



EUROPEAN UNION  
European Social Fund



GOVERNMENT OF ROMANIA  
Ministry of Regional Development  
and Public Administration



Innovation in Administration  
Operational Programme  
"Administrative Capacity Development"

Project co-financed by the European Social Fund through the 2007 – 2013 Operational Programme "Administrative Capacity Development"

## **PUBLIC POLICY ANALYSIS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION PROFESSIONALS (CONCEPT AND DRAFT AGENDA)**

### **Overall Objectives**

The key objective of the program is to equip professionals in higher education with a set of modern, effective, "hands-on" public policy analysis tools, which will enable them to formulate well-designed policies with high chances of being adopted in the decision-making process. The main focus is on a sequence of stages in the policy making cycle and in applying the new concepts to a study cases in education, including at least one study case brought forward by each participant.

The learning steps from problem definition, stakeholder analysis, options analysis to cost effectiveness will offer the participants an approach for real situations they deal with. Through case studies and group activities, participants will also reflect, analytically, on the limitations of handbook tools in real life situations and how these can be overcome through reframing the issues at stake.

In order to tie this workshop to the learning objectives of the policy manual, the separate Public Policy Handbook (Manual) in Education will be used prior to the date of the workshop, as preparative background material (two chapters). Using the draft of the handbook, participants will present a public policy problem in the format recommended and will highlight areas that they want to improve on during the workshop.

The working languages of the program are Romania and English.

### **Participants**

40 experts, selected through a closed call for applications, from national bodies involved in public policy formulation, analysis and evaluation (MEN, UEFISCDI, ARACIS, CNS, ANC).

### **Format**

Date: 28 November – December 1st, 2013 (Sunday is optional and has one lecture)

Location: Snagov (see email related to travel by Delia Gologan from UEFISCDI, for those reaching us later, separately – see <http://www.miragehotel.ro/>, bus leaves from 1, Schitu Magureanu St., the UEFISCDI address)

### **Suggested public Policy paper (1 page)**

Suggestion: Public Policy problem described in a maximum of 1 page will help you in this workshop if you formulate it in advance

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**Draft Agenda & Curriculum**

**Thursday, 28 December**

13:15 – Bus leaves Bucharest (1, Schitu Magureanu St., in front of the Buleandra Theatre)

14:30 - Arrival of participants & Accommodation

15:00 -15:45 **Introductory remarks/ get to know each other session (all 40 participants). Why are you here? What are your expectations? (Hotel Mirage, Ground Floor)**  
**Welcome words from UEFISCDI General Director (5 minutes) and SAR Team (1 minute)**

15:45 – 16:15 Ice-breaking exercise – find someone with a similar problem to yours

16:15 – 16:45 **Break in groups of 2-5 people and define your problem more clearly using the 8 step method (Bardach)**

*Participants move to the two separate seminar rooms both on the ground floor of Hotel Mirage.*

16:45 – 17:00 Short coffee break

17:00 – 18:30: **Lecture 1 by Corina Murafa and Razvan Orasanu "Evidence based policy making. Data analysis"** (all 40 participants)

What are the existing data that can be of help in drafting and implementing evidence-based policies in higher education? How can they be accessed? Having access to the right data can help correct the difference between perception and reality.

Includes 30 min practical workshop by Corina Murafa and Razvan Orasanu on evidence gathering in SAR education program, but also concrete examples of real data on education from existing databases.

*Break up into groups*

18:30 – 19:00 **Practical Wrap-up of Day 1 by Corina Murafa and Razvan Orasanu – Group Writing// Group Study**

**Assignment 1:** 500 words and a data analysis exercise to substantiate problem definition. Razvan Orasanu and Corina Murafa (and possibly Peter Rado) will walk between groups of participants offering clarifications and practical advice.

Most of this session will be in groups, but occasional breakouts are possible to clarify recurring issues. 7 minutes at the end for conclusions as a whole group.

*Feedback questionnaire*

19:30 – 20.30 Buffet dinner and socialization– entire group



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**Friday, 29 December**

09:30 – 11:00 **Lecture 2 by Alina-Mungiu Pippidi, Hertie School of Governance, SAR President: "Tools of Government"** (lecture to be delivered to all 40 seminar participants)

11:00 – 11:30 Coffee break, chance to catch up with every seminar leader: Alina Mungiu Pippidi, Peter Rado, Razvan Orasanu, Corina Murafa

11:30 – 13:00 **Lecture 3 by Alina-Mungiu Pippidi, Hertie School of Governance, SAR President: "Mechanisms of Policy Problems"** (lecture to be delivered to all 40 seminar participants)

Theoretical approaches to public policy 1. What are market failures and what are the limits of the market failure approach? 2. What are collective actions problems and how to approach them? 3. What is government failure?

Public choice theory: rent-seeking and log rolling. Transaction costs. Other over-arching issues

13:00 – 13:40 Lunch

13:40 – 15:30 **Lecture 4 by Alina Mungiu-Pippidi, Hertie School of Governance, SAR President – "Constructing Alternatives in Policy Formulation"** (all 40 participants)

15:30 -16:00 Coffee break

16:00- 17:30 **Lecture 5 - Policy Tools in the Education Sector "Landmark policy analysis tools. Case studies from the sector of education."** Seminar by senior expert Peter Rado

17:35 – 18:30 **Parallel sessions held by Corina Murafa and Razvan Orasanu**

- Difference between policy research and policy analysis
- The Policy Cycle: Steps of Policy-Making (agenda setting, formulation, adoption, implementation, evaluation, adaptation, succession, termination)
- Effectiveness, efficiency, inclusivity, accountability in the policy cycle
- The role of policy analysis in the policy process

*Bibliography: Eugene Bardach slides by Razvan Orasanu and Corina Murafa, Policy Cycle Hand-out written by Razvan Orasanu handed out in advance*

18:30 – 19:30 **Practical exercise by Corina Murafa and Razvan Orasanu**

**Assignment 2: Stakeholder analysis and definitions.** Razvan Orasanu / Corina Murafa will walk between groups of participants offering clarifications and practical advice.

19:30 – Dinner with all the lecturers, except Alina Mungiu-Pippidi



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### **Saturday, 30 December**

9:30 – 10:30 **Debriefing of previous days - two separate groups of 20 people each** (Facilitators Corina Murafa, Razvan Orasanu and Peter Rado)

Workshop for groups of 2-5 working on similar problem based on prior pair-up. **Team exercise:** Assignment 2 discussed in different groups.

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee break

11:00 – 13:00 **Lecture 5 – "Indicators in Policy Evaluation". Lecture by SAR Affiliated Expert and Policy Evaluation Expert Valentin Ariton**

Include brief presentation of indicators (input, output, impact) – the distinction between them and practical examples.

Facilitator: Valentin Ariton

**Includes Assignment 3 – Indicators and evaluation methods**

13:30 – 14:30 Lunch

14:30 – 16:00 **Lecture 6 by Razvan Orasanu, SAR Research Director**– Outcomes, performance indicators, league tables and implementation plans of policies

16:00 – 16:30 Coffee break – you can catch up individually with Peter Rado, Valentin Ariton, Corina Murafa and Razvan Orasanu

16:30 – 18:00 **Practical Wrap-up of Day 3**

In groups of 2-5, for half an hour each group, participants present, discuss, and receive feedback from their peers and from the facilitator, on their **policy formulation assignment 4 (performance indicators and implementation)**. Debriefing with the entire group of 20 at the end.

Facilitators: Razvan Orasanu/ Corina Murafa

*Please hand in final feedback form to Delia Gologan during dinner (exception for those wishing to join the Optional Seminar on Sunday)*

19:30 – 20:30 Dinner

*Participants can choose to return on Saturday night, if they wish, or are welcome to stay on Sunday, too. Departure will be arranged for 20.30-21.00 by coach.*

### **Sunday, 7 December (Optional seminar)**

10:00 – 11:10 **Optional Seminar – Michelle Rhee and the educational reform in Washington D.C. by Razvan Orasanu**

Seminar loosely based on a Harvard Case Study

*Participants who want to opt in are expected to have read the study case on Michelle Rhee and her reform in Washington D.C.*

12:00 Return to Bucharest by coach. **Participants wishing to return earlier need to make their own arrangements**



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