



Do you have anything to declare?

Yes. Evaluation is a way of thinking.

They're only looking for findings.

PROGRAM TERRITORY
EVALUATION LAND

STOP

A white lotus flower in full bloom, floating on a pond. The background is a warm, orange-red color with a bokeh effect of light spots. The flower is reflected in the water below it.

Welcome!

- **Overview – Jess Dart**
- **Case study 1 – Duncan Rintoul**
- **Case study 2- Lyn Alderman**
- **Facilitated session**

“Old school” evaluation is dead

2010 keynote Elliot Stern warned us that evaluators would be out of a job in a few years.



Hypothesis – old school evaluation is dead.

- *So what do we mean when we say old school evaluation? If you imagine an “old school evaluator” as a persona – who is out of date – what are they doing? What are they saying? How are they working?*
- *Turn to the person next to you and ask them!*



Into the now..future

New players and new professional bodies.....

Big data, social return on investment. Outcomes measurement, collective impact... designers, co-design, human-centred design, social innovation, fast-fail.. Real time results...

What are the current trends in our context? What is the “new school” evaluator doing?

Evaluative thinking

Our hypothesis of this workshop is that in the new world:

- Evaluative thinking has enormous currency
- Promises new and wider landscape
- Offers new landscapes for evaluators

Evaluative thinking.....

ET has to do with thinking critically, valuing evidence, questioning assumptions, taking multiple perspectives, and posing thoughtful questions, and pursuing deeper understanding in preparation for informed action.

*It has much in common with **reflective practice**. It is key to evaluation, yet also has a place in all of an organisation's processes. In a more complexity-aware world, ET is a way to instil rapid learning and feedback cycles in the ongoing management of programs and organisations*

CASE STUDY 1 - DUNCAN RINTOUL

CASE STUDY 2 – LYN ALDERMAN

**TASK: Exploring the
implications of
evaluative thinking for
evaluation practice**

Task

Evaluative thinking can be applied at different stages in the innovation/ policy/ program cycle:

- Creating and testing policies and innovative solutions
- Designing programs
- Building monitoring and evaluation frameworks
- Formative evaluation study
- Summative evaluation study

Task 1

- Go and **stand nearest** to the space in the policy-program cycle that you feel most comfortable – or do the most.
- Chat with your group – and write down on the paper what you actually do in terms of evaluative thinking in this phase.

Task 2

- One person to stay with each piece of paper as a host.
- Go and **stand nearest** to the space in the policy-program cycle that you'd like to get into more!
- Chat with your group – read what is written on the paper in this spot. Think about how you apply evaluative thinking here.
- Discuss on what the key challenges of working in this space as an evaluator.