

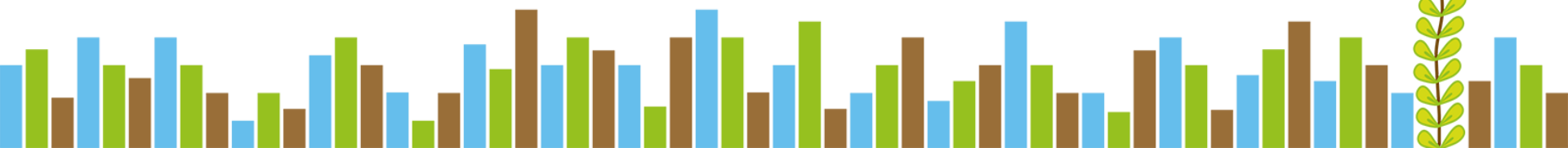
How are evaluations planned and organised in Sweden?

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Evaluation Secretariat

- Evaluation Secretariat started 2013
- Secretariat manages and commissions evaluations for RDP and other ESI programmes
- An independent function within the Swedish Board of Agriculture
- Supported by an Advisory Research Committee
 - An external, independent, group of researchers
 - Provide an independent quality control of evaluations
 - One or two committee members follow each evaluation



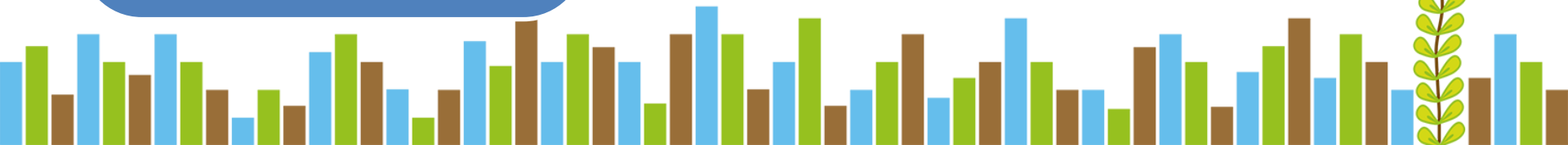
Evaluation planning

RDP Evaluation plan

- Rather general in scope
- Little guidance for operational planning of evaluations
- Sets an overall structure and commitment

Operational plan

- A long-list of specific evaluation ideas and topics
- Annual prioritised short-list produced
- Based on an assessment of needs and discussions with stakeholders



Evaluation topics

Programme operation and management

- On-ongoing evaluation of EIP-Agri
- Evaluation of selection criteria

Methodology studies

- Index for biodiversity monitoring and policy evaluation
- Model for evaluation of LEADER impacts

Cross-cutting topics

- Baseline study on rural innovation ("Farm CIS")
- Comparison of LEADER projects between the ESI funds

Programme impacts

Programme outputs and results



How do we communicate evaluations?

Communication plan for each specific evaluation

Evaluation workshop to present main results and recommendations
Target group: ministry, MA management, management of other agencies

Published **online** as:
[Follow up reports](#) and
[Evaluation reports](#)

[Blog](#)

Evaluation-specific **additional activities**, e.g.:

- [NRN podcast or online seminar](#)
 - Press release
 - Additional workshops or presentations

Communication about evaluations

Presentations in different fora
Target groups: MC and other (adapted according to need)

[Summaries of programme results and outcomes](#)



Do's and don't's – lessons for the future

- Do:
 - Have clear processes and structures from the start
 - Involve relevant internal and external stakeholders early
 - Develop contacts with a wider evaluation community (especially other public sector agencies)
 - Evaluate throughout the programme period
 - Consider national evaluation needs as well as EU requirements
- Don't:
 - Underestimate the need for communication for developing an evaluation awareness
 - Forget to evaluate your evaluations and processes!
 - Undertake evaluations that have no benefit for the programme and its goals



Role of the Evaluation plan

- Create an overall framework for the management of evaluations
 - Ensuring stability, showing the MA's commitment and level of ambition and resources
 - Learn from past experiences
- Should have an appropriate level of detail on specific topics
 - A degree of flexibility needed!
 - Should be realistic!
- Should support the operational, day-to-day management of evaluations

