



OLLSCOIL NA
GAILLIMHE
UNIVERSITY
OF GALWAY

An Institiúid Cúrsa Saoil
& Sochaí

Institute for Lifecourse
& Society

ENABLING
EQUITY
ACROSS THE
LIFE COURSE

Institute for Lifecourse and Society - ILAS *International Research Training Series*



Multidisciplinary Perspectives on Evaluative Frameworks for Assessing the Economic and Social Value of Public Policy Interventions

A range of methods from a diverse mix of disciplinary fields may be employed to provide evidence on the economic and social value of public policy interventions. Evidence generated from such methods are increasingly used to inform decision-making by policy makers and practitioners in Ireland and internationally. In this context, there exists a need to explore, compare, and reflect on the methodological components of evaluative frameworks employed across the public policy domain. This workshop aims to contribute to this conversation by firstly, providing two introductory workshops on the methods of health economic evaluation and social return on investment, and secondly, by providing a reflective seminar of the use of such methods to inform policy and practice.

DATE: Monday, 15th September 2025

TIME: 09:30 -15:30

VENUE: G006, ILAS Building, University of Galway

[Register here](#)

INVITATION



The objective of this workshop is to equip participants with the knowledge and tools to conduct health economic evaluation and social return on investment. Participants will be enabled to: a) Understand and appraise the principles and steps of the method of health economic evaluation. b) Understand and appraise the principles and steps of the method of social return on investment. The event will consist of a mixture of presentations, discussions, and seminars. This workshop is suitable for all those involved in the generation, synthesis, and use of evidence on economic and social value to inform public policy and practice decisions (including professionals, academics, researchers, and decision-makers).

Speakers



Prof. Paddy Gillespie is Professor of Health Economics and Director of the Health Economics and Policy Analysis Centre (HEPAC) at the J.E. Cairnes School of Business and Economics and the Institute for Lifecourse and Society (ILAS). His research activity is focused on the application of the techniques of health economic evaluation and health technology assessment to inform health policy and healthcare practice. He is health economics lead for the Primary Care Clinical Trials Network Ireland (HRB PCCTNI), Evidence Synthesis Ireland (ESI), and the Diabetes Collaborative Clinical Trial Network Ireland (HRB DCCTNI). He leads the health economics research programme for the Translation pillar of the Research Ireland Centre for Medical Devices (CÚRAM), and for the Influencing pillar of the University's Institute for Clinical Trials.



Dr Cormac Forkan has been a lecturer in the School of Political Science and Sociology since October 2002. He is the Programme Director for the BA Youth and Family Studies (GY120). Cormac is also affiliated with the UNESCO Child and Family Research Centre at NUI Galway and has acted as the lead researcher on a number of significant national research Projects. Prior to joining NUI Galway, Cormac lectured in the Waterford Institute of Technology on the Applied Social Studies Course (Social Care). He started his professional career as a Youth Worker for Foróige, the National Youth Development Organisation.



Dr Tania de St Croix was a youth worker for twenty years before becoming an academic. For the last decade she has worked at King's College London, where she is Senior Lecturer in the Sociology of Youth and Childhood. Her research is on the value and evaluation of youth work, and her teaching is on informal education, education policy, and social sciences for social change. She wrote the book "Grassroots youth work: Policy, passion and resistance in practice" and has published in journals including Journal of Education Policy, Journal of Youth Studies, and Youth and Policy. She loves hiking, creative writing, vegan cooking, and volunteering at her local youth club.



Prof. Caroline McGregor is the Director of the Institute for Lifecourse and Society (ILAS) and a Senior Researcher at the UNESCO Child and Family Research Centre. Her expertise is in social work, with extensive experience in teaching, research and publishing on issues related to children, young people, and families. She co-authored "Support and Protection Across the Lifecourse" (2021) with Professor Pat Dolan. Since 2012, she has collaborated on research focused on persons with direct care experiences, family support, prevention, early intervention, and child protection. Additionally, she has worked as an SFI investigator on a CURAM focusing on impact orientation of principal investigators and science advocacy training.

Schedule

Time	Details
09:30 - 10:00	Registration
10:00 - 10:15	Welcome <i>Prof. Caroline McGregor, Director, Institute for Lifecourse & Society.</i>
10:15 - 11:45	Methodological Perspective Workshop 1: "Health Economic Evaluation for the Health Technology Assessment of Health and Social Care Interventions." <i>Presented By: Prof. Paddy Gillespie, Health Economics and Policy Analysis Centre, Institute for Lifecourse & Society.</i>
11:45 - 12:15	Break
12:15 - 13:45	Methodological Perspective Workshop 2: "Social Return on Investment (SROI) for the Evaluation of Alternative Education Provision Interventions." <i>Presented By: Dr Cormac Forkan, UNESCO Child and Family Research Centre, Institute for Lifecourse & Society.</i>
13:45 - 14:45	Break
14:45 - 15:45	Seminar and Reflection on Evaluative Frameworks for Public Policy <i>Presented By: Dr Tania de St Croix, Kings College London.</i>
15:45 - 16:00	Reflection and Closing Remarks <i>Prof. Paddy Gillespie, HEPAC, Institute for Lifecourse and Society.</i>

Contact

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www.universityofgalway.ie/ilas

ILAS Constituent Centres

[Centre for Disability Law and Public Policy \(CDLP\)](#)

[Community Engaged Research in Action \(CORA\)](#)

[Community Knowledge Initiative \(CKI\)](#)

[Health Economics and Policy Analysis Centre \(HEPAC\)](#)

[Irish Centre for Social Gerontology \(ICSG\)](#)

[Irish Centre for Autism and Neurodevelopmental Research \(ICAN\) PPI Ignite](#)

[Speech and Language Therapy](#)

[UNESCO Child and Family Research Centre \(UCFRC\)](#)