DATA. NC In-depth training on "Evidence-based policy processes"

Working agenda.

Description: To help the shortlisted consortia develop quality interventions, international experts with support of DATA partners from, have designed In-depth training "Evidence-based policy processes". The purpose of the training is to introduce the shortlisted NC members to a methodology of improving their strategies and action plans vis-à-vis their specific sectoral challenges. The NCs will carry an exercise: from identifying and formulating the issue/challenge to checking the evidence and the data supporting their findings to processing the subject matter with the help of think tanks/policy experts to policy recommendations, and, eventually, to communicating the core policy issue to various groups of stakeholders and beneficiaries.

Participants: Representatives of 5 shortlisted consortia networks - 20 CSOs. Based on the training results, five NCs will revise and submit the project concepts.

Trainers:
The NORC team: National Opinion Research Center (NORC) at the University of Chicago, in cooperation with local experts from the Urban Foundation for Sustainable Development (UF) and American University of Armenia (AUA) , with extensive international experience to work with think tanks on strengthening their management practices as a way to improving their research quality and outreach effectiveness.
DATA in-house experts: Socies and EPF staff will be engaged.

Logistics:
Dates: February 4 – March 9, 2021
Platform: Zoom meetings with recordings
Translation: English – Armenian, Armenian – English.
Facilitators: EPF and DATA partners
Coordination will be done by EPF staff: Gayane Mkrtchyan (Program Director): gmkrtchyan@epfound.am; Piruze Manukyan (Project Manager): pmanukyan@epfound.am; Lilit Arzoyan (Project Manager): larzoyan@epfound.am.

Date	Step	Topic	
February 4 - 11	*Workshop 1*	*Identifying and Prioritizing Policy Issues*	Webpage is created within the UF webpage and materials posted Training materials are translated by EPF
February 4 4pm – 7pm	*Session A*	*Problem Identification & Stakeholder Mapping*	Presentation and related discussion - A 3-hour session with PPT - Breakout rooms for two groups - Facilitated by Armen Varosyan - Simultaneous translations for US team.
February 4-9	*Homework*	Practical exercise from Session A	5 days for homework submission (in English)
February 10 4pm – 7pm	*Session B*	*Prioritizing Policy Issues*	- A 3-hour session - Homework presentation and peer-review. - 3-page summary by each NC in English.
February 12- 19	*Workshop 2*	*Developing Analysis Plans* by NORC	
February 12 4pm – 6pm	*Session A* *Part 1*	*Developing Analysis Plans* Presentation & related discussion	- A 2-hour session with PPT and participants handout - Designing log frame per project - Simultaneous translation into Armenian - Facilitated by R. Struyk
February 15 4pm – 6pm	*Session A* *Part 2*	*Developing Analysis Plans* Presentation & related discussion	- A 2-hour session with PPT and participants handout - Theory of change - Simultaneous translation into Armenian - Facilitated by R. Struyk
February 15-22	*Homework*		7 days for homework submission (in English)
February 22	*Session B*	Development Analysis Plans	Homework & presentation: Each consortium team presents an outline of its project; another consortium leads the discussion of the plan - 3-page summary by each NC in English.
February 24 4pm – 6pm	*Workshop 3*	*Research design and methods for data collection, by SOCIES*	- A 2-hour session - Facilitated by **Harutyun Vermishyan (DATA/Socies)**
February 25 4pm – 6pm	*Workshop 4*	*Research ethics by Jenny Paturyan*	- A 2-hour session - Facilitated by **Jenny Paturyan** - Homework
February 22 – 26	*Homework*	*Research project revisions and Q&A session*	Facilitated by Jenny Paturyan
February 23 – 26	*Individual sessions with NCs*	*Consultative meetings with each NC on research design*	
March 2 4pm – 6pm	*Workshop 5*	*Workshop on Quality Control for Research Products.*	- A 2-hour sessions with PPT and participants handout - Communication strategy with log frame approach - Simultaneous translation into Armenian

			- Facilitated by R. Struyk
March 3-5 4pm – 7pm	*Workshop 6*	***Developing Policy Communications Strategies*** Presentation and related discussion	
March 3 4pm – 6pm	*Session A* *Part 1*	***Developing Policy Communications Strategies*** Presentation and related discussion	- A 2-hour sessions with PPT and participants handout - Communication strategy with log frame approach - Simultaneous translation into Armenian - Facilitated by R. Struyk
March 5 4pm – 6pm	*Session A* *Part 2*	***Developing Policy Communications Strategies*** Presentation and related discussion	- A 2-hour sessions with PPT and participants handout - Policy entrepreneurs, paradigm structure, target audience, scale of policy issues, working with government staff, - How hot is the plan - Direct work with NC's - Simultaneous translation into Armenian - Facilitated by R. Struyk
March 9	*Network meeting 3*	***Advocacy process discussion with NCs. Challenges and opportunities***	*- A 2-hour discussion in Armenian* *- Facilitated by Isabella Sargsyan (EPF/DATA)*