

Interreg Evaluation Plans in 2021-2027

Interact event 25 January 2022

REGIO B.2 – Evaluation and European Semester

Overview of SWD on Perf. Monitoring and Evaluation

SWD objective: to provide clarity on provisions on

- Evaluation
- Programming, monitoring using common and specific indicators
- Categorisation system

Publication:

SWD + Annexes in PDF:

https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/policy/evaluations/guidance/#1

Purpose of evaluation planning

- **Better quality of Evaluations:**
 - Adequate time allocated;
 - Proper methods applied;
 - Data available.
- **Ensure use for Management and Policy Making:**
 - Enable informed programme management and policy decisions on the basis of evaluation findings;
 - Means;
 - Evaluations should also be read not only written.
- **Knowledge sharing:**
 - Sharing of evidence in different policy fields between interreg programmes;
 - Commission performs meta analysis of policy fields across member states.

Evaluation plan components

- **Objectives, coverage, coordination:**
 - What evidence available in different policy fields?
 - Coordination between MA (evaluation coverage, findings, practice)
- **Evaluation framework:**
 - Responsibilities
 - Evaluation process, Involvement of partners (working groups, multi-level governance), Source of evaluation expertise, independence
 - Training programme, Strategy to ensure use and communication, Timetable (to feed reports)
 - Budget, Quality management strategy

Evaluation plan components

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

Lessons learned

- Design a feasible evaluation framework;
- Body of policy evidence;
- Clarify the objectives of evaluation;
- Proper budget planning;
- Ensure visibility;

Evaluations done in 14-20

- 81 evaluations reviewed by the Helpdesk out of which:
 - 16 impact evaluations for 14-20 period, 3 for 07-13 period and 3 covering both periods
 - 57 implementation, process or monitoring oriented for 14-20 period, 2 for 07-13

With few exceptions of evaluations on one or two specific policy areas, most of the evaluations covered the whole programme.

Findings from evaluations (1)

- **Energy use and efficiency, climate change adaptation, environmental protection and transport**
 - The majority of the evaluations report on which measures were implemented to protect the environment and reduce CO2 emissions – they mainly report the nature of what has been financed and what seems to have been achieved (implementation focus)
 - Better strategic approach needed for natural and cultural heritage investments
 - Development of cross-border road links is going well, but it might have in the long term detrimental effects on the environment due to increased traffic

Findings from evaluations (2)

- **Research, innovation and SME development**
 - **increased cooperation** between R&D centres and firms on the two sides of the border
 - new innovative methods, tools and processes were developed but few were implemented and commercialised
- **Cooperation, capacity building and other cross-cutting aspects**
 - increased exchange of information, know-how and experience
 - partnerships have the potential to turn into **permanent networks** or have led to the development of these

Findings from evaluations (3) – points for reflection

- The selected output indicators were not always relevant to the programme's objectives
- In some cases, the investments and programme objectives were not sufficiently focused, considering the available funding
- The monitoring system posed difficulties and could be improved in terms of user-friendliness
- It was rather difficult to attract new types of beneficiaries (relatively low implication of SMEs in projects)
- The coordination between the programme authorities could be improved
- The SCOs were not widely used

Evaluation for 2014-2020

- Final Implementation Report – template to be followed in Annex X, parts A, B, C of CIR 2015/207 (evaluation topic to be covered in a similar way as for 2019 Strategic Report)
- Timing of the impact evaluation -> end of 2023.
- Timing of the report summarising the findings of evaluations -> end of 2022.

Article 114 of the 14-20 CPR – summary report for evaluations

- By the end of 2022, not all evaluations would have been conducted – managing authorities will report on what is already available
- To the extent possible, evaluation findings should be linked to output and result indicators.
- Many programme authorities requested DG REGIO to prepare a template to simplify & streamline the reporting
- The template was prepared and will be distributed by Interact colleagues

Draft template for art. 114

1. Overview of the evaluation work
2. Findings by priority axis and by result & output indicator

Priority axis	IP	Findings of evaluation and comments (if any)	Related output indicators (1)	Related result indicators (2)	Actions taken (3) (optional)	Identifier(s) of evaluation (4)
---------------	----	--	-------------------------------	-------------------------------	------------------------------	---------------------------------

3. General conclusions

Annex: Evaluations undertaken in respect of the OP concerned

Identifier	Brief description of measures/intervention subject of evaluation	Title	Fund(s) concerned by the eval.	TOs	Link to report
------------	--	-------	--------------------------------	-----	----------------

Evaluation considerations questions

- Evaluation criteria;
- Timing of evaluations;
- Coverage of evaluations.

Keep in touch with Evaluation + #ESIFOpenData



ec.europa.eu/



[#ESIFOpenData intro video](#)



[Info regio website](#)
[ESIF Open Data Platform](#)



[#ESIFOpenData FAQ + User Guide](#)



[@EU_Commission](#)
[@EUinmyregion](#)
[@RegioEvaluation #ESIFOpenData](#)



[@EuropeanCommission](#)

Thank you



© European Union 2020

Unless otherwise noted the reuse of this presentation is authorised under the [CC BY 4.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/) license. For any use or reproduction of elements that are not owned by the EU, permission may need to be sought directly from the respective right holders.

