
EDITION 1

Rapid evaluation

Provided by CLEAR LAB



TRAINING BACKGROUND & RATIONALE

In dynamic policy environments, decision-makers often face time-sensitive challenges that demand quick, yet credible, evidence. Traditional evaluation methods may be too time-consuming to inform urgent policy and programmatic decisions. Rapid evaluations provide a pragmatic solution by generating timely insights to inform adaptive management, resource allocation, and guide future evaluations. This training aims to build institutional capacity to conduct or commission quality rapid evaluations.



TARGET AUDIENCE

The course is designed for public sector professionals, evaluators, researchers, NGO staff, and donors involved in the design, implementation, or commissioning of evaluations, or interested in policy evaluation. The course will be offered in Portuguese.

TRAINING OBJECTIVES

By the end of the course, participants will be able to:

- * Understand the importance of monitoring and evaluation in the context of evidence-based decision-making.
- * Understand the key concepts related to the public policy cycle, the foundations of M&E, and the different types of evaluation.
- * Understand the principles, uses, and limitations of rapid evaluations.
- * Design fit-for-purpose rapid evaluation approaches tailored to specific decision needs.
- * Select appropriate data collection and analysis strategies.
- * Communicate findings effectively to influence timely decision-making.

TRAINING CONTENT / MODULES

Below, we propose a training composed of five modules, each module with a duration of 6h. Each module combines lectures with case studies and hands-on group activities:

Introductory concepts: evidence-based policy making, M&E concepts, evaluation in the policy cycle.

Rapid Evaluation Introduction: motivation and uses; rapid evaluation models; definition and characteristics.

Topics on Rapid Evaluation I: policy characterization, problem analysis, policy design analysis, and evaluation.

Topics on Rapid Evaluation II: policy implementation evaluation, outcome evaluation.

Rapid Evaluation in Practice: methodologies; data sources; data collection and analysis; planning; rapid evaluation in comparative perspective and communicating findings effectively.

PEDAGOGICAL APPROACH

The course is designed to be highly practical and learner-centered, blending conceptual presentations with hands-on activities and real-life case discussions. Participants will engage in collaborative problem-solving, apply tools to realistic evaluation scenarios, and receive guided feedback throughout the course. The approach prioritizes experiential learning, and peer exchange. The course will be offered in Portuguese.