

Facilitator's Short Biography

Bob Williams is widely known for his ability to connect evaluation practice and systemic practice. He was awarded the American Evaluation Association's Lazarsfeld prize for this work. He has conducted variations of this workshop multiple times both on-line and in person.

Bob specializes in the evaluation of complex and "difficult" projects and programs. To this end he has been using "systems" concepts in his work for over thirty years. He was originally trained as an ecologist – one of the earliest "systems" disciplines, and he spent four years with the Systems Group at the Open University in the United Kingdom. He is well versed in a variety of different systems methods, but feels that Critical Systems' focus on valuing has particular importance to the evaluation field.

He has run systems and evaluation workshops in the USA, Australasia, South America, Europe, Africa and Asia. In recent years he has guided systemic evaluation designs and implementation for a variety of clients around the world.

His latest systems book is *System Diagrams: A Practical Guide* (2021). He also co-authored the book "Systems Concepts in Action: A Practitioner's Toolkit" (2011). The second edition of his co-authored book 'Wicked Solutions : A systems approach to complex problems' was published in March 2016. "Systemic Evaluation Design – A Workbook" (2019) with an earlier Spanish edition published in 2017. Earlier he co-edited the book "Systems Concepts in Evaluation: An Expert Anthology" (2008).