



IPDET

International Program for Development Evaluation Training



July 15 - August 2 | Bern, Switzerland



EVALUATION REPORT 2019



Key facts

Profil | The International Program for Development Evaluation Training (IPDET) is an executive training program that aims to provide **evaluation commissioners, managers and practitioners** with the tools required to evaluate policies, programs, and projects at the local, national, regional, and global levels. The program is highly responsive to the changing international environment, addressing the requirements of new development policies and delivery mechanisms that favour local ownership, increased national accountability, and partnership.

Date | July 15 - August 2, 2019

Venue | for the second time at the University of Bern/Switzerland

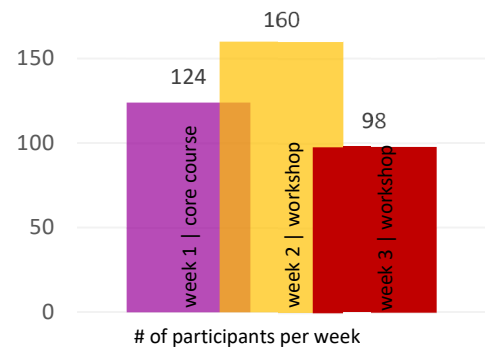
Hosts | The consortium of Center for Continuing Education (ZUW) at the University of Bern/Switzerland, the Center for Evaluation (CEval) in Germany and the Independent Evaluation Group (IEG) of the World Bank unites long-standing expertise in evaluation training with strong faculty and field experience.

Course Format | one week of **core course** on fundamentals of evaluation, two weeks of **workshops** with 20 different workshops. Participants could attend any combination of weeks in the program or individual workshops. The program also included special guest speakers, networking events, and more to enable interaction with other participants and with experts in the field. Specific didactics and group work were used to integrate diverse perspectives and ensure that the wide variety of participant experiences was valued.

Participants | in total **229** participants from **82** countries.

Objective | **Building capacity in development evaluation by providing a platform to:**

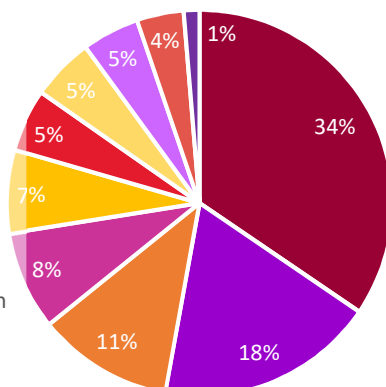
- develop knowledge of evaluation concepts, processes, and methods;
- gain or enhance specific skills in commissioning, managing, designing, conducting, and using evaluations of development programs and programs as part of national development plans, and national monitoring and evaluation systems;
- develop a systemic perspective on evaluation capacity development;
- learn peer-to-peer among people from around the globe who are engaged in evaluation, and deepen networks for collaboration and knowledge sharing



Participant profile info

Region | IPDET aims at enhancing evaluation capacity around the world and to build bridges between evaluation professionals from different regions. IPDET has continually been attracting a diverse range of participants

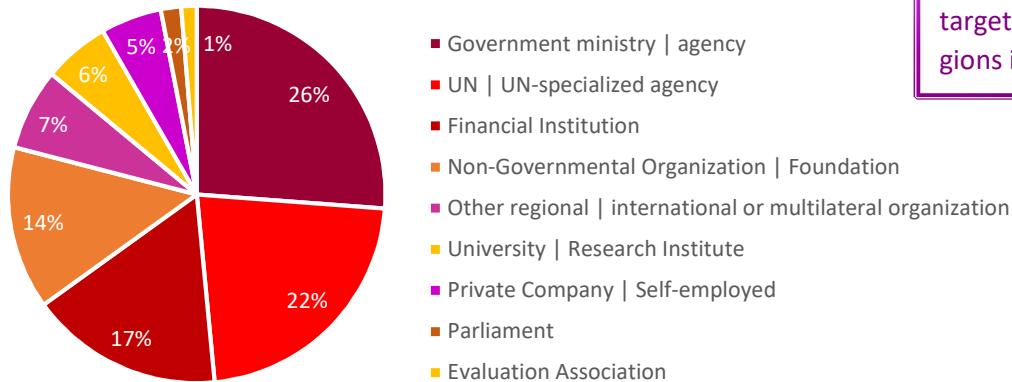
- Europe
- Sub-Saharan Africa
- North America
- North Africa and Middle East
- Central Asia
- South America
- Southeast Asia and Pacific
- Central America and Caribbean
- South Asia
- East Asia



while maintaining high standards of excellence among its participants. European countries have the highest share of participants, followed by Sub-Saharan Africa, North America and North Africa and the Middle East, and Central Asia.

Professional background | about two-thirds of all participants are working for governmental, UN or financial institutions

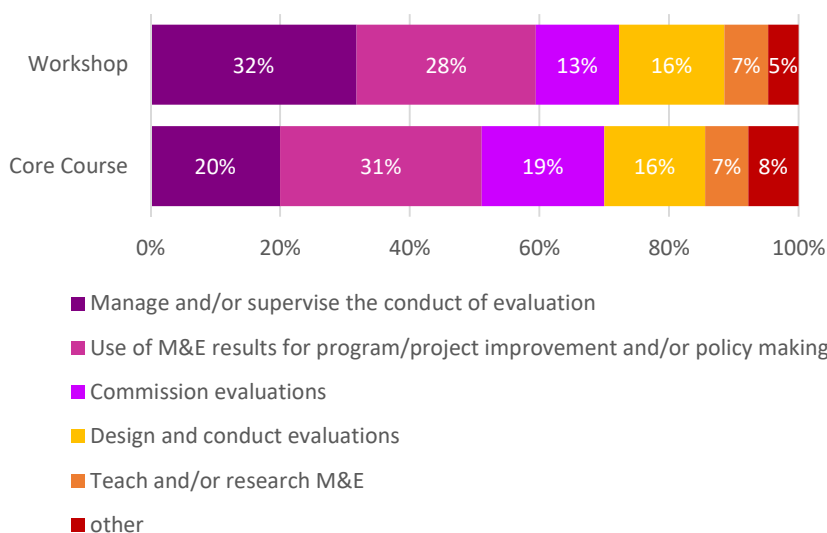
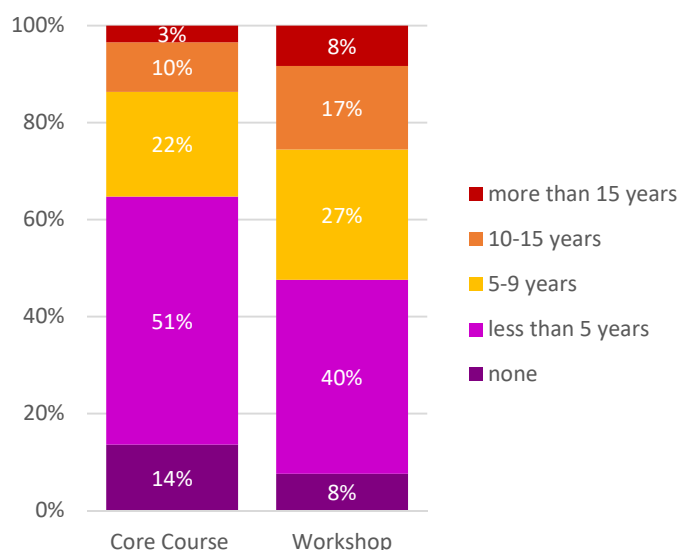
Implication for next year: The marketing outreach for 2020 will consider targeting the underrepresented regions in a more pronounced manner.



Gender: female / male
58% / 42%

Experience in evaluation | IPDET offers capacity development at all levels: on the one hand, the core course and a part of the workshops deliver fundamentals of M&E; on the other hand, advanced workshops provide a space for highly experienced professionals to deepen their knowledge on cutting-edge topics and share their expertise. This structure is well reflected with 65% of core course participants having none or less than 5 years of experience in the field, whereas more than 50% of workshop participants had more than 5 years of experience. 8% of workshop participants have been working in the field of evaluation for even more than ten years.

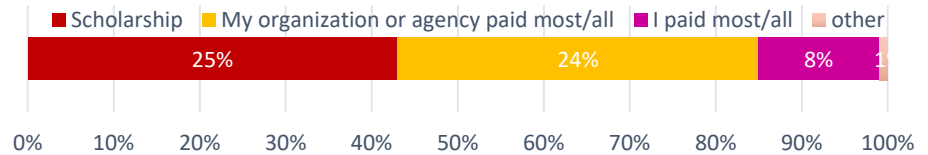
(data based on 88 core course and 145 workshop survey participants)



Primary evaluation function in the work place | Up to 70% respondents manage and supervise the conduct of evaluations, commission them or use the results for program improvement and policy making in their organization. 16% designs and conducts evaluations and 7% belong to the academic field of research.

The fact that around one third of IPDET participants are users of M&E results reflects the increasing demand of non-evaluators to gain professional knowledge on M&E.

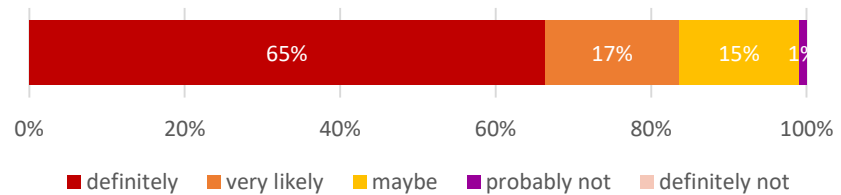
Funding | 74 participants were awarded with a two-weeks scholarship.



Participant's assessment

Evaluation design | Online surveys were collected on-site during the whole three weeks of the program after each course/workshop with overall participation of **73%** of all participants

Satisfaction | Overall more than 80% of respondents would definitely or probably recommend IPDET to colleagues



Core Course | Overall roughly 70% of all respondents said they did **benefit considerably and strongly**. 80% also stated that the knowledge they acquired during the core course is **applicable to their own work**. The quality and delivery as well as the didactical and organizational structure received strong positive feedback. Highlights were the content of lectures and small group activities, the coherence between the modules, the adequate mix of didactical approaches, handling of the time management and the quality of the course material. The instructors received very good ratings with at least 80% of the respondents agreeing with the possession of a strong expertise in his or her field, the ability to convey the content appropriate to the course level and the provision of meaningful feedback to the respondents' comments.

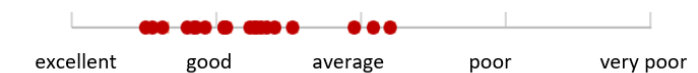


Suggestions for improvements | comments included the involvement of interdisciplinary respondents' background and knowledge to a greater extent, the balance between input and practice throughout the core course, and the wish to have more real examples and case studies.

Implication for next year:

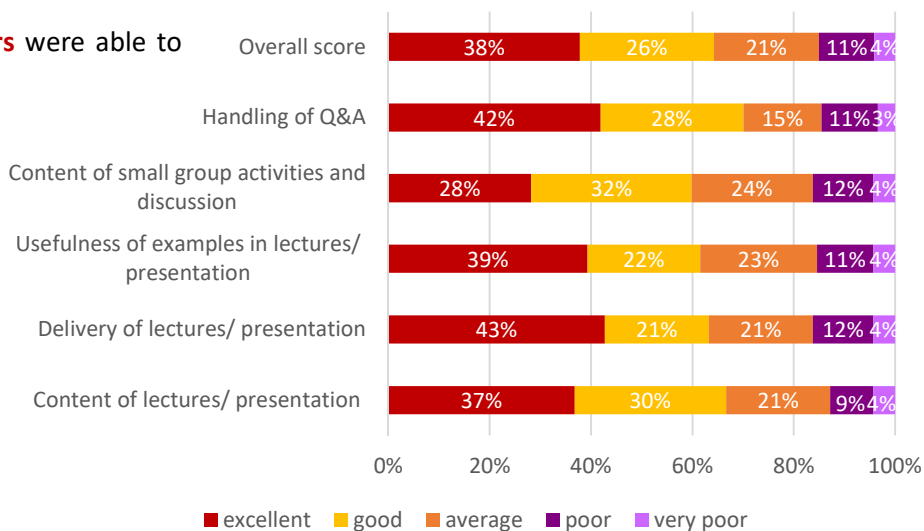
the new set-up with 5 instructors will be kept due to the highly positive feedback. The instructor team will continue to modify and adapt the content, including group work based on relevant case studies and real life examples.

Workshops | More than 60% of survey participants rated the workshops as good or excellent in all criteria regarding content, delivery, usefulness, group work and Q&A. Around 15% of respondents are not satisfied with the delivery of the workshops. When combining all these criteria to an overall score, 17 out of the 21 workshops were rated as good. Overall **65%** of all respondents stated that they gained **a lot or considerable knowledge** during their workshop. Furthermore, more than **90%** agreed that the **instructors** were able to promote and guide discussions.



[Graph: Overall score rating. Each dot represents one of the 21 workshops]

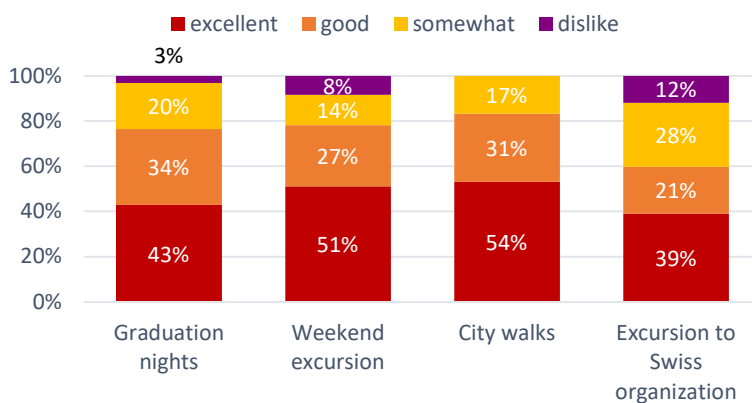
Implication for next year:
The workshops will be clearer labelled to differentiate between different target audiences and advanced levels.



One thing you would change about IPDET | most often mentioned were more practical contents, differentiated difficulty levels and – due to the heat wave – improved air conditioning in the university.

Events and social program |

Various events took place during the three week program, including keynote speeches and graduation nights, excursions to Swiss organizations in the field of evaluation and leisure time activities. Overall, **up to 85%** of those who participated considered the different activities good or excellent.



Accommodation and food | Due to the large amount of participants, it is very common to rely on student housing during long-term training courses, especially since it is the most economical option. The **accommodation service** – valid only for those who booked the fullboard option – was rated as **good or excellent by about half** of all respondents. The **food service** was each rated as good or excellent, average or as (very) poor **by one third** of the respondents.

Implication for next year
The IPDET team will publish **more information** on the homepage to clarify different options and expectations around accommodation and food.