

► PROFEEDBACK ◀

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS



**Participation in evaluation
Participatory evaluation**

Tirana, Albania

1st of October 2024

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

PARTICIPATION IN EVALUATION – PARTICIPATORY EVALUATION PRACTICES CONFERENCE CONFERENCE IN TIRANA, ALBANIA, ON 1ST OF OCTOBER 2024.

**THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING ABSTRACTS IS 30TH OF
JUNE 2024.**

CA20112

**PLATFORM OF POLICY EVALUATION COMMUNITY FOR IMPROVED EU
POLICIES AND BETTER ACKNOWLEDGEMENT (PROFEEDBACK)**

ABOUT PROFEEDBACK

Policy evaluation is a key tool in understanding, developing and modernising EU policies, thus there is a growing demand for EU-wide and high quality evaluation services. The main challenge is that currently there is no bottom-up platform for European researchers and professionals working in policy evaluation. They have limited possibilities to discuss common problems, assess country specific practices and share their knowledge in a mutually beneficial and effective way.

The PROFEEDBACK Action aims to foster the networking of the policy evaluation community at EU-level, raise awareness on the importance of evaluation policy research and improve its impact on policy-making. The Action, following a bottom-up and open approach, gathers researchers and professionals from various scientific fields and sectors to present and evaluate theories, topics, tools and methods of policy evaluation. Results of the Europe-wide assessment of good practices provide direct and high-quality inputs for national and EU bodies responsible for policy evaluation.

ABOUT THE CALL

HÉTFA Research Institute together with the Hydrowater Albania and University of New York Tirana is glad to announce the launch of the call for abstracts for the conference “Participation in evaluation – Participatory evaluation” organized under the framework of the COST Programme - COST ACTION 20112 – PROFEEDBACK (Grant Holder Institute: HÉTFA Research Institute, Hungary). The conference will be held in Tirana, Albania, on 1st October 2024.

Recently, the value of involving key stakeholders has become critically linked to the achievement of downstream performance outcomes and to the evaluation of outcomes and impacts.

The use of participatory approaches in impact evaluation means involving stakeholders, in particular the participants in a programme or those affected by a policy, in specific aspects of the evaluation process. This involvement can take place at any stage of the evaluation process, from the design of the evaluation to the collection and analysis of data and the reporting of the study. The nature and extent of stakeholder involvement may vary between different types of evaluation, but it is increasingly important to take into account the lived experience of stakeholders and beneficiaries. Participatory evaluation not only refers to obtaining qualitative data on programme participants' opinions using specific methods such as maps or stories, but community members can also be involved in the design, implementation and analysis of data, or in supervising the work of technical experts. Participatory approaches can be used in any impact evaluation design - they are not limited to specific evaluation methods or to quantitative or qualitative data collection and analysis. Participatory methods include, for example, story telling, mind mapping, picture talk, most significant change method, participatory surveys and data collection, maps, group activities.

The conference will be held in a hybrid format. Presenters should attend the conference in person, in Tirana. Other participants may have the possibility to attend the sessions online, depending on the received requests. The official language of the conference is English.

There is no conference fee, but each participant will be expected to arrange and pay for their own travel and accommodation, after the conference these expenses being reimbursed, following COST rules, available at (<https://www.cost.eu/uploads/2023/11/COST-094-21-Annotated-Rules-for-COST-Actions-Level-C-V1.4-Final-.pdf>)

IMPORTANT: Travelling costs will be reimbursed within the limited of 300 Euros. Moreover, as per COST rules, daily allowance rate set for Tirana is 180 Euros as per the [daily allowance rate rules](#).

CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES

The primary objective of the conference is to gather academics, professionals, policymakers, and policy evaluators from Europe and around the world and create a facilitating context for sharing ideas and good practice examples in regards with the use of participation and participatory methods in evaluation of public policies and programmes.

CONFERENCE TOPICS

The conference will focus on participatory methods, therefore the papers, practices and experiences presented can be implemented in any policy area, but it is important that the methods are used in the context of evaluations. The evaluation can be policy, programme or project focused.

This session welcomes contributions which aim to shed light on participation and the use of participatory methods in evaluation. This includes but is not limited to the following:

- **Theoretical background of participatory evaluation methods**
- **Use of participation in evaluations**
- **The pros and cons of using participatory methods in evaluation**
- **Methodological and interpretative limits of participatory methods in evaluation;**
- **Practices and lessons learnt using participatory methods**
- **Ethical considerations in Participatory evaluation**
- **Comparative papers on the use of participatory methods in different countries**

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

The papers for the conference will be selected based on extended abstracts (300 words) structured as it follows: overview, methods, presentation of participation, preliminary results, and concluding remarks.

We encourage and highly welcome critical, multi and interdisciplinary abstracts. We also encourage comparative abstract involving more countries. Multiple-author abstracts can be submitted, but only one presenter's participation is funded per paper.

Selected speakers are required to submit a full paper (6-8 pages), and we will also provide this option for some of those not selected. Full papers will be published in a thematic booklet.

You can submit your extended abstract [by the following link](#).

Members of the PROFEEDBACK Cost Action are encouraged to submit their abstracts.

The deadline for submitting abstracts is 30th of June 2024.

Selected participants will be informed of the committee's decision by **31st of August 2024**.

The reimbursement of workshop costs will depend on you submitting a full paper based on the presentation prepared for the workshop, **no later than 15 days after the workshop**.

REGISTRATION

The deadline for E-COST registration is **15 September 2024**.

Funded by COST, this event is free of charge for all presenters (one presenter per paper). In person participants will pay for their own meals. Daily allowances and travel reimbursement is available as per [COST regulations](#), only for the presenters of the Conference.

VENUE

The event will take place in Tirana – Albania at the University of New York Tirana – main campus

Address: University of New York Tirana

Ish Shkolla e Mesme Elektrike, rruga e Kavajës, pranë 21 Dhjetorit (Sheshi Atatürk), Tirane, Albania

PUBLICATIONS

All accepted abstracts / full papers will be published in Conference Proceedings Book

IMPORTANT DATES

Deadline for submission of abstracts: **30 June 2024**

Deadline for registration in e-COST system: **15 September 2024**

Deadline for submitting full papers: **16 October 2024** (15 days after the Workshop)

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Detailed information will be available soon at <https://profeedback.eu/conferences/>.

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

- Luca Koltai, HÉTFA Research Institute, Hungary
- Eriona Shtembari, University of New York Tirana, Albania

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

- **Luca Koltai**, HÉTFA Research Institute, Hungary
- **Eriona Shtembari**, University of New York Tirana, Albania
- **Hanife Akar**, Middle East Technical University, Turkey
- **Ajtene Avdullahi**
- **Jaroslav Dvorak**, Klaipėda University, Lithuania
- **Sari Rannanpää**
- **Dr. Olha Krasovska**, Ukrainian Evaluation Association, Ukraine

We hereby reserve the right to change the members of the scientific committee.

For more information, please contact:

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