



Poster 3: 3

Cristina Cribillers Reig Ivàlua, Catalan Institute for the Evaluation of Public Policies

Sparking Change: What Works Projects and the Institutionalization of Evaluation

PROJECT DEFINITION AND PURPOSE

What Works? initiatives provide comprehensive evidence reviews that systematically collect and synthesize data to enhance its usability.

By making this evidence easily accessible, these initiatives support informed decisionmaking, helping public and third sector organizations to operate more effectively and efficiently.



What works to achieve a specific policy goal?

✓ Relevance to the context.



- ✓ Focus on causal evidence
- Complemented with qualitative insights.
- ✓ Interest in heterogeneous effects.
- ✓ Includes practical implications tailored to the context.



Dissemination to public sector, academia and the general

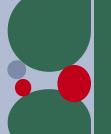


Transfer to policymakers

public



Experiment with promising new ideas/solutions



COLLABORATIVE GOVERNANCE

Each What Works initiative is driven by a three-way collaboration between academia, public administration, and the third sector. Ivàlua acts as the catalyst for this collaboration.



PROJECT II TASKFORCE



SYNTHESIS AUTHOR



BENEFITS OF WHAT WORKS PROJECTS

Enhancing evidence-based policy, particularly in environments where evaluation is not a recurrent practice:

> Proactive knowledge sharing Informed Early-Stage Resource Design efficiency and policy-

> > testing

How do the What Works initiatives contribute to generating evaluation supply and demand?

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SUPPLY

- **Ensuring Access to Evaluations** Publishing concise summaries of evaluation findings.
- ✓ Expanding the Pool of Evaluation **Professionals** Engaging academics in evaluation

roles.

✓ Building Capacity in Evaluation Training teams on Theory of Change and evidence-based policy design.

DEMAND

- Identifying Knowledge Gaps Recommending evaluations in new areas.
- Shaping the Narrative for Evidence-**Based Decision-Making** Through dissemination and knowledge transfer activities.



Promotion of evaluation culture.

Conclusions

- Evidence reviews play a critical role in institutionalizing evaluation by facilitating the integration of evidence into the policy cycle and reinforcing its use.
- These initiatives also produce **positive externalities that strengthen the evaluation ecosystem**, generating demand and supply of evaluation.

Recommendations

- Collaboration between public administration, academia, and third sector organizations is crucial for ensuring methodological rigor and relevance. This partnership boosts the project's ability to improve the supply, demand, and use of evaluation practices.
- We recommend replicating this project in **contexts where** evaluation is not yet a recurrent practice.

