Evaluation of Large Infrastructure Operational Programme interventions in the field of transport

Ministry of European Funds

DATA SOURCES
Use of theory of change as evaluation methodological approach, combining desk research, administrative data analysis, 16 case studies, interviews, focus groups, workshops, surveys.

MAIN FINDINGS
Some small-scale effects of the on-going projects can be already seen. Improved travel conditions on all sections in operations:
- reduced travel time on roads and motorways;
- increased railway speed (Sighisoara-Coslariu, Simeria-Coslariu);
- significantly increased mobility on Danube bridges (railway);
- increased volume of goods transported on inland waterways;
- increased safety on railways;
- decreased noise pollution in railway area;
- reduced risks of floods (lock);
- increased number of underground transport users and area attractiveness, including for new economic activities.

When finalised, the funded projects will have a very important contribution to increasing mobility on the TEN-T network and to increasing transport safety.

Several systemic factors have been slowing down progress, such as:
- limited capacity of the beneficiary institutions to design projects and manage implementation;
- contractors’ limited capacity;
- lengthy works award procedures (mainly due to tender results being frequently contested by bidders);
- lengthy periods for issuing permits, for land acquisition a.s.o.

The Programme includes projects that cover all of the transport modes – road, rail, air, subway, inland waterways – as well as horizontal themes: safety, intermodal transport, customs clearance. Few projects have been finalised to date. Several of the LIOP funded projects represent the 2nd phase of the projects initiated during the previous period, while other projects are new investments.

The evaluation questioned progress of the sector (gross effect), intended (net effect), unintended & spillover effects, sustainability, influence mechanisms.

FUND(S) COVERED
- European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)
- Cohesion Fund (CF)

PROGRAMMING PERIOD
- 2014-2020

PROGRAMME(S) COVERED
- Large Infrastructure Operational Programme (LIOP) 2014-2020

THEMATIC OBJECTIVE(S)
- TO07: Transport and key network infrastructures

TYPE OF EVALUATION
- Impact

YEAR OF COMPLETION
- Ongoing

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