

Emergency Responses and Government Outcomes peer learning group Session I. COVID-19 and Outcomes Contracts

Wednesday 08th April 2020
15.30 – 17.00pm BST

Join Zoom meeting at:

<https://bsg.zoom.us/j/685206627?pwd=cFdmcE9xL1FYnkFKUU1yTFRwTIZ5UT09>

Meeting ID: 685 206 627

Password: 332045

This session of the ERGO peer learning group will explore the implications of the current situation for those running outcomes contracts, focusing in particular on where and on what dimensions outcomes contracts are able to flex and adapt to the realities of the pandemic.

This online session will bring together legal experts and other practitioners to talk through the strengths and limitations of outcomes contracts in today's emergency context.

After this session, notes summarising the conversation will be shared with participants. GO Lab will also endeavour to circulate these notes amongst relevant decision-makers in governments the world over. Any policy briefs or memoranda which stem from ERGO conversations will be shared with participants.

The focus of the session will be changes in projects that address complex social problems and primarily those based on outcomes, such as impact bonds. We are asking each speaker to address three questions:

1. What is guiding our responses – contract terms, laws & government emergency policies, or relationships?
2. What are our responses – pause, keep walking, run, new moves – in the immediate (emergency) term or short term (recovery)?
3. Do you see any promising practices emerging? Or, what is the one thing you want everyone to avoid, do, or know?

Agenda

15.30 **Welcome**

Clare FitzGerald, Research Fellow, Government Outcomes Lab

15:35 **Comments from a UK central and local government outcome payer perspective:**

*James Magowan, Government Inclusive Unit, UK Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport
Mark Roddan, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire Council (Invited)*

15:45 **Comments from UK provider, investor, and/or fund manager perspective:**

*Daniella Jammes, Freshfields [<5min]
David Hunter, Bates Wells Braithwaite [<5 min]
Julian Blake, Stone King [<5 min]*

16:05 **Comments from international development & impact finance perspective:**

Ranajoy Basu, McDermott, Will & Emery [<5 min]

16:20 **Brief observations from legal scholars**

Abby Semple [< 3 min]

Aris Georgopoulos, University of Nottingham [<3min]

Chris Stone, University of Oxford [<3min]

Christopher Yukins, George Washington University [<3 min]

16:35. **Questions & Answers**

Please clarify whether you are speaking about the relationship(s) between the service user, provider, outcomes payer, investor, fund manager, performance manager, evaluator, other, and/or all parties. Clarify whether your comments relate to projects involving a government funder, specific jurisdiction, and/or specific structure.

16:55. **Close**

Background Resources

Participants may want to review the following materials in advance of the session:

- UK Government procurement policy note (02/20) on supplier relief due to COVID-19 (March 2020), which addresses Payment by Results contracts on p 1 and 3:
(<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/procurement-policy-notes>)
- European Commission recent public procurement guidance (March 2020): here: [https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52020XC0401\(05\)&from=EN](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52020XC0401(05)&from=EN)
- The GO Lab offers COVID-19 resources: <https://golab.bsg.ox.ac.uk/community/covid-19-resource-hub/>
- The GO Lab's guide to awarding an outcomes contract (2019):
<https://golab.bsg.ox.ac.uk/toolkit/technical-guidance/awarding-outcomes-based-contracts/>

Upcoming ERGO meetings

Session II. COVID-19 Peer Support Session

Wednesday, 15th April 2020

15.30 –17.00 BST

This open session will provide a platform for outcomes-based projects to discuss their current challenges and learn from each other about possible solutions.

Register [here](#).

Session III. Performance and accountability during COVID-19: data sharing, monitoring and auditing in crisis contexts

Wednesday, 22nd April 2020

15.30 – 17.00 BST

Emergencies require governments to rethink the way they fund, steward and oversee public services. What is the right balance between granting providers discretion and flexibility without abandoning accountability mechanisms? How can public service providers anticipate and prepare for changes to 'business as usual' monitoring and auditing requirements? And, are there particular considerations for outcomes contracts? In this discussion, academics and practitioners will discuss how governments can pursue transparency and accountability during and recovering from the pandemic drawing on lessons from other emergency contexts and stimulus efforts.



Register [here](#)

You can find out more about the ERGO peer learning group [here](#).

If you would like to suggest a topic for a future ERGO session or would like to contribute to upcoming sessions, please get in touch with Andreea in the GO Lab team at andreea.anastasiu@bsg.ox.ac.uk.