

**GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE**



No. 5(2)/2020-Admn-I/MoC

Islamabad, the 27th October, 2020


CIRCULAR

Subject: - EVIDENCE-BASED PROGRAM DESIGN 2020-INVITATION FOR APPLICATION/NOMINATION

A self-explanatory subject letter dated 14th October, 2020 received from Center for Economic Research in Pakistan containing guidelines for the subject workshop is enclosed for uploading on the website of Ministry of Commerce for information.

2. Interested officers who fulfill the eligibility criteria may forward their nomination duly approved by the head of the Wing to Admn-I/MoC Section by **04-11-2020** before closing office hours for onward submission to the Center for Economic Research in Pakistan. It is pertinent to mention here that the fees of the program will be paid by the participants.

Encl: As above


(Muhammad Imtiaz)
Deputy Director (MoC)

Manager (IT), Ministry of Commerce with the request to kindly upload the same on the website of this Ministry.

10/14/2020

SUBJECT: Evidence-Based Program Design 2020 – Invitation for Application / Nomination

Dear Sir / Madam:

I am writing to share details of Centre for Economic Research in Pakistan's (CERP) upcoming open-enrolment course / workshop with your organization.

The CERP-CLEAR Evidence-Based Program Design workshop is scheduled in Lahore, Pakistan from November 30-December 3, 2020. It will be held in-person and will follow all social distancing SOPs for the safety and well-being of our community.

This workshop will cover topics in the fields of monitoring and evaluation, data collection and utilization, and evaluation methods. The workshop is designed for actors in strategic decision-making roles, mid-tier government officials in policy programmes, and M&E practitioners and research analysts working on data and evidence. In addition to its rigorous curriculum, the workshop also offers an opportunity to network with CERP's global policy experts and Research Fellows, as well as local development / policy practitioners.

The programme of the workshop is described in detail in the brochure enclosed. The detailed agenda and venue address will be communicated to participants closer to the workshop dates. (For participants traveling to Lahore for the course, our venue partner, Management House, offers strategic pricing for hotel accommodation, if you may be interested).

As per our workshop structure:

- Fee:
 - The fee for this programme is PKR 125,000 per participant.
- Deadlines:
 - The last date to register for the workshop is November 20, 2020.
 - Applications received by November 9, 2020, are eligible for an early bird pricing, at PKR 95,000 per participant.

Enrolment for the workshop is now open. As applicable, please nominate candidates / representatives from your organization that this workshop will be beneficial for. Please let us know the names of your nominations and their contact details via email/mail/phone, and we would be happy to assist them in their registration process. We encourage you to apply early as class size is limited, and enrolment is on a first-come basis.

To apply to the programme, participants are required to submit an online application form available on CERP's website: <https://www.cerp.org.pk/pages/application-form-ebpd>.

Thank you, and we look forward to hearing from you soon.

Best Regards,

amnaaqil

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Evidence-Based Program Design 2020

November 30 - December 03, 2020

Lahore, Pakistan

How can we ensure that development policies and programmes in Pakistan achieve maximum impact?

This question is at the core of Centre for Economic Research in Pakistan's (CERP) flagship Evidence-Based Program Design course, a four-day training designed for actors in strategic decision-making roles. The course uses a combination of in-class lectures, case studies, digital units made available to CERP by Harvard University, online lectures from foreign faculty and group-based design projects, to offer a unique learning experience.

What Will You Learn

Through faculty presentations, dynamic discussions, individual problem-solving exercises and small group work, you will learn how to apply a structured and highly practical approach to programme design and implementation, incorporating theory and evidence to maximise effectiveness. Topics include:

- Adopting a structured approach to problem solving using theory and evidence
- Deepening your understanding of theory of change and indicator development
- Examining impact programmes using data-driven experimental and non-experimental evaluation methods
- Understanding data collection processes, sampling design and data collection methods
- Applying the Smart Policy Design framework to real-world problems – this new approach to program design, pioneered by experts at Evidence for Policy Design (EPoD) at Harvard Kennedy School (HKS), incorporates key insights from the policy context, accounts for and reflects individuals' incentives, and makes smart use of data and feedback loops to constantly design, test and refine programmes and policy solutions

Who Should Attend

The programme is designed for a broad range of actors who play strategic decision-making roles in their organisations, including:

- Practitioners working in the development sector
- Mid-tier government officials in policy programmes
- Researchers, academicians, and economists
- Managers and project officers

Programme Fee and Deadline

- The fee for this programme is **PKR 125,000** per participant (includes tuition and workshop materials)
- Applications received by **November 09, 2020** are eligible for an early bird discount at **PKR 95,000** per participant
- The last date to register for the workshop is **November 20, 2020**

Application Process

We highly encourage you to apply as early as possible as class size is limited and enrolment is on a first-come basis. To apply to the programme, participants are required to submit an online application on our website: <https://www.cerp.org.pk/pages/application-form-ebpd>

"It is a firsthand application of research and practical analysis, and has validated the use of evidence in decision making by bringing in content that trickles down to identifying the core problem, and helps policy makers to formulate solutions, especially in a local context. The LEAPS study by Dr. Tahir Andrabi is a great reflection of how real-world problems are solved in the light of evidence and data."

Fareeha Armughan - Consultant, Sustainable Development Policy Institute (2019)

"Many new concepts were taught. The interactive nature of the sessions added a lot to the learning experience. Discussions among participants including their experiences with evidence based programme design were very interesting."

Assistant Director, State Bank of Pakistan (2018)

"CERP Training Courses are a rare mix of expertise, excellent teaching and a conducive learning environment. Truly a great learning experience."

Director General (M&E) - Planning & Development Department (Punjab) (2016)

Pedagogical Techniques

The programme uses a blend of pedagogical techniques, each of which adds its own flavour to the overall experience of our participants.

- **Lectures & Case Studies:** In-class lectures delivered by CERP's Board Members bring in a wealth of knowledge on the EPoD Smart Policy Design, effective M&E practices, sampling and data collection protocols and evaluation methods used in research. Case studies provide valuable insight into the local policy context and allow participants to engage directly with issues relevant to their fields.
- **Harvard University's Digital Modules: Building Capacity to Use Research Evidence (BCURE) - Blended Learning:** The course provides participants access to online digital modules developed by EPoD in collaboration with the Strengthening Learning and Teaching Excellence (SLATE) at Harvard. These modules aim to build skills for using data and evidence in decision-making through an innovative blended learning approach that integrates individual computer-based learning with active learning in the classroom.
- **Group Work:** Group work sessions run across all five days of the course, allowing participants to interact with peers from diverse backgrounds to develop solutions to assigned real-world problems by applying the Smart Policy Design framework. Participants will work under close mentorship of CERP faculty and training assistants to strategise and refine their design proposals. Groups will present their work on the final day of the course which will be followed by feedback from faculty and peers.

Faculty

The programme is led by renowned faculty from Harvard University, Duke University and Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS).

Payment

After applications are screened, the invoice will be dispatched to participant / sponsoring authority. Fees are to be paid in full within five working days upon receipt of the invoice (via bank transfer or by cheque). Participation in the session may only be confirmed after the payment is received.

Bank Name: Standard Chartered Bank (Pakistan) Limited

Account Title: Centre for Economic Research in Pakistan

Account Number: 08-7010606-01

IBAN: PK10 SCBL 0000 0067 0106 0601