

Course No. 1748

Evidence-Based Policy Making Training Course

**PUBLIC POLICY & GOVERNANCE
GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC SECTOR**

DURATION

5 Days

LOCATION

Lisbon, Portugal

DELIVERY

Classroom

DATES

28 Dec 2026 – 1 Jan 2027



Scheduled Event Details

CITY	Lisbon, Portugal
DATE	28 Dec 2026 – 1 Jan 2027
DELIVERY TYPE	Classroom
COURSE FEE	€5,400

Course Overview

The Evidence-Based Policy Making Training Course provides a practical and strategic framework for developing, assessing, and improving public policies through reliable evidence, structured analysis, and transparent decision-making. The program is designed for government institutions, ministries, public-sector organizations, and policy professionals seeking to strengthen the quality, relevance, and effectiveness of policies and government interventions.

Effective public policy requires more than identifying problems and proposing solutions. Policymakers need to understand the underlying causes of policy challenges, assess available evidence, compare alternative interventions, evaluate potential impacts, and make informed decisions within real-world constraints. Evidence-based policy making provides a systematic approach for connecting data, research, stakeholder insights, institutional knowledge, and policy priorities with practical government decisions.

The course covers the policy development cycle, including problem definition, evidence identification, data and research assessment, stakeholder analysis, policy option development, impact assessment, cost and benefit considerations, implementation planning, monitoring, evaluation, and policy review. Participants will learn how to distinguish reliable evidence from assumptions and opinions and how to translate analytical findings into clear policy recommendations.

Particular emphasis is placed on applying evidence to complex government decisions. Participants will explore qualitative and quantitative evidence, policy research, administrative data, performance information, comparative analysis, scenario analysis, stakeholder consultation, and evaluation findings. The program also addresses common challenges such as incomplete evidence, conflicting findings, uncertainty, data limitations, political and operational constraints, and competing stakeholder interests.

Through practical case studies, policy analysis exercises, evidence assessment, stakeholder mapping, policy option comparison, impact analysis, and policy recommendation workshops, participants will develop practical capabilities to produce stronger policy analysis, communicate evidence effectively, support accountable decision-making, and improve the effectiveness and sustainability of public policies.

Objectives

- Analyze the principles and foundations of evidence-based policy making in the public sector.
- Define policy problems clearly using structured problem analysis and available evidence.
- Identify, assess, and organize relevant quantitative and qualitative evidence for policy decisions.
- Evaluate the credibility, relevance, limitations, and applicability of different evidence sources.
- Apply analytical techniques to understand policy problems, causes, impacts, and stakeholder interests.
- Develop and compare alternative policy options against defined criteria and government priorities.
- Assess the potential economic, social, operational, regulatory, and institutional impacts of policy options.
- Apply structured approaches to stakeholder analysis and evidence-informed consultation.
- Develop evidence-based policy recommendations that clearly connect findings with proposed actions.
- Design monitoring and evaluation approaches for assessing policy implementation and outcomes.
- Communicate complex evidence and analytical findings clearly to executives, policymakers, and decision makers.
- Develop a practical framework for integrating evidence into the policy development and review cycle.

Who Should Attend

This training course is designed for government executives, policy directors, senior managers, policy analysts, strategic planning professionals, researchers, and public-sector officials involved in policy development, analysis, implementation, monitoring, or evaluation.

It is particularly relevant to ministries, government authorities, regulatory bodies, public agencies, municipalities, and public-sector organizations responsible for developing policies, strategies, regulations, programs, and public interventions. The course is also valuable for professionals seeking to strengthen the analytical foundations supporting government decisions and public-sector reforms.

The program will benefit policy advisors, economists, data and research specialists, performance professionals, program managers, regulatory professionals, monitoring and evaluation specialists, governance professionals, public administration specialists, and senior decision makers who need to interpret evidence, assess policy alternatives, and translate analytical findings into practical recommendations.

Learning Outcomes

- Explain the principles and stages of evidence-based policy making.
- Define complex policy problems using structured analytical approaches.
- Identify appropriate sources of quantitative, qualitative, administrative, and research evidence.
- Assess the quality, reliability, relevance, limitations, and potential bias of evidence.
- Analyze policy problems by examining causes, consequences, affected groups, and institutional factors.
- Conduct stakeholder analysis and assess different interests, perspectives, and potential impacts.
- Develop and compare alternative policy options using transparent decision criteria.
- Assess the potential impacts, implementation requirements, risks, and trade-offs associated with policy options.
- Develop clear evidence-based policy recommendations supported by relevant analysis.
- Design practical monitoring and evaluation approaches for government policies and programs.
- Communicate evidence and policy findings effectively to senior executives and decision makers.

- Identify evidence gaps and determine additional research or data requirements.
- Apply scenario analysis and structured thinking when evidence is incomplete or uncertain.
- Develop an evidence-informed policy development and review framework for a government organization.

Course Outline

DAY 01

Foundations of Evidence-Based Policy Making

- Principles and objectives of evidence-based policy making
- The role of evidence in government decision-making
- The public policy cycle and key decision points
- Defining policy problems and identifying root causes
- Policy questions, assumptions, and evidence requirements
- Types of policy evidence and sources of information

PRACTICAL APPLICATION

Define a real or simulated policy problem and develop an initial evidence framework

DAY 02

Evidence Collection, Assessment & Policy Analysis

- Identifying relevant research and administrative data
- Quantitative and qualitative evidence in policy analysis
- Assessing evidence quality, reliability, relevance, and limitations
- Understanding uncertainty, conflicting evidence, and information gaps
- Data interpretation and analytical reasoning
- Comparative analysis and benchmarking for policy development

PRACTICAL APPLICATION

Assess multiple evidence sources and determine their usefulness for a selected policy decision

DAY 03**Policy Options, Impact Assessment & Stakeholder Analysis**

- Developing alternative policy options
- Defining criteria for comparing policy alternatives
- Stakeholder identification and influence analysis
- Understanding social, economic, operational, and regulatory impacts
- Assessing implementation feasibility and institutional capacity
- Risk, uncertainty, trade-offs, and unintended consequences

PRACTICAL APPLICATION

Develop and compare policy options for a selected government policy challenge

DAY 04**Policy Recommendations, Implementation & Evaluation**

- Translating evidence into policy recommendations
- Building a logical connection between evidence, analysis, and proposed action
- Policy implementation planning and institutional responsibilities
- Developing policy objectives, performance measures, and indicators
- Monitoring policy implementation and outcomes
- Policy evaluation approaches and learning mechanisms

PRACTICAL APPLICATION

Prepare an evidence-based policy recommendation and implementation framework

DAY 05**Strategic Policy Decision-Making & Continuous Improvement**

- Communicating evidence to executives and policymakers
- Preparing policy briefs and decision-oriented analytical reports
- Presenting uncertainty, limitations, risks, and trade-offs
- Scenario analysis and evidence-informed decision-making under uncertainty

DAY 05 — CONTINUED

- Integrating evidence into governance, strategy, and performance management
- Policy review, learning, adaptation, and continuous improvement
- Building an institutional culture of evidence-informed decision-making

FINAL WORKSHOP

Develop a complete evidence-based policy framework covering problem definition, evidence collection, evidence assessment, stakeholder analysis, policy options, impact assessment, implementation requirements, risks and trade-offs, monitoring, evaluation, policy recommendations, executive communication, and continuous policy improvement.

Register or Request More Information

Course page: <https://quest-training.com/courses/evidence-based-policy-making-training-course>

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