

A background graphic of several interlocking gears in various colors (pink, blue, green, yellow, red) of different sizes, scattered across the page.

Science, Technology and Innovation Policy Evaluation

Executive Online Course

27 - 29 September 2021

Through science, technology and innovation (STI) policy, the government incentivises research and innovation activity to deliver a broad range of economic and societal objectives. There are numerous rationales for STI policy intervention, and the government has many policy instruments at its disposal. To know whether the STI policy objectives have been achieved and the appropriate policy instruments have been used, evaluation is indispensable.

STI policy evaluations are increasingly understood as an essential learning tool. They help to make policy makers and implementers improve the way they design and operate policies and make them better understand their specific contexts. In addition, governments and taxpayers require credible and robust justification that the economic and societal policy objectives are being achieved in an efficient, effective and economic manner.

Building on a long-running residential course, this year we offer an online course about the key aspects of STI policy evaluation and the most effective use of evaluation tools. Through a combination of brief online lectures and interactive sessions, you will learn about the rationale for STI policy evaluation and get experience with the design of specific evaluation tools and methods.

Course Programme

The course will take place September 27-29, 2021 at 12PM-4PM (BST) with a short break each day. The course fee is 500€. Electronic Course Certificate will be provided.

Half-day 1 Monday, 27 September 2021

Topic: The rationale for STI policy evaluation

Lecture: Trends, state-of-the-art and principles of STI policy evaluation

Workshop: In the workshop, illustrative cases of recent STI policy evaluations will be analysed. Participants will learn more about key decisions in the evaluation process. Through interactive discussions and debate, participants will gain insight into the rationale, scope and outcome of recently conducted STI policy evaluations.

Half-day 2 Tuesday, 28 September 2021

Topic: The design of an STI policy evaluation

Practical: Using the case examples of the first day, participants will learn which evaluation methods and indicators have been used and why. Through an interactive exercise, participants will retrace the steps of the evaluators and assess what the underlying logic was of the evaluations. In doing so, participants will gain experience with designing an evaluation's logic chart.

Lecture: Evaluation methods, indicators, and impact assessment

Half-day 3 Wednesday, 29 September 2021

Topic: Challenges of STI policy evaluation

Lecture: Evaluation of complex programmes, organisations, and networks

Practical: In an interactive debate, the current challenges of STI policy evaluation will be discussed. Issues that will be covered include the increased expectation for STI policy to contribute to addressing challenges such as the economic recovery from COVID-19 and climate change; the complexity of measuring social and economic impact; and how to make sure that STI policy stays within financial constraints.

Delivered by:



Kate Barker is a Senior Lecturer at the Manchester Institute of Innovation Research. She has a long experience of evaluation of research, research organisations & science policy. Kate is presently an investigator for the 8 year Oslo Institute for Research on the Impact of Science (OSIRIS), where the Manchester team is focusing on the characteristics of users of research and organisational conditions to explain impacts upon policy. Kate directs the MIOIR professional courses on Evaluation of Science and Innovation Policies and is a regular contributor to the professional international R&D Evaluation Courses at the University of Twente, the Netherlands and the University of Campinas, Brazil.



Jonatan Pinkse is a Professor of strategy, innovation, and entrepreneurship and Executive Director of the Manchester Institute of Innovation Research at the Alliance Manchester Business School. His research which addresses corporate sustainability, sustainable innovation, climate change, social entrepreneurship, business model innovation, cross-sector partnerships and the sharing economy has been published in a wide variety of management and innovation journals. Recently, he was included in the prestigious list of Highly Cited Researchers.



Erik Arnold is a Senior Partner at Technopolis and Honorary Professor at the Manchester Institute for Innovation Research. He has worked in research and innovation policy and evaluation since 1980. He was at SPRU 1980-85; Booz.Allen & Hamilton 1986-1991, and Technopolis since then. His work spans 36 countries as well as the EU and international organisations including the OECD, World Bank, Nordic Council of Ministers, ESF, Science Europe and COST. He is expert in the design, management, and implementation of evaluations of innovation and research funders, programmes and policies and has broad experience from doing evaluations and studies in many parts of the innovation system, including research, innovation, funding and system-wide studies.



Effie Amanatidou is an Honorary Senior Research Fellow at Manchester Institute of Innovation Research / The University of Manchester (UK). She studied Maths at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (Greece) and holds an MSc in Technical Change and Industrial Strategy and a PhD in Foresight Evaluation from The University of Manchester/Manchester Institute of Innovation Research (UK). Effie has over 20 years of experience in research and innovation policy analysis including in particular evaluation / impact assessment of research and innovation policies and programmes, foresight and social innovation.

Who is it for?

We aim the course at professionals working in organisations which are performing or subject to STI policy evaluations. Participants ideally come with some experience but this is not essential. After taking the course, participants will have an improved understanding of the debates and contexts surrounding STI policy evaluation and be able to situate their own organisation's evaluation practices within these. The course is not about learning the details of methods. Participants learn about the state of the art in the design of evaluations to generate learning and satisfy accountability within a broader public policy environment.

Our approach:

We take a hands-on approach where you will learn the first steps of developing an STI policy evaluation protocol. We provide agile and rapid training on common rationales, approaches, frameworks, methods and types of outcomes related to various evaluation practices. Our approach enables an intense interaction between course participants as they gain insights and new knowledge on state-of-the-art evaluation practices.



Manchester Institute of Innovation Research (MIOIR) is a centre of excellence in the field of innovation studies, building on a 50-year tradition of innovation and science studies in Manchester. MIOIR consists of a group of internationally renowned scholars and experts, and supports a broad expertise across a range of academic disciplines. MIOIR is in the Innovation, Management and Policy division of the Alliance Manchester Business School (AMBS), one of the largest research groups for innovation management and policy globally. MIOIR is at the heart of innovation related research and form one of the largest components of the University of Manchester Research Institute (UMRI). MIOIR is a recognised international centre of excellence for the study of Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) policy and management. The Institute informs science and innovation policy by engaging with key policymakers, in the UK, Europe and further afield. Reflecting the ethos of rigour and relevance, engagement with key stakeholders is at the core of MIOIR's work.



[@MIOIR](https://twitter.com/MIOIR)



[Manchester Institute of Innovation Research](https://www.mioir.ac.uk/)