

AITCC, Pathumthani, Thailand

4 July, 2008

Description	Evaluation of programs, either before they are designed or after they are implemented, are increasingly viewed as a critical for learning and improving accountability of public policies. Many argue for an expanded role for rigorous impact evaluation of development projects, programs, and policies and the development community increasingly recognizes the need for evidence on effectiveness. Unfortunately, resource and environmental economists have little or no training or guidance on how to conduct such evaluations using sound and rigorous empirical methods. While there are many texts explaining the how and why of impact evaluations, these ideas have not been mapped into the 'environment and development' context and terminology. Thus, this day long course will serve as an introduction and a refresher for evaluation of programs, projects and policies in the environment and development arena.	
Faculty	Subhrendu Pattanayak and E. Somanathan	
Hall 1		
9:00	Fundamentals of Program Evaluation	General overview of the what, how, and why of program evaluation, with particular emphasis on the role of control groups, pre-&-post measurement, and covariate data to define counterfactual scenarios (including formal definition of all terms).
10:15	Tea/Coffee Break	
10:30	Methods	Review of detailed examples of the three main methods for evaluation – randomized experiments, natural experiments, and matching methods – with a clear description of the pros and cons of each method.
1:15	Lunch	
2:00	Assignment	Working through 1 or 2 examples using data and statistical analyses
3:30	Tea/Coffee Break	
4:00	Discussion and Conclusions	Placing econometric evaluations within the broader context – how can we move beyond estimation of average treatment effects; what do we do under time, resource and data constraints; when and where should we rely on theory-based evaluations
5:00	Evaluation and Wrap-Up	