

# EVIDENCE-BASED POLICY IN ACTION

MAXIMISE EVIDENCE  
FOR FORWARD THINKING  
POLICY DEVELOPMENT



28 - 29  
JANUARY 2021

ONLINE DELIVERY

## EXPLORE

- ▶ Navigate evidence-based policy fundamentals
- ▶ Provide sound strategic, evidence-based analysis and forward-looking policy advice
- ▶ Understand and use scientific and non-scientific opinions and their anticipated impact on policy-making
- ▶ Maximise qualitative and quantitative data sets
- ▶ Unpack common misconceptions around evidence-based policy
- ▶ Explore the role of evidence in risk management
- ▶ Understand seven golden rules of using evidence in public policy setting
- ▶ Navigate cognitive biases in decision making
- ▶ Develop your team's enthusiasm and capacity to effectively use evidence
- ▶ Practical applications of evidence-based policy

## EXPERT FACILITATOR



**Rob Richards**  
Director  
Evidentiary

## ASK THE EXPERTS

Join us and  
our expert  
panel!



## VIRTUAL EVENT

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## ABOUT THE EVENT

For today's policy officers, expectations to produce new ideas and demonstrate more willingness to question the status quo are the norm. However, rather than bowing to public or political pressure, it is vital to make objective decisions based on the best available evidence and data available. As our appetite for data increases, there is growing emphasis on using tangible evidence and real-time data to inform policy. But how do you determine if the evidence is robust enough to be taken seriously in government decision-making?

It is more important than ever to identify the right data, make better use of evidence and research and use it to focus on policies that will deliver long term goals.

This comprehensive, highly interactive workshop takes a hands-on approach to evidence-based policy. You will explore strategies and tools to maximise research, evidence and data to make policy more effective and stand the test of time.

## TRAINING DELIVERY AND PRE-COURSE QUESTIONNAIRE

This workshop will be delivered using a three tiered approach. The structure of each session is as follows:

1. Technical overview and review of research into the topic area under discussion
2. Practical application of management principles in the review of case studies, worked examples and interactive exercises
3. Discussion of outcomes and implementation issues

Workshop participants will have the opportunity to include comments and questions about issues outlined in the program by way of a pre-course questionnaire. This feedback will enable the course facilitator to adjust content accordingly. The workshop has limited places to allow for customisation, greater interactivity and for individual concerns to be addressed.

## DAY ONE

### Explore when and why evidence-based policy works

- ▶ Define and differentiate evidence, expert knowledge and opinion
- ▶ Explore how political, societal, organisational and intellectual factors determine the use of evidence in policy
- ▶ Understand the structures and practices needed for effective evidence use
- ▶ Identify the key factors in EBP and which strategies they deploy in the policy-making process

### Balance the risks and benefits of forward-thinking policy

- ▶ Understand the role of evidence in uncertainty and risk
- ▶ Embrace risk and uncertainty in sound policy development and implementation
- ▶ Move from brain bubble to brilliance - Intuitive and predictive evidence-based policy
- ▶ Ask "the right effective" questions at different stages of the policy cycle to drive evidence collation
- ▶ Recognise "red flags" for untrustworthy evidence

### Leverage cognitive biases in decision making

- ▶ Understand and apply critical thinking
- ▶ Dissect cognitive biases and their influence
- ▶ Recognise and accommodate cognitive biases
- ▶ Conduct a policy pre-mortem to reduce bias

**BOOK  
BEFORE  
27 OCTOBER,  
SAVE  
\$400**

## DAY TWO

### Practical and effective evidence-based tools for good policy development and implementation

- ▶ Plan and develop a policy story using a logic model
- ▶ Identify essential outcomes
- ▶ Explore assumptions, risk and evidence on logic models
- ▶ Apply a policy pre-mortem
- ▶ Identify policy problems - risk and the impediments to change
- ▶ Use 'theory of change' to build policy rigour
- ▶ Apply real evidence to test logic model
- ▶ Guide multiple policy levers to achieve regulatory, economic and social outcomes

### Plan how to monitor and evaluate the success of your story

- ▶ Strategies to identify key milestones for monitoring and evaluation
- ▶ Identify measurable indicators of success at each stage of the policy cycle
- ▶ Make the shift from operational measures to outcomes and measures of success

### Communicate your policy story effectively

- ▶ Identify your policy development and delivery partners
- ▶ Create effective communication strategies and service delivery partnerships
- ▶ Make your case - Communicate effectively about your new policy proposal or implementation plan
- ▶ Prepare for review - effectively communicate and evaluate your policy or program story

### ASK THE EXPERTS

1:00 - 2:40

Join our panel of experts as they share their personal experiences in developing, implementing and evaluating policies and programmes. Explore a range of scenarios that look at best practice strategies to overcome roadblocks for using evidence in policy and programme development, and unpack how we can encourage a culture of evidence informed policy.

**Rachelle Bonner**  
Director Afghanistan, Africa & UN Peacekeeping  
Department of Defence

**Matthew James**  
Deputy Chief Executive Officer  
Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

## YOUR FACILITATOR

Rob Richards is the Director of Evidentiary Pty Ltd and has over 30 years professional experience in the public and private sectors, working within the sustainability, environmental, health and resource management sectors. Rob is an Adjunct Professional Associate of the University of Canberra, lectures on evidence-based policy at Monash University and was recently on the Board of the International Collaboration for Environmental Evidence (CEE)



**Rob Richards**  
Director  
Evidentiary

## WHO WILL ATTEND?

Aspiring leaders in policy and program roles

- ▶ Policy Officers / Managers
- ▶ Policy Advisors
- ▶ Program Managers / Administrators
- ▶ Stakeholder Engagement Managers
- ▶ Compliance Officers
- ▶ Branch Managers
- ▶ Research Officers
- ▶ Stakeholder / Community Engagement
- ▶ Policy Consulting

## WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

- 8.30 - 9.00 Sign in
- 9.00 - 10.40 Session One
- 10.40 - 11.00 Morning Tea
- 11.00 - 12.30 Session Two
- 12.30 - 1.30 Lunch
- 1.30 - 3.00 Session Three
- 3.00 - 3.20 Afternoon Tea
- 3.20 - 4.30 Session Four
- 4.30 Close of Workshop

