

TRAINING PROGRAMME AND SEMINAR
ON
FACILITATING THE ADOPTION OF REGULATORY IMPACT ASSESSMENT
FRAMEWORK IN INDIA

Date: Monday, 26th- Friday, 30th October, 2015

Venue: Ball Room I, Country Inn and Suites, Jaipur

DAY 1: MONDAY, 26TH OCTOBER 2015

09:00 – 09:30

Registration

09:30 – 10:15

Opening of the RIA training course and Session I

SESSION I

Introduction to RIA and RIA Course: What is RIA? Its Goals and Methods

- Udai S Mehta, Director, CUTS International
- Scott Jacobs, Managing Director, Jacobs, Cordova and Associates

DEFINING RIA AND ITS RESULTS

10:15 – 11:45

SESSION II

Good Regulatory Practices and India: Why RIA?

Why is good regulation important to India and modern economies? We will examine the context for “better regulation” reforms, and then define RIA, review results seen in countries that have applied RIA, and identify the main features of a RIA system – dividing the RIA process into several steps, from problem definition to communication of the final results to ministers and the public. Utility of RIA for India will also be highlighted.

- Scott Jacobs
- Amol Kulkarni, Senior Policy Analyst, CUTS International

11:45 – 12:00

Tea/ Coffee Break

12:00 – 13:30

SESSION II

Good Regulatory Practices and India: Why RIA? (Continues)

13:30 – 14:30

Lunch Break

THE FIRST STEPS OF RIA

14:30 – 16:00

SESSION III

Getting It Right from the Beginning: Defining the Problem and Setting the Baseline

The single most important step in RIA is correctly defining the policy problem. Regulators and law-makers often make mistakes at this stage that result in regulatory failure later on. We will review the most common reasons why regulations fail to achieve their goals, and discuss how such failures can be reduced through RIA based on better problem identification and identification of the baseline. Based on several real examples of costly regulatory failures, we will discuss how regulators can correctly identify the problem and its underlying causes. The second step is defining the baseline, that is, what would happen without government action. Mistakes can be avoided by applying some concepts.

- Scott Jacobs

16:00 – 16:15

Tea/ Coffee Break

16:15 – 17:15

SESSION III

Getting It Right from the Beginning: Defining the Problem and Setting the Baseline (continues)

17:15 – 17:30

Q&A and Preview to Day 2

DAY 2: TUESDAY, 27TH OCTOBER 2015

09:30 – 09:45

Recap of Day I

09:45 – 11:00

SESSION IV

Basic RIA Concepts

Review basic concepts important to understanding the application of RIA. Concepts to be covered include:

- * What are regulatory costs and benefits? How do we know them when we see them? How do we measure them? What does value mean in RIA?
- * What are opportunity costs? And why do we care?
- * When are distributional effects important?
- * How do we deal with dynamic effects that cannot be quantified?
- * What happens when benefits and costs are asymmetric?
- * How do we deal with time?

Some examples from India and other developing countries will also be used to explain the concepts in this session

- Scott Jacobs

11:00 – 11:15 **Tea/Coffee Break**

11:15 – 12:30 **SESSION IV**

Basic RIA Concepts (Continues)

THE PRACTICE OF RIA

12:30 – 13:30 **SESSION V**

Putting RIA into Practice: Choosing the Analytical Methods and Presenting the Analysis

We will examine the available analytical methods for RIA, their strengths and weaknesses, and the kinds of problems and situations to which each is suited.

- * the benefit-cost method
- * the cost-effectiveness method
- * the least-cost method

We will also discuss some common methods of partial analysis, including

- * Business (or small business) impact analysis
- * Standard cost models for administrative burdens
- * How can the distribution of impacts be included in RIA?

We will also show how the impacts of each option are compared in the RIA to enable decision-makers to make relevant policy decisions. Experience of implementing RIA in different developing countries and measures to counter challenges such as data availability will also be discussed.

- Scott Jacobs

13:30 – 14:30 **Lunch**

14:30 – 16:00 **SESSION V**

Putting RIA into Practice: Choosing the Analytical Methods and Presenting the Analysis (continues)

- Scott Jacobs

16:00 – 16:15 **Tea/ Coffee Break**

16:15 – 17:15 **SESSION VI**

Administrative burdens and the use of the Standard Cost Model: Concepts and interactive case study

Administrative burdens on businesses and citizens are increasingly becoming a concern for competitiveness and job creation. Many governments have committed to measuring and reducing the administrative burden using a method called the “Standard Cost Model” (SCM), which is a bottom-up method of measuring the time needed to comply with administrative requirements and extrapolating from firms to

entire economies. We will examine the use of the SCM – its strengths and limits – in this session.

In the interactive case study, participants will break into smaller working groups and develop an administrative cost assessment as part of a RIA. Each group will present its cost assessment to the entire class. The session will end with a presentation on how the case was actually conducted and its conclusions, including a commentary by the instructors and participants.

17:15 – 17:30 **Q&A and Preview to Day 3**

DAY 3: WEDNESDAY, 28TH OCTOBER 2015

09:30 – 09:45 **Recap of Day 2**

09:45 – 11:00 **SESSION VII**

Assessing Alternatives to Traditional Regulation

A vital but difficult part of RIA is development and assessment of alternative policy instruments and different regulatory designs. We will examine how such alternatives can be systematically developed, assessed, compared and selected. Alternatives to be discussed include:

- * Information disclosure and education campaigns (labelling, quality marks, public campaigns)
- * Self-regulation and co-regulation (codes of practice, technical standards)
- * Third party regulation (mandatory inspections/audits by non-government parties)
- * Performance-based rules rather than means-based, including variants such as the Open Method of Co-ordination and Framework Directives
- * Market based instruments (taxes, subsidies, user charges, risk payments, insurance)

We will discuss what alternatives work where and when, taking into account different stages of development of countries, and our experience in implementing RIA in developing countries

- Scott Jacobs

11:00 – 11:15 **Tea/Coffee Break**

11:15 – 13:30 **SESSION VII**

Assessing Alternatives to Traditional Regulation (continues)

13:30 – 14:30 **Lunch**

14:30 – 16:00

SESSION VIII**Mainstreaming RIA in the Policy Process: Institutional Strategies, Challenges and Solutions**

Governments need a clear RIA strategy aimed at the institutionalization of capacities and the creation of incentives within the machinery of government. Success rests on the choice of a proper implementation strategy, the setting up of effective institutions and procedures, as well as the use of a series of good RIA practices. We will examine each of these three dimensions, including:

- * The need for common standards and quality control mechanisms
- * Transparency, accountability and other central principles for RIA deployment
- * Communication and the building of a political constituency for RIA
- * Institutional learning and evolution of RIA over time.
- * Training strategies

The session will also include an interactive discussion on challenges faced in other countries in implementing RIA and measures utilised to overcome those. In addition, limitations of RIA and need for comprehensive regulatory reform package would be highlighted

- Scott Jacobs

16:00 – 16:15

Tea/Coffee Break

16:15 – 17:15

SESSION VIII**Mainstreaming RIA in the Policy Process: Institutional Strategies, Challenges and Solutions (continues)**

17:15 – 17:30

Q&A and Preview to Day 4

18:30 – 22:00

Departure for visit to Chokhi Dhani**DAY 4: THURSDAY, 29TH OCTOBER 2015**

09:30 – 09:45

Recap of Day 3

09:45 – 11:00

SESSION IX**Consultation and data collection techniques for RIA**

Stakeholder consultation is an important strategy for quality control and data collection. We will discuss the means of consulting and communicating with stakeholders as part of carrying out the RIA, and how to avoid the pitfalls of poor consultation. Consultation is one method of collecting data for the RIA. One of the most costly and time-consuming RIA activities is the collection of data for the analysis. Data are scarce, costly, and never sufficient. Jacobs, Cordova & Associates

has developed a set of good data collection practices that will save time and money, and improve the quality of data. We will examine these practical techniques to collect data for RIA.

- Scott Jacobs

11:00 – 11:15

Tea/Coffee Break

11:15 – 13:30

SESSION IX

Consultation and data collection techniques for RIA (continues)

13:30 – 14:30

Lunch

14:30 – 16:00

SESSION X

Interactive Case Study: RIA on Indian law

Brief RIA/ cost benefit exercises conducted on select Indian legislations/ regulations will be presented

- CUTS International

16:00 – 16:15

Tea/Coffee Break

16:15 – 17:15

SESSION X

Interactive Case Study: RIA on Indian law (continues)

17:15 – 17:30

SESSION XI

Closing Ceremony, Q&A and Feedback

DAY 5: FRIDAY, 30TH OCTOBER 2015

**SEMINAR ON “ADOPTION OF REGULATORY IMPACT ASSESSMENT IN INDIA:
POLITICAL ECONOMY CHALLENGES – HOW TO OVERCOME”**

10:30 – 11:00 **Registration and Tea**

11:00 – 11:30 **OPENING SESSION**

- Bipul Chatterjee, Executive Director, CUTS International
- Douglas Fowler, Economic Affairs Officer, Embassy of the United States of America
- Charan Singh, Professor, IIM Bangalore, RBI Chair Professor of Economics

11:30 – 13:00 **PANEL DISCUSSION, “ADOPTION OF REGULATORY IMPACT ASSESSMENT:
POLITICAL ECONOMY CHALLENGES – HOW TO OVERCOME?”**

Chair Atindra Sen, Advisor-Corporate Affairs, Shapoorji Pallonji Group

Presentation Siddhartha Mitra, Professor, Department of Economics Jadavpur University, Kolkata, *“Removing Roadblocks to Adoption of RIA in India: A Proposal”*

Panelists

- Rohit R Brandon, Former Additional Chief Secretary, Government of Rajasthan and Director, HCM RIPA, The State Training Institute
- Aarati Krishnan, Head, Research Bureau, Business Line
- Keya Sengupta, Professor, IIM Shillong
- Nirupama Soundararajan, Senior Fellow, Pahle India Foundation

13:00 – 14:00 **Lunch**
