CONTRIBUTION OF THE NSRF INTERVENTIONS FOR THE SOCIAL INCLUSION OF PEOPLE LIVING IN DEPRIVED URBAN AREAS

Sergio Barroso // CEDRU
"Every cloud has a silver lining. If I hadn't been unemployed I hadn't done this training. I found my true calling. Now I’m working on what I like and I feel for the first time, fulfilled."
EVALUATION SUMMARY

• Evaluation promoter: National Strategic Reference Framework Observatory

• **Scope:** Strategic Evaluation of the National Strategic Reference Framework 2007-2013:
  
  • Support to innovation and internationalization
  
  • Support to energy efficiency
  
  • Tackle Early School Leaving
  
  • Social Inclusion of People Living in Deprived Urban Areas

• **Programmes:** 5 Regional Programmes (ERDF) and 1 thematic national programme (ESF)

• **Start / Conclusion:** November 2012 - June 2013
"I used to run away from the adult day care center. To be watching TV, I could stay at home. Now it’s different. I like being here, do this activities with people of my age and with children. I feel less alone."
ANALYSIS CRITICAL FACTORS

CONTEXT

- TYPE OF URBAN AREA
- TYPE OF VULNERABLE GROUP
- TYPE OF ISSUE

MECHANISMS

- SHORT-TERM PROJECTS VS LONG-TERM PROJECTS
- TYPE OF PROJECT
- INTEGRATED VS SINGLE
- PUBLIC POLICY
SELECTED CASE STUDIES

URBAN DEPRIVED AREA
- Social Housing Neighbourhoods
  1. Aldoar
  2. Vale da Amoreira
  3. Cruz da Picada/Malagueira/Bairro do Escurinho

Historic Centres
1. Centro Histórico do Porto
2. Centro Histórico de Coimbra
3. Mouraria

Neighborhoods located at the periphery of the metropolitan areas
1. Vila D’Este
2. Tapada das Mercês
MEASURING RESULTS

PROJECTS (26)
- (Re)constructing the theory of change (mapping out the causal chain from inputs to outcomes and impact)
- Identify the final beneficiaries (local retailer, residents, students, public service users, local associations of immigrants, ...)

SURVEYS (654)
- Individual motivation for change
- Participation in other projects
- Project Evaluation
- Results

EVALUATION INDICATORS (MICRO AND MESO)
- Autonomy and capacity building
- Housing and living conditions
- Reduce the discrimination
- Access to the civil rights
"I wanted to learn Portuguese for me and for my two kids. To be able to help them in school. I used all the breaks at work to learn. At night, I used to study with my children and husband.."
LESSONS LEARNED

CRITICAL FACTORS OF SUCCESS

1. Interventions with **greater temporal continuity** were more effective.

2. **Strategic and operational arrangement** between policy instruments (as a result of local networks) allowed to achieve better results.

3. **Capacity building, empowerment and structuring role of civil society** allowed in certain vectors more expressive and efficient results.

4. The development of **place based (integrated) approaches** and the combination of funds (ERDF / ESF) allowed more appropriate responses to the diversity of problems.

5. **Local structures of animation** not only increased the effectiveness but also allowed complementary projects financed with local resources.

6. Public policy instruments with **external evaluations, monitoring**, and **learning networks**, were more innovative and have more uniformity of results.

7. The **participation of communities** in the starting diagnoses ensured a better fit of the actions.
**Prepare better** - Do not reduce the assessment to verify the results of the programmed indicators: conduct surveys to measure the *ex ante* and *ex post* situations.

**Learn more** - Evaluations suited not only to assess results but also to unpick the mechanisms of change.

**Engage more** - Evaluative processes should contribute to adjust existing / creating new policies, programmes and projects.

**Inspire more** - Use the evaluation process to boost individual and community change (e.g. amplify the use of lifestories/storytelling and local-based focus groups to increase motivation / participation in future interventions).
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