



Evaluation and Monitoring of the European RTD Framework Programmes

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Roadmap

- Key Activities 2008
 - FP6 Ex-post Evaluation
 - FP7 Monitoring
- European Court of Auditors Report on FP Evaluation System
- European RTD Evaluation Network



Ex-Post Evaluation of FP6 Implementation - 1

- Legal basis
 - FP7 Decision
 - Ex-post evaluation of each FP within 2 years of its completion.
- Scope
 - Comprehensive assessment of rationale, implementation and achievements at FP level
- Panel approach
 - Independent Panel of 15 experts
 - Expertise covering the FP6 research areas
 - Challenge to integrate wide range of evidence into final report



Ex-Post Evaluation of FP6 Implementation - 2



■ Evidence Base

- Evaluation to be supported by more than 30 evaluation reports and studies.
 - “Vertical” analysis by thematic programmes
 - “Horizontal” analysis of overarching issues
- Evidence from National Impact Studies carried out in the Member States/Assoc. Countries

■ Timetable

- First panel meeting in May/June 2008
- Series of meetings before and mainly after summer
- Final report due by the end of 2008.



Ex-post evaluation of FP6

Issues at stake



- Longer term impact and consequences of FP activities?
- Changes in behaviour of participants?
- Networking patterns (geographical / institutional)?
- Networks of Excellence?
- Integration of new Member States?
- ...



Inputs into the evaluation process



- Commission
 - Data, Thematic Studies, Panel Secretariat, ...
- Member States
 - Impact Studies, Surveys, ...
- Scientific Community
 - Methodological papers, participation in surveys, ...
- Public and Media
 - Informed debate, ...



Monitoring of FP7 Implementation



- Move from an external monitoring (FP6) towards an internal monitoring (FP7)
- Move from an “ad-hoc” approach towards a continuous and systematic collection of information and indicators
- Monitoring primarily aimed to support management in implementing FP7
- Annual report to be presented to the Programme Committee and to be published on internet
- Possible information source for future FP7 evaluations
- Flexible system to develop as FP7 will get more “mature”



Monitoring of FP7 Issues



- Application numbers
- Proposal Evaluation
- Time to contract
- Success rates
- User Feedback
- ...



Special Report on FP Evaluation System



- Focus on efficiency, not compliance
- Covering FP4 to FP6 (1994 – 2006)
- Based on several “fact finding missions” worldwide
- Carried out 2005 to 2007
- Adopted December 2007
- “Institutional” Follow-Up (EP, Council) 2008
- Addressed to the European Commission ...
- ... but analysis is of more general interest



Key Issues 1: Intervention logic, objective setting, performance indicators



- Need for an explicit intervention logic from the outset
- Measurable objectives
- Set of limited, but balanced performance indicators



Key Issues 2: Organising Evaluations



- Overall evaluation strategy
- Involve external advice
- Adequate resources (0.4%)



Key Issues 3: Methodologies and Techniques



- “Manual” based on existing guides and toolboxes
- Better use of existing complementary data sources
- Use of full range of evaluation techniques
- “Consult with Member States on how to maximise the benefits of national-level evaluations of the FP”



Key Issues 4: Dissemination and use



- Adequate timing to maximise policy impact
- Communication and dissemination targeting stakeholders
- Need for an evaluation of the longer-term results of past programmes (after 7 to 10 years)



ERA dimension



- ERA calls for greater cooperation and integration of activities at European/national/regional level
- Evaluation cannot ignore this trend
- Important potential as regards
 - ➔ Exchange of information
 - ➔ Methodological developments
 - ➔ Mutual learning
- Potential for increased policy impact



European RTD Evaluation Network



- Created 1996, relaunch 2007/2008
- All Member States and Associated Countries (36)
- 2 members per country
 - ➔ Academic community
 - ➔ Implementing agencies
- Two meetings per year
(28 & 29 January in Brussels)
- Explore ERA dimension
 - ➔ National Impact studies on FP



Issues for this network

- “Consult with Member States on how to maximise the benefits of national-level evaluations of the FP”
- Guides and toolboxes
- Nature of complementary data to be used
- Ways to assess longer term impact of research programmes
- Communication and dissemination practices
- ...



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