



Impact evaluations 2014-2020 – what DG REGIO is (not) expecting

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Impact evaluations -where do they belong in the regulation?

- **Part of result orientation**
- **Other elements:**

Testable objectives in programmes (specific objectives and result indicators)

Performance framework

Ex ante and ex post conditionalities

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(Draft) legal requirements

- "At least once during the period, an evaluation shall assess how support...has contributed to the objectives for each priority." Art. 49 (3)
- "Contribution to objectives" = impact
- See also art. 44.3 (annual report): "the contribution...to changes in the values of result indicators, when evidence is available from evaluations"

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Which approaches?

- **Theory-based evaluations**
- **Counterfactual evaluations**
- **Combination would be ideal**
- **Other methods: models, CBA,...**
- **Guidance: "Concepts and recommendations" – see Inforegio website**

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Some more hints

- **Consider cooperation with other programmes**
- **Data from past periods can be used, when appropriate**
- **Often evaluation at level of investment priorities likely to be appropriate**
- **Differentiate depth of evaluation depending on existing knowledge and programme features**
- **Guidance: "Concepts and recommendations" – see Inforegio website**

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Evaluation plan (ERDF + ESF)

- Planning improves quality
- Data (creation) needs planning
- Responsibility of managing authority – to be approved by monitoring committee
- Commission might comment as member of monitoring committee
- See "concepts and recommendations", section 3.5

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Reference documents - Guidance

Concepts and Recommendations

http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/sources/docoffic/2014/working/wd_2014_en.pdf

EVALSED

http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/information/evaluations/guidance_en.cfm#1