

GPW and Guidelines for the Evaluation of National Rural Networks 2014-2020

State of play

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Outline

- Good Practice Workshop (GPW) outcomes
- Guidelines: Where do we stand?
- Structure of the guidelines on NRN 2014-2020
- Content of the guidelines on NRN 2014-2020

Good Practice Workshop

Main outcomes on:

- “Ex post evaluation of 2007-2013 NRNs”
- “Evaluation of 2014-2020 NRNs”

Ex post evaluation of 2007-2013 NRNs”

Key issues in **preparing the ex post evaluation:**

- Common understanding between MAs-evaluators (Also on the terminology used)
- Cooperation with stakeholders (Drafting ToR, review and develop EQs)
- Identification of the evaluation needs and scope
- Identification and preparation of the data for evaluation
- How *ex post* results feed into the new period

Ex post evaluation of 2007-2013 NRNs”

Key issues to include in **ex post evaluation**:

- Network structure
- The relevance of NRN intervention logic (MAs with the support of evaluators and NSU)
- Network’s contribution to RDP implementation and objectives
- Network’s results and impacts
- Added value:
 - Social Capital
 - Governance
 - Capacity building
 - Unintended effects

Ex post evaluation of 2007-2013 NRNs”

Key issues in **implementing the ex post evaluation:**

- Take into account the “architecture” of NRNP and RDP NRNs
 - NRN as part of the RDP (Coordination and integration)
 - NRNP as a separate programme (independent evaluation)
- Involve stakeholders in evaluation activities
- Apply robust evaluation methods and assessment
 - Use of mixed methods (quantitative + qualitative)
 - Look for counterfactual

**Avoid the LEADER
evaluation syndrome**

Evaluation of 2014-2020 NRNs

Intervention logic

- Difference between the NRN and NRNP intervention logic (IL)

Setting up the hierarchy of objectives:

- **First step:** construct the IL based on common elements (objectives and groups of actions)
- **Second step:** Complete the IL with network specific objectives and group of actions in line with the identified needs
- **Third step:** Identification of the expected outputs, results and impacts

Evaluation of 2014-2020 NRNs

Monitoring and evaluation framework

- It is key to develop the M&E framework together with the IL to avoid future problems (e.g. with data collection)
- There is room to develop network specific indicators by MAs
 - **Result indicators**
 - **Impact indicators??**
- It is important to quantify the effects of the NRNs to avoid the LEADER evaluation syndrome → Need for appropriate, quantifiable and realistic indicators. **WE NEED TO BE AMBITIOUS!!!**

Ex post evaluation guidelines



The *ex post* evaluation **guidelines address NRN** specificities in each of the chapters

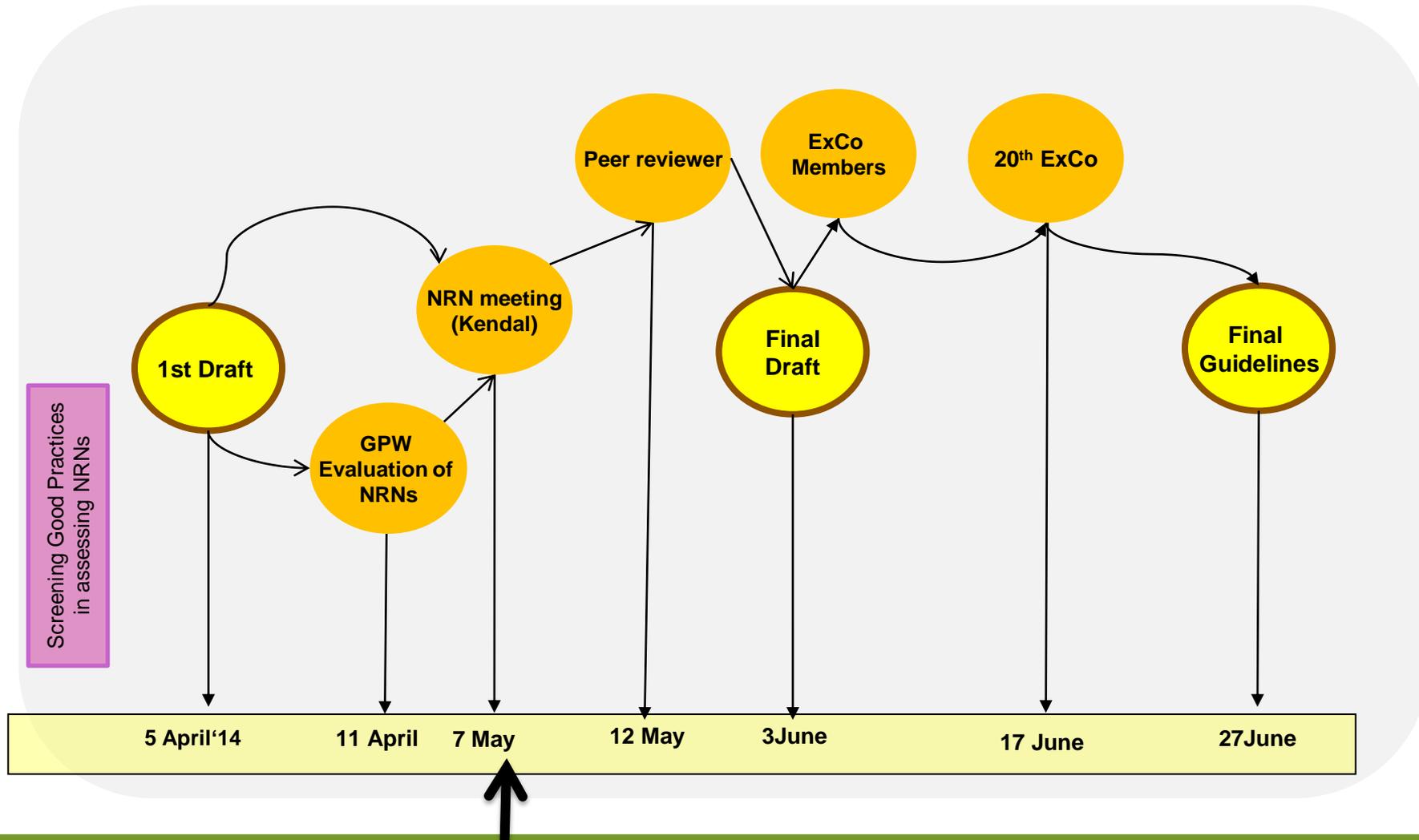
- Scope and process of evaluation
- Intervention logic
- Evaluation questions
- Indicators
- Methods
- Data

Ex post evaluation guidelines



- Guidelines are in an advance stage (**2nd Draft**)
- Full guidelines were **shared with all MS** (ExCo member) on the 17th April for feedback and comments until the **10th of May**
- The **final version** will be available before the ExCo meeting of the **17th June**, and it will be presented there.

Guidelines for the evaluation of 2014-2020 NRNs



What is the structure of the NRN guidelines 2014-2020?



1. Introduction

2. PART I: NRNs in evaluation

3. PART II: Framing the evaluation of NRNs

4. PART III: Toolbox

Content introduction

INTRODUCTION

Evaluation of NRNs

Why do we need guidelines?

What are the target groups?

How can the guidelines be used?

Content of Part I

1- Networks and networking

Definition of Networks and the networking process

2- Why evaluation of NRNs?

Design quality NRNs
Transparency
Accountability
Policy learning

3- Evaluation and Self-assessment

Main differences
Complementarities

4- Common and programme-specific elements

Objectives,
Intervention logic, EQs,
indicators

5- Focus of NRN evaluation

Relevance, effectiveness,
Achievements, efficiency,
Impacts, success and failure
factors

6- Process of the NRN evaluation

Stakeholders
and their role
Key steps: planning,
implementing disseminating

Content of Part II

1- Intervention logic

**2- Monitoring and
evaluation (M&E)
system**

**3- Methods and
data**

Content of Part II

1- Intervention logic

2- M&E system

3- Methods and data

- Clarify **what is an intervention logic** for NRNs
- Elements to **construct the intervention logic** of NRNs
 1. Networking context and specific needs of the territory
 - *Examples of context parameters*
 2. Common and specific elements (objectives and groups of actions)
 - *Examples of intervention logic*

Content of Part II

1- Intervention logic

2- M&E system

3- Methods and
data

- How to **define network specific objectives**
- How to **construct the intervention logic** (Examples)
- Differences between **NRNs and NRNPs** intervention logic

Content of Part II

1- Intervention logic

2- M&E system

3- Methods and data

- Main elements of the **CMES for NRNs** (*triangular consistency*)
- **The role of evaluation questions (EQs):**
 - Types and purpose of EQs: Common and Programme-specific EQs
 - How to design PSEQs for NRNs
- **The role of indicators:**
 - Definition, role and use of indicators of NRNs
 - How to develop programme-specific indicators

** Examples of programme-specific result indicators*

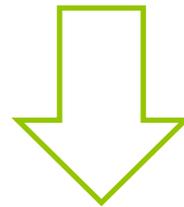
Content of Part II

1- Intervention logic

2- M&E system

**3- Methods and
data**

- The importance of robust methods and data
- Links between methods and data collection



*Available methods for the evaluation of NRNs
(included in Part III of guidelines)*

Content of Part III (Toolbox)

Common output indicators fiches

Examples of intervention logic

Available methods for the evaluation of NRNs

Practice in evaluation of NRN (IT, ES, FI)

Glossary of terms

Thank you for your attention!

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