▶ **PRO**FEEDBACK ◀

cost
EUROPEAN COOPERATION
IN SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

HÉTFA
RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Funded by
the European Union

DIGITALIZATION OF EVALUATIONS & EVALUATION OF DIGITALIZATION

EES THEMATIC WORKING GROUP 7 ON EU POLICIES
EES THEMATIC WORKING GROUP 6 ON METHODOLOGY AND DESIGNS

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

THEME DESCRIPTION

Digitalization is part of our everyday life. With the COVID-19 pandemic, the use of digital technologies has become even more profound. This also applies to the evaluation community. Increasingly, we come across terms such as Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, Web Scraping, Big Data. Digitalization affects many areas of evaluation - from the availability of data sets to the speed of processing them to the speed of implementing recommendations. Nevertheless, the understanding of the meaning and use of these terms varies in the evaluation community.

In order to contribute to clarifying and further developing the current debate about digitalization in evaluation, the European Evaluation Society´s Thematic Working Group 6 on methods and designs and 7 on EU Policies, together with the Working group 2 on quantitative methods of the COST-Action project PROFEEDBACK will discuss the digitalization in evaluations and evaluations of digitalization.

This session welcomes contributions which aim to shed light on the different evaluation themes, and the relationships these have to digitalization of evaluation, evaluating digitalization, and EU policies. This includes but is not limited to the following:

- Use of Artificial Intelligence in evaluations;
- Utilization of Big Data in evaluations;
- Compatibility of Big Data with GDPR;
- Automatized data collection and evaluation;
- Causal Machine Learning;
- Methodological and interpretative limits of digitalization in evaluation;
- Ethics in digital evaluations;
- Interlinking thematic evaluations with digitalization (e.g. text mining, geodata analysis, remote evaluation etc.);
- Use of digitalized evaluation results;
- The use of digital technology to strengthen the evaluation of complex programs;
- The use of digital technology to evaluate digital social and behavioral change interventions;
- Digital tools in evaluation to promote equity, racial justice, and community transformations;
- Data protection and data management issues across the globe in the digital age;
- The pros and cons of using technology (e.g. big data) in evaluation;
- Latest trends of data visualization as a tool in evaluation;
- The integration of data science with evaluation in the promotion of social change.
- Challenges in measuring and evaluating digitalization;
- Evaluation of the digital economy;
- Application of the above-mentioned technical and methodological issues in various policy fields.

We are looking for experts who conduct innovative research on the above methods in order to advance/develop them. We welcome both empirical and conceptual papers and practice-oriented contributions as well.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

This workshop will be held under the auspices of the Cost-Action project PROFEEDBACK co-organized with the European Evaluation Society's Thematic Working Groups 7 on EU policies and 6 on Evaluation Methods and Designs. The two-day workshop will be held online on 30-31 March 2023.

If you are interested in presenting a paper during this workshop, please submit your abstract of no more than 400 words in the following structure: background including a problem definition to be solved, data and methods, conclusions, lessons learned (per e-mail to the organizers: oto.potluka@unibas.ch, jaroslav.dvorak@ku.lt, alexander.kocks@deval.org, or rajaksa@hetfa.hu) by 10 February 2023 (the new deadline).

Please note that while we will assess all the proposals submitted to this special session, only a limited number of submissions will be selected, bearing in mind their fit with the topics outlined above, complementarities between them, and the overall coherence of the session.

The workshop is expected to lead to a joint publication endeavor to be discussed and specified after the workshop (e.g. a special issue). To be part of this initiative, the authors will be asked to submit full papers within a short period after the workshop.

Participation in the event is free of charge. Participants not presenting papers are very welcome but will need to register.

CONTACT
If you would like further information, please do not hesitate to contact Oto Potluka (oto.potluka@unibas.ch), Jaroslav Dvorak (jaroslav.dvorak@ku.lt), Alexander Kocks (alexander.kocks@deval.org), or Renata Anna Jaksa (rajaksa@hetfa.hu) for more information about this session.

USEFUL DOCUMENTS
COST Annotated Rules:
https://www.cost.eu/uploads/2022/12/COST-094-21-Annotated-Rules-for-COST-Actions-Level-C-V1.3.pdf

PROFEEDBACK Memorandum of Understanding:
https://e-services.cost.eu/files/domain_files/CA/Action_CA20112/mou/CA20112-e.pdf

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