

Cécilia De Decker

Head of the Special Evaluation Office of Belgian Development Cooperation Brussels (funding agency of the ECB seminar)



Cécilia De Decker is the Special Evaluator of the Belgian Development Cooperation since September 2016. With a degree in economics, she has been active for 18 years in the field of evaluation and policy analysis. She has coordinated many large evaluations in complex policy systems such as regional economic development plans, innovation policies, training and employment policies, etc. She has been working as a consultant for many years. In 2004, she helped setting up the Office of the Special Evaluator of Development Cooperation at the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and making it operational. She was in charge of its first strategic evaluations. She also was instrumental in making the office meet professional standards. She then held a management position (2007-20016) in a consultancy company where she conducted assignments and training in the field of policy analysis, monitoring and evaluation.

Nathalie Holvoet

Co-organiser of the ECB seminar (overall guidance)

Introductory session - October 8th

Modules 1, 2 & 3 - October 8th-11th



Nathalie Holvoet (PhD Applied Economics, University of Antwerp) is a full-time professor at the Institute of Development Policy, University of Antwerp. She has a long track record of academic teaching and training, research and policy advisory work in the area of monitoring & evaluation (methodological aspects, systemic and policy-related dimensions) and gender & development (macro & micro dimensions, including gender budgeting, gender-sensitivity of national policies & institutions & aid, intrahousehold resource allocation). Together with Sara Dewachter and Lisa Popelier she organized a short term evaluation capacity building seminar in 2015 and 2016. Nathalie has been/is leading various research projects funded by Flemish Research fund, European Commission, UN Women, etc. She is also involved in various north and south projects

of university development cooperation. Current research and evaluation projects more specifically focus on community-based monitoring, use/influence of M&E, evaluability, intrahousehold decision-making and climate change, cash transfers. She has published in different publication outlets and is a member of the European Evaluation Society (EES), the International Development Evaluation Association (IDEAS), the European Association of Development Institutes (EADI) and an active co-founding member of the Flemish Evaluation Platform (VEP).

Sara Dewachter

Co-organiser of the ECB seminar (overall guidance)

Module 4 - October, 12th

Module 5.2- Social Network Analysis - October, 17 & 18th



Sara Dewachter holds a doctorate in Political Science and is a post-doctoral researcher at the Institute of Development Policy and Management, University of Antwerp. She has experience in (using) social network analysis and qualitative comparative analysis (QCA). Recent research focuses on national evaluation societies, local-level M&E, community-based monitoring and political efficacy. Together with Nathalie Holvoet and Lisa Popelier she organized a short term evaluation capacity building seminar in 2015 and 2016. Sara is also the alumni coordinator of the IOB and leading a research and capacity building project on the impact of IOB ICP programs on students' knowledge, skills, attitudes and networks as well as their contribution to their organizations and broader development.

Lisa Popelier

Co-organiser of the ECB seminar

Module 5.2 - Social Network Analysis - October, 17th & 18th



Lisa Popelier is a pre-doctoral research and teaching assistant at the Institute of Development Policy (IOB) of the University of Antwerp. She is currently preparing her PhD in which she applies, among others, Social Network Analysis to study determinants and effects of disability-sensitive community monitoring in rural Uganda. As a teaching assistant, Lisa provides guidance and counselling to IOB Master students and actively participates in the organisation of training programs and inter-university collaboration. She was also involved in the study of the evaluability of interventions of the Belgian Development cooperation which was commissioned by the Special Evaluation Office. Before joining IOB as a staff member, she has been working as an intern and subsequently as consultant for the Internal Oversight Service (Evaluation Department) of UNESCO.

Vital Put

Visit Audit Office Brussels (performance audits, their use and influence) – October, 11th



Vital Put currently holds the position of Councillor at the Audit Office and is a visiting professor at the Catholic University of Leuven (Public Governance Institute) (<https://soc.kuleuven.be/io/english/staff/00003806>). Before he was a performance audit director (2015-2017), supervisor (2009-2015) and auditor (1998-2009). Prior to his work at the Audit Office, he also held positions at the Department of Social Affairs, Work and Justice. He holds a PhD in social sciences from the Catholic University of Leuven (2005), Master in public management and administration (Free University of Brussels) and a Master in criminology (Catholic University of Leuven). He is a certified Government Auditing Professional and has published extensively on performance auditing.

Nina Pattyn

Fundraising (tips & tricks) – October, 12th



Nina Pattyn is the international fundraising advisor of Rikolto (formerly Vredeseilanden), which is an international NGO with more than 40 years' experience in partnering with farmer organisations and food chain stakeholders across Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America. Rikolto runs programmes in 15 countries worldwide through eight regional offices. Nina has a background in general business economics & finance (commercial engineer) as well as a degree in development studies. She is coordinating the fundraising for the international programs, developing innovative financing models for the international programs while she is as well responsible for the information management on partners and programmes for fundraising purposes and coaching of regional staff on fundraising.

Natalie Brighty

Communicating for Policy Influence – October, 15th



Natalie Brighty is Senior Communications Officer in ODI's Research and Policy in Development (RAPID) programme. Her expertise includes engagement strategy development and implementation, digital and print publication planning and delivery, and writing for non-research audiences. She splits her time between providing strategic oversight for RAPID's communications activities, and collaborating with RAPID researchers on specific projects to produce influential, high-impact research outputs. Since 2015, she has been communications lead in the Evidence and Policy Group (EPG) for the [DFID-ESRC Growth Research Programme](#), which funds research on inclusive economic growth in low-income countries. The EPG acts as an impact and communications 'help desk' offering support to programme researchers seeking to boost uptake of and engagement with their work in policy and practice.

Marcus Langley

Communicating for Policy Influence – October, 15th



Marcus Langley is a Communications Officer in ODI's Research and Policy in Development (RAPID) programme. He specialises in increasing the impact of RAPID's research on development policy and practice, and works on publication delivery, strategic communications, media and public affairs work, and digital communications. He leads on communications for several projects, including the Research Council UK-funded [Global Seaweed project](#) and the [Youth Forward Learning Partnership](#), which works to develop an evidence-informed understanding of the needs of young people in Ghana and Uganda. Marcus also provides training to help organisations develop and implement stakeholder-focused communication strategies that help facilitate policy change.

Patrick Vander Weyden

Innovative digital and visual M&E tools – October, 16th



Patrick Vander Weyden holds a PhD in Social Sciences from the Catholic University of Leuven (2005). He was assistant professor at the University of Ghent from 2008 till 2013 teaching research methodologies. He was involved in several university projects in Suriname, Guyana and Tanzania. In 2009, he founded FocusUP, a research company focusing on evaluations and impact studies. He has completed more than 30 evaluation and impact studies in more than 20 countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America for many national and international organizations. From 2015 until 2016 he was country programme manager for a Belgian organization in Cambodia. Currently, he is managing director of FocusUP (www.focusup.eu).

Jan Van Ongevalle

Module 5.2. – Outcome Mapping – October, 17th & 18th



Jan Van Ongevalle leads the research group “Global Development” at HIVA KULeuven. He has more than 15 years of experience as a practitioner in the education sector in Africa, and 8 years of experience as senior researcher and research manager on various global development issues. His research approach is practice and policy oriented and covers the following main research areas in the field of global development: informal economy and decent work, redistributive social protection systems, trade unions and civil society, global citizenship education, complexity oriented planning, monitoring and evaluation and actor focused theories of change. He has been using outcome mapping since 2005 as a development practitioner, researcher and consultant. He is particularly interested in outcome mapping because it provides an actor centred and learning oriented planning, monitoring and evaluation method that is well suited for programmes that support complex social change.

Patricia Bamanyaki

Module 5.2.– Theory-based evaluation & process tracing – October 18th & 19th



Patricia Bamanyaki has over 12 years' experience as an M&E consultant for both profit and non-profit oriented organisations. She is a Development Economist and holds a PhD in Development Studies and Master in Development Evaluation and Management from the Institute of Development Policy, University of Antwerp. She has conducted seminars on theory based evaluation and process tracing in Uganda and Tanzania and was co-panelist at a session on 'the potential of process tracing methodologies for evaluation' at the 12th European Evaluation Society Biennial Conference. She currently leads the research team of the Policy Action for Climate Change Adaptation Project at the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture in Uganda.

Robrecht Renard

Module 5.2. – Randomised Controlled Trial – October 18th & 19th



Robrecht Renard (Ph.D. economics) is emeritus professor of Antwerp University. He studied economics at the universities of Antwerp, Leuven, Norwich (East-Anglia) and Brussels. Prior to his retirement he taught courses on the economics of aid, and on the evaluation of development interventions at the Institute for Development Policy (IOB) at Antwerp university. His research focused on aid policies and their evaluation. His career was mainly in academia, but he also spent several years working for government in the field of development aid. During his career and after his official retirement he was frequently involved in advisory and consultancy work for bilateral and multilateral donors and NGOs.