

Evaluation Planning

<i>Purposes</i>	<i>Activities</i>	<i>Preconditions and Barriers</i>
<p>Ensuring implementation of quality evaluations and their effective use by Managing Authorities</p> <p>Inform policy and decision making at EU, national and territorial level</p> <p>Integrate the priorities of EU, national and territorial stakeholders</p> <p>Ensure that ‘horizontal’ principles are integrated, e.g. gender equality; energy efficiency; climate change adaptation</p> <p>Delineate the scope of the plan, what is to be covered</p> <p>Build on <i>all</i> available evidence</p> <p>Prioritise and focus so as to allocate funds proportionately</p> <p>Ensure evaluation resources are used to maximal benefit and evaluations are well managed</p> <p>Ensure that evaluations are of appropriate quality – in terms of their relevance, methods & usefulness</p> <p>Put in place the elements that will allow synthesis across evaluations (e.g. at thematic, sectoral & thematic level)</p> <p>Build in flexibility and a contribution to mid term reviews and reprogramming if required</p>	<p>Align reporting with known policy/decision cycles including annual implementation and progress reports</p> <p>Align Programmes with related EU and national and priorities/policies including sectoral and territorial strategies and National Energy and Climate Plans</p> <p>Set objective at strategic and programme level – balancing themes and coverage</p> <p>Conduct/commission an evidence review drawing on past evaluations and relevant studies (partly a national planning task)</p> <p>Distinguish between what we already know and areas of uncertainty and risk in order to decide budget/ methodological parameters</p> <p>Outline a preliminary plan for ‘impact evaluations’ including which approaches match which measures</p> <p>Identify a provisional list of required evaluations – including preparatory studies - to be kept under review</p> <p>Specify broad methodological approach including unit of analysis (cross OP? cross MA?) and High Level Questions for individual evaluations</p> <p>Clarify meta-level questions about methods used that the entire portfolio should answer</p>	<p>Effective coordination across MAs <i>and</i> with national/regional government and agencies</p> <p>Effective coordination arrangements at MA level – e.g. with planning and senior management steering group, monitoring committee</p> <p>Liaison arrangements with domain experts including academic departments and specialist consultants</p> <p>Engagement & dialogue with stakeholders, partners and beneficiaries</p> <p>An effective, qualified and adequately resourced evaluation function</p> <p>Data availability and data cleaning to support evaluations and performance indicators</p> <p>Knowledge of evaluation design and methodological approaches</p> <p>Evaluation capacity able & willing to bid for evaluations when announced</p> <p>Procurement and contracting that is fit-for-purpose i.e. adapted to evaluation market</p> <p>QA systems incorporated into all evaluations and at portfolio level including assuring evaluation independence</p> <p>A communication system to encourage evaluation use and awareness nationally & across EU</p>