

| EVALUATION AND FITNESS CHECK (FC) ROADMAP | | | | |
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| TITLE OF THE EVALUATION/FC | Commission Communication on the ex-post evaluations of the EC and Euratom 7th Framework Programmes (This is a revision to an already adopted roadmap to follow the revised better regulation guidelines) | | | |
| LEAD DG – RESPONSIBLE UNIT | RTD.A.5 | DATE OF THIS ROADMAP | 6 / 2015 | |
| TYPE OF EVALUATION | [Select the category that applies from each line] Evaluation Ex-post Mixed | PLANNED START DATE | Q3 / 2014 | |
| | | PLANNED COMPLETION DATE | Q1 2016 | |
| | | PLANNING CALENDAR | http://ec.europa.eu/smart-regulation/evaluation/index_en.htm | |
| This indicative roadmap is provided for information purposes only and is subject to change. | | | | |

| A. Purpose |
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| (A.1) Purpose |
| <p>The purpose of the ex-post Evaluation (henceforth 'Evaluation') of the 'Seventh Framework Programme' of the European Community for research, technological development and demonstration activities' running during the period 2007 – 2013 (EC FP7) and of the Euratom Seventh Framework Programme is to inform . the European Parliament and the Council, Member States, the research community, the general public and other stakeholders about the achievements of FP7.</p> <p>The evaluation will contain an assessment of the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, coherence and EU added value of these programmes. The overall task is to evaluate the extent to which FP7 achieved its objectives, as set out in the legal framework, given that these are of critical importance to the Union's research policy. More precisely for each FP7 Specific Programme – Cooperation, Ideas, People and Capacities – the evaluation will address a set of key evaluation questions concerning the following aspects: rationale; implementation; direct achievements; longer-term and wider economic, social and environmental impacts and European added value.</p> <p>It will contribute to the interim evaluation of Horizon 2020 and provide an evidence base for designing future EU Framework Programmes for Research and Innovation.</p> |
| (A.2) Justification |
| <p>Article 7 paragraph 3 of Decision 1982/2006/EC setting up FP7 stipulates that "two years following the completion of this Framework Programme, the Commission shall carry out an external evaluation by independent experts of its rationale, implementation and achievements".¹</p> |

| B. Content and subject of the evaluation |
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| (B.1) Subject area |
| The evaluation covers the entire period of implementation of these programs as entities in between 2007-2013. |
| (B.2) Original objectives of the intervention |
| The Seventh Framework Programme pursues the general objectives described in Article 179 of the Treaty on the European Union and the treaty on the functioning of the European Union (ex. art. 163 TEC), to strengthen industrial competitiveness and to meet the research needs of other Community policies, thereby contributing to the creation |

¹ OJ L412/6 of 30.12.2006.

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| <p>of a knowledge-based society, building on a European Research Area and complementing activities at a national and regional level. It will promote excellence in scientific and technological research, development and demonstration through the following four programmes: cooperation, ideas, people and capacities.</p> <p>The Euratom Seventh Framework Programme comprises Community research, technological development, international cooperation, dissemination of technical information and exploitation activities as well as training, to be set out in two specific programmes, covering fusion energy research, with the objective of developing the technology for a safe, sustainable, environmentally responsible and economically viable energy source; nuclear fission and radiation protection, with the objective of enhancing in particular the safety performance, resource efficiency and cost-effectiveness of nuclear fission and other uses of radiation in industry and medicine and the activities of the Joint Research Centre (JRC) in the field of nuclear energy.</p> |
| (B.3) How the objectives were to be achieved |
| <p>Several developments (in the context of FP7 or with a significant impact on the programme) influenced the evolution of FP7 over this period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The size of the EU budget allocation to the research activities of FP7 grew substantially both in real terms and as a proportion of the overall budget; • New initiatives to stimulate the European Research Area were launched; • The European Research Council (ERC) was created; • A range of new activities and implementation schemes were introduced during FP7. <p>The ex post evaluation will assess in detail how the objectives of the programmes were achieved.</p> |
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| C. Scope of the evaluation/FC |
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| (C.1) Topics covered |
| <p>The evaluation covers the entire period of implementation in between 2007-2013.</p> <p>The evaluation should cover the objectives of FP7 as set out at that time. At the same time, it should take into account that the context has changed significantly during the period of programme implementation. Moreover, in the light of the financial and economic crisis, research efforts have been more than ever expected to help address major challenges. Besides these external factors, entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty in 2009 and the Europe 2020 strategy have extended the scope of European research policy and positioned it as a key component of growth and competitiveness, together with innovation. This has led to a shift from research being perceived as largely a sectoral policy to the growing expectation that it has a central role to play in stimulating growth.</p> <p>Furthermore, over the life of FP7 there has been an increased focus on accountability and the need to demonstrate more concretely what impact has been achieved with the resources devoted to the Framework Programme.</p> <p>Independent expert group will present a report on the ex-post evaluation of the programmes, in line with the legal requirements. The Commission will present a Communication reacting to the reports of the independent experts in the first quarter of 2016, accompanied by a Staff Working Document.</p> |
| (C.2) Issues to be examined |
| <p>The evaluation will contain an assessment of the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, coherence and EU added value of these programmes. The overall task is to evaluate the extent to which FP7 achieved its objectives, as set out in the legal framework, given that these are of critical importance to the Union's research policy.</p> <p>More precisely for each FP7 Specific Programme – Cooperation, Ideas, People and Capacities – the evaluation will address a set of key evaluation questions concerning the following aspects: rationale; implementation; direct achievements; longer-term and wider economic, social and environmental impacts and European added value.</p> |
| (C.3) Other tasks |
| <i>n.a.</i> |

| D. Evidence base | |
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| (D.1) Evidence from monitoring | 7 Annual Monitoring Reports on the implementation of FP7 were produced during the period 2009-2015. These provide an integrated view on the different strands of FP7 activities and also presents a comparative analysis of FP7 implementation during 2007-2013. |
| (D.2) Previous evaluations and other reports | Ex post evaluation of the Sixth Framework Programme (2009) and the Interim evaluation of the Seventh Framework Programme (2010). |
| (D.3) Evidence from assessing the implementation and application of legislation (complaints, infringement procedures) | <p>A comprehensive set of relevant studies encompassing evaluation, monitoring and impact assessments of FP7 and of previous FPs as well as Specific Programmes and contextual and methodological analysis carried out or commissioned by the Commission will underpin the ex-post evaluation, in particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The FP7 Progress Report; - Annual FP7 Monitoring Reports; - Reports from FP7 thematic evaluation studies and ad hoc analyses; - Report from the Interim evaluation of the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7); - Report from the ex-post evaluation of the Sixth Framework Programme (FP6); - Relevant policy documents and reviews, including the Framework Programmes, the spring reports to the European Council, annual reports on research activities, S/T indicators, benchmarking and mapping data; - Targeted (ex post and interim) evaluations and studies carried out by Framework Programme thematic activities, including the ex-post evaluation of the JRC; - Statistical information on the implementation of the activities; - Bibliometric analysis of scientific production, analysis of citation data; - Selected scientific publications. |
| (D.4) Consultation | <p>A public stakeholder consultation was launched in February 2015 and ran for 3 months. The consultation collected views on the overall management of FP7, the impact of the simplification measures, and the achievements of the supported activities. Individuals, groups or organisations who have had a direct experience with FP7 or just wish to give their opinion were invited to contribute. In addition, the Commission services are exploring the feasibility of organising a stakeholder workshop with the European Economic and Social Committee as well as with ERAC.</p> <p>http://ec.europa.eu/research/consultations/fp7-ex-post-evaluation-2015/consultation_en.htm</p> |
| (D.5) Further evidence to be gathered | n/a |

| E. Other relevant information/ remarks |
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| n.a. |