



PEP SCHOOLS

TRAINING PROGRAMS IN DEVELOPMENT ECONOMICS

Personalized training in the most updated concepts and methodologies in development economics, provided by world leading experts



Partnership for Economic Policy

The **Partnership for Economic Policy (PEP)** is an international network of Southern research institutes, researchers and development practitioners, supported by international experts and devoted to ensuring greater participation of local expertise in the analysis of policy issues related to poverty, as well as economic and social development.

The PEP Network draws on the expertise of international experts in development economics to build capacities of economists and policy analysts around the world, especially those living in Southern countries, to better understand poverty and development issues to be addressed through policy.

Combining scientific expertise, field knowledge and experience, PEP experts and local researchers have developed sophisticated methodologies, tools and techniques for adaptation to the specific context and policy challenges of individual countries and regions.

www.pep-net.org

PEP SCHOOLS

PEP Schools provide intensive, advanced and flexible training in the understanding and promotion of social and economic development.



The courses are tailored for students, researchers and practitioners around the world who wish to conduct rigorous scientific analyses of issues related to poverty, development and economic policies.

An outstanding feature of the PEP training programs is the use of analytical tools and techniques developed by the Schools' own teaching team. These have become popular worldwide among development practitioners and analysts. The training material has also been developed by PEP's experts and trainers, some in collaboration with institutions such as the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the World Bank.

PEP School participants learn how to apply the most recent concepts, techniques and tools in development economics to help design effective national growth and poverty reduction strategies in their respective countries.

Courses are offered in the following areas:

Modeling the impacts of macroeconomic policies and shocks on development

Evaluating the impact of policies/program interventions on targeted populations

Measuring and analyzing poverty

Statistical monitoring of development



Delivery Mode

PEP training programs can be provided, on request, in each of the above-mentioned methodologies as a complete and independent course, usually - but not exclusively - based on the following structure:

Courses provided in the context of PEP Schools usually include two complementary components:

preliminary distance training and **on-site training workshops**

Distance training

Generally carried out over a 2 to 3 month period. Readings and exercises are provided to participants as an introduction. Participants can rely on technical support from PEP resource persons whenever needed.

Training workshop

The training workshop brings together participants and PEP resource persons in the same location, generally for a period of 7 to 10 days. Lectures, hands-on exercises and group assignments are important components of the delivery mode.

Costs can vary depending on the program selected, location, number of participants, etc..

Upon completion of either course, each participant obtains a certificate that officially testifies to his/her participation and training in the related techniques.

Such courses can also be credited towards completion of a University degree program, or in the context of employer-funded professional development programs.

Eligibility: participants must have completed an undergraduate program (or Bachelor degree) in Economics, or present academic and/or professional background that can be considered equivalent.

Implementation: PEP Schools can be delivered in all regions of the world - including Asia, Africa, Europe, North and Latin America - and training provided in French, English or Spanish.



Training workshops are usually organized in collaboration with host institutions in the country of delivery. The host institution provides the local infrastructure to hold the on-site training workshop, as well as basic services to operate the school.

Four PEP Training Programs

PEP offers Schools in four different areas of poverty and policy analysis. Each School consists of a complete training course, at the end of which participants are able to independently conduct rigorous and reliable analyses to assist in the design of effective national growth strategies and pro-poor policy and/or program interventions.



To inquire about the current schedule and location of PEP Schools, or about organizing a new PEP School in your country/region, please contact the PEP secretariat at pep@ecn.ulaval.ca

Description of PEP Schools - see next 3 pages

Modelling the impacts of macroeconomic policies and shocks

This course trains participants in constructing models of their national economy and conducting simulations in order to forecast the impact of macroeconomic shocks/policies on an economy's multiple agents, sectors and the various dimensions of poverty and welfare within the country.

CGE modeling techniques

PEP activities in terms of training and innovations in the field of economic modelling stand out among the Network's most widely acknowledged contributions to the advancement of policy analysis in development economics.

PEP resource persons are internationally known for developing a series of Computable General Equilibrium (CGE) reference models that allow more country-specific and extensive applications, especially in the context of developing country economies.

Expected outcomes

Participants will learn how to build and use CGE models, from simple to more complex representations of national economies, to conduct simulations of economic and policy shocks and to interpret the results, i.e. the forecasted impacts and outcomes on the economy's agents and sectors.

They will also acquire basic command of techniques and tools that are essential to CGE analysis, such as Social Accounting Matrices (SAMs) and GAMS software.

Specific objectives

- Understand how to use CGE models to analyze economic policies in both developed and developing economies
- Understand the data requirements and statistical needs to implementing these models;
- Have a basic command of the GAMS software;
- Understand the economic theory and logic underlying CGE models;
- Be able to build, run and adapt a model to represent country characteristics
- Be able to interpret and explain results generated by a CGE model



Impact Evaluations

This course trains participants in the conduct of rigorous evaluations of the impact of social policies or programs on targeted populations. Through either an experimental or non-experimental approach, trainees will learn to collect and compare data on both treatment and control groups, to ultimately produce crucial empirical evidence on the actual efficiency/success of specific policies and/or program interventions in achieving their expected outcomes.

Policy Impact Evaluation Research Initiative

In recent years, among various methodological trends in the field of development research, that of impact evaluations has certainly gained the most attention - and popularity - amongst policymakers and program implementers in developing countries.

With the implementation, in 2007, of the Policy Impact Evaluation Research Initiative (PIERI), PEP was one of the first organizations to promote the conduct of such evaluations by teams of local researchers in the South. As such, its expertise in the application of the related methods is now valued by other institutions, researchers and research-users worldwide.

Program's objectives

The participants will:

- learn methodological and practical aspects of policy impact evaluation research
- understand the advantages and challenges of each of the techniques involved in impact evaluation research
- be able to choose the appropriate evaluation approach in different contexts
- interpret and communicate the evaluation results to both academic and non-academic audiences.

The course involves:

- An introduction to the micro-econometric approach to impact evaluation, the notion of counterfactual, the parameters of interest
- An introduction to social experiments: theory and practical issues
- An introduction to non-experimental impact evaluation: difference-in-difference, matching and regression discontinuity techniques



The following two Schools focus on concepts, techniques and tools to monitor, measure and analyse poverty, equity and related issues in a multidimensional setting, primarily using household survey data. They make extensive use of two world-renowned software packages developed by PEP: **Distributive Analysis/Analyse Distributive (DAD)** and the Stata-compatible **Distributive Analysis for Stata Package (DASP)**.

Measuring and Analyzing Poverty

This course teaches participants how to use monetary and non-monetary approaches to measure and analyse poverty in a multidimensional setting.

It introduces tools that are useful to prepare reliable and robust poverty profiles, as well as to understand and forecast the impact on poverty of changes in various economic and non-economic factors.

Methodologically, it involves among other things the measurement and the comparison of monetary and multi-dimensional poverty, the construction and estimation of poverty lines, as well as exercise of poverty and social impact analyses.

Specific objectives

- Understand the features, advantages and disadvantages of the main approaches to measuring and analyzing well-being;
- Construct poverty profiles that are reliable and robust from both measurement and statistical perspectives, using case studies and national survey databases;
- Be able to estimate monetary poverty lines;
- Be familiar with the use of ordinal and qualitative indicators of well-being and the construction of composite (multidimensional) indices of poverty;
- Be able to model and discuss the impact of policies and shocks on well-being and poverty.

Statistical Monitoring of Development

This course explores the theory and the application of probability sampling for the construction and the optimal use of surveys in monitoring human development and profiling poverty.

It involves a review of different types of data needed; simulation experiments; actual case studies and national survey data; evaluation of estimates used in the monitoring of development; elaboration of optimal survey plans for poverty measurement, based in part on past survey experience.

Specific objectives

- Be able to understand the structure of simple and complex sampling methods;
- Select the statistical variables needed to compute reliable indicators of poverty and development;
- Compute the sampling weights necessary to estimate unbiased measures of poverty;
- Use survey data to construct statistically sound poverty profiles and perform statistical inference on them.

PEP TRAINING STAFF

World leading experts in the field of development economics

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