

JOINT LEARNING FORUM

Evidence That Matters: Evidence-based Development Cooperation in Strategy and Practice

Date and place: November 20, 2025 (all day) at WZB Berlin Social Science Center, Berlin

Organizers: German Institute for Global and Area Studies (GIGA), RWI – Leibniz Institute for Economic Research, German Institute for Development Evaluation (DEval), KfW Development Bank with the support of: Federal Ministry for Economic Development and Cooperation, WZB Berlin Social Science Center

Detailed Program

08.30 – 09.00	Registration
09:00 – 09:15	Opening Remarks Jörg Faust (DEval), Nicola Fuchs-Schündeln (WZB) Event moderation: Angelika König (DEval)
09:15 – 09:45	Setting the Scene: Short Impulses from Science and Practice Impulses from science: Jann Lay (GIGA), practice: Jochen Kluge (KfW), policy: [tbc] (BMZ)
10:00 – 10:45	Parallel Workshops I Topic 1: Job Creation and Decent Work - Lessons learned from rigorous impact evaluations (RIEs) in the Special Initiative “Decent Work for a Just Transition” - Bernd Beber (RWI), Katharina Fietz (GIGA) and Peter Anti Partey (University of Cape Coast) – Presentation of key findings (15 min) - BMZ [tbc], Philipp Peters (GIZ), Kirsten Schüttler (GIZ) – Reflections from practice & outlook (15 min) - Discussion (15 min) - Chair: Cillian Nolan (J-PAL) Topic 2: Climate Change and Biodiversity - Lessons learned from the RIE “Ecological and Socioeconomic Effects of the Forest Restoration Program PLAE in Madagascar” - Krisztina Kis-Katos (University of Göttingen) – Presentation of key findings (15 min) - Sebastian Prediger (KfW), [tbc]– Reflections from practice & outlook (15 min) - Discussion (15 min) - Chair: Friederike Lenel (PIK)
10:45 – 11:30	Coffee Break with Poster Presentations
11:30 – 12:15	Parallel Workshops II Topic 3: Digital Education - Lessons learned from the RIE “Evaluation of a Digital Skills Program for TVET Teachers in Rwanda” - Rajshri Jayaraman (ESMT) – Presentation of key findings (15 min) - Katia Halabi (GIZ Rwanda), Salif Jaiteh (IDinsight) – Reflections from practice & outlook (15 min) - Discussion (15 min) - Chair: Alisa Buchstab (DEval)

Topic 4: Resilience and Insurance

- Lessons learned on willingness-to-pay for weather insurance and from the RIE “Trigger-based Agricultural Micro Insurance in Vietnam (InsureVietnam)”
- Kati Krähnert (RWI) – Presentation of key findings (15 min)
- Simon Lange (KfW), NN – Reflections from practice & outlook (15 min)
- Discussion (15 min)
- Chair: [tbc]

12:15 – 13:15

Lunch Break (posters still on)

13:15 – 14:00

Parallel Workshops III

Topic 5: Peace and Social Cohesion

- Lessons learned from RIEs to promote social cohesion in Lebanon
- Macartan Humphreys (WZB), Alex Scacco (WZB) – Presentation of key findings (15 min)
- Lara Azzam (Berghof Foundation, Lebanon), Sheree Kullenberg (IRC) – Reflections from practice & outlook (15 min)
- Discussion (15 min)
- Chair: Tilman Brück (ISDC)

Topic 6: Migration

- Lessons learned from RIEs to address the root causes of migration through development cooperation
- Bernd Beber (RWI) – Presentation of key findings (15 min)
- Marina Manke (IOM), Benjamin Wösten (GIZ) – Reflections from practice & outlook (15 min)
- Discussion (15 min)
- Chair: Tobias Heidland (IfW)

14:00 – 14:30

Coffee Break with Poster Presentations

14:30 – 15:30

Panel Discussion: Systematic Use of Evidence in Development Policy

Panelists will discuss concrete examples of evidence use and reflect on the following guiding questions:

- What are examples of how scientific evidence has informed development policy and practice?
- What role do different forms of evidence play, in particular rigorous impact evaluations?
- How is German development policy positioned? What progress has been made, and how can findings on effectiveness and efficiency be applied more systematically across different decision-making levels?

Panelists:

- Jochen Kluve (KfW)
- Sheree Kullenberg (IRC)
- Jann Lay (GIGA)
- Uwe Gehlen (BMZ)
- Maxie Sievert (RWI)

Moderator:

- Angelika König (DEval)

15:30 – 15:45

Concluding Remarks

- Martin Bruder (DEval)

This event is supported by the