

Engaging with Decision-makers: Issue Briefs for policy and practice

5 week online Short Course: 26 Oct – 27 Nov 2020

Decision-makers, whether at the household, organizational, community or network level make decisions in complex environments. With the multitude of information that impacts their decisions, it's critical for researchers to not only understand the complexities of the decision-making environment but also to appreciate the efforts and strategies that can be employed to contribute to those decisions with evidence.

The Centre for Evidence-based Health Care, Department of Global Health, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Stellenbosch University, offers this 5 week online short course to provide researchers with the knowledge, skills and tools to contribute meaningfully to evidence-informed decision-making (EIDM).

The course is predominantly focused around creating an issue brief for a key decision-maker that delegates seek to inform, provide clarity for, or compel to action. Majority of the time is spent intensely working with peers and facilitators to craft a well-designed and appropriately populated issue brief taking into consideration the key stakeholder participants seek to influence. Participants will leave the course with a penultimate version and a strategic dissemination plan.

25 hours total course time commitment over 5 weeks

Facilitators: Dr. Nasreen Jessani^{1,2,3} and Ms. Lynn Hendricks^{1,4}

¹Stellenbosch University, ²Africa Centre for Evidence-UJ, ³Johns Hopkins University, ⁴KU Leuven

After completion of this course, participants will be able to:

Understand the nuances of engaging with decision-makers (including policymakers & practitioners)

Appreciate the facilitators and barriers to engaging with decision-makers and how these can be managed

Think strategically about how to engage effectively with various types of decision-makers

Design and populate an issue brief relevant to a chosen decision-maker

Identify strategies to disseminate and evaluate the research output (issue brief)

Upon completion participants will receive a Stellenbosch University short course certificate of attendance.

Attendance limited to 20 participants. Cost R1,050.

RESERVE YOUR SEAT: Contact Liesl Esterhuizen, lesterhuizen@sun.ac.za by 30 Sep 2020.

Course Pre-requisite:

Note that only applicants who have completed the prerequisite short course, **"The Art, Science and Complexity of EIDM: Introduction to Knowledge Translation"** will be eligible to enroll for this course. If you have not already taken the prerequisite short course, it is being offered immediately prior from 1 September to 2 October 2020 in a 5 week online short course format. Contact Liesl for details.

www.sun.ac.za/cebhc