



Evaluation plan 2014-2020

Draft Guidance Document (ERDF/ESF)

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Why this guidance?

- Legal requirement of evaluation plans (art. 114)
- Member States' request for common guidance DG REGIO/EMPL
- Annexes:
 - Designing ToRs for impact evaluations,
 - Managing evaluation quality

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Role of Evaluation Plan

- Quality of evaluations (time, methods, data)
- Use for programme management and policy making
- Sharing of evidence in different policy fields
- Feed into reporting:
 - MS: AIR; progress reports (2017, 2019);
Report on evaluation findings (2022)
 - Commission:
 - annual summary of AIR and evaluations
(as of 2016);
 - Strategic reports (2017, 2019)

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Impact evaluations

- **What is required by Regulation?**
 - Evaluate contribution of OP to objectives of each priority (Art. 56)
 - Evaluate impact in relation to the EU2020 targets (Art.54)
 - Report on Funds contribution to change in result indicators + to EU 2020 achievement (AIR 2017 + 2019)
- **What does this mean?**
 - **Each specific objective should be covered** to allow for overall conclusion for each PA
 - The extent will differ according to nature of result, available evidence, policy importance
 - EU 2020: in most cases qualitative analyse, considering other factors

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Impact evaluations

- Timing
 - As late as possible, as early as necessary: depends on nature of intervention; consider evaluating similar interventions 2007-2013
 - Evaluations will not be carried out at the same time
- Necessary data
 - Depends on evaluation method
 - Supported entities and individual participants (regulatory obligations: Art. 125 and Annex XII)
 - Data from other sources of information than monitoring systems: unemployment records, tax records...
 - Need to be planned in advance

Elements of evaluation plan - 1

1) Objectives, coverage, coordination

- What evidence available in different policy fields?
- Coordination between MA (evaluation coverage, findings, practice)



Element of evaluation plan - 2

2) Evaluation framework

- Responsibilities
- Evaluation process
- Involvement of partners
- Source of evaluation expertise, independence
- Training programme
- Strategy to ensure use and communication
- Timetable
- Budget
- Quality management strategy

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Elements of evaluation plan - 3

3) Planned evaluations

- Indicative list, ad hoc evaluations possible
- Impact evaluations should be planned early
- Each evaluation:
 - subject, rationale, evaluation questions
 - Methods, data requirements
 - Duration and tentative date
 - Estimated budget

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Review & follow up of evaluation plan

Regulation:

- Submitted no later than a year after adoption of OP to monitoring committee (approves, reviews, amends: Art. 114, 110)
- Follow up given to evaluation findings (Art.110)

Recommendation:

- MA publishes on website and sends via SFC
- MC debates on main expected results, policy importance, timing

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Next steps

- Presented to REGIO - MS networks on 10 March
- DG EMPL Partnership: 21 March
- Publication on Info regio: mid-April

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