Outcome Harvesting for Complex Development Programmes

Outcome Harvesting is a highly participatory evaluation tool that enables evaluators, grant makers and managers to identify, formulate, verify, and make sense of outcomes they have influenced. It is especially useful in complex situations when, at the time of planning, a lot is unknown and predefining outcomes is difficult. Unlike some other methods, Outcome Harvesting does not measure progress towards predetermined outcomes, but rather collects evidence of what has been achieved in terms of behavioural changes and works backwards to determine whether and how the intervention contributed to these changes. In response to Outcome Harvesting having become mainstream in recent years, Ricardo Wilson-Grau, who developed the approach, wrote with practitioners’ contributions the book Outcome Harvesting, Principles, Steps and Evaluation Applications that was published in November 2018. The website www.OutcomeHarvesting.Net and its discussion forum is devoted to supporting the growing number of Outcome Harvesting practitioners around the world. Ricardo was a trainer in our Summer School for years and we dedicate this course to him. He passed away in December 2018.

Expected Result > Participants will have sufficient knowledge, skills and understanding about the concepts, the 6 steps as well as the 9 principles in Outcome Harvesting to be able to continue learning and adapt the Outcome Harvesting approach to monitoring and evaluation to their specific needs.

This course is for > monitoring and evaluation consultants, advisors and managers of development and social change with no previous experience with Outcome Harvesting. Participants should have some background in M&E methods and practices.

Methodology > The workshop embodies the hands-on, participatory values that are at the core of this user-focused approach, combining theory and examples with group discussion, individual reflection and small group practical exercises all revolving around a case study especially written for this workshop. Special attention is given to dealing with the uncertainty about the causal relationships linking inputs, activities and outputs with the outcomes of development interventions. Participants will apply all concepts embodied in the six steps in working groups. The nine underlying principles will be explained throughout the workshop with examples from evaluative experience. Thus, participants will build their practical capacities and leave the course with skills in adapting this tool to evaluate interventions for the purposes of both accountability and improving performance.

More information on the detailed course programme will be available soon

Dates and location> TO BE CONFIRMED (3 full days), Bologna, Italy
Staff> Letizia Parolini, Andrea Wolfe
Instructor> Conny Hoitink
Application Deadlines: Early Review Deadline: TO BE CONFIRMED
General Application Deadline: TO BE CONFIRMED
How to apply: Write by email to: summer-school@cid-bo.org
Enrolment Fees: 900 Euros (early review)
1050 Euros (general application)