Answering evaluation questions in ex post evaluation

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GPW, Ex post evaluation of RDP, Palermo, 4 – 5 July 2016
Content

- Role of evaluation questions in ex post evaluation
- Evaluation questions in MTE 2010 – lessons leant
- Setting up the system to answer the evaluation questions and conducting the evaluation
- Challenges and solutions
Role of evaluation questions in ex post

Focus the evaluation on **policy achievements**, reflecting the **programme intervention logic**, i.e. SWOT, needs, objectives, measures, allocated funds etc.

Demonstrate the **progress, effectiveness and efficiency, results, impact, relevance**, of rural development policy

Establish the **causal-effect**: „To what extent ....the change happened......due to the programme“
Common and programme specific evaluation questions

**Common EQ**
- Support evaluation of EU RD policy
- Enhance comparability of evaluation findings across EU

**Programme specific EQ**
- Support evaluation of national/regional RD policy
- Focus on evaluation of RDP specific topics
Programme specific EQs

...are formulated in Member States for example, when:

- CEQs do not capture the full range of achievements of objectives of the programme or axes
- National (territorial) priorities are not covered by CEQs,
- Programme shows potential indirect, unexpected – positive/negative effects,
- Stakeholders require to evaluate specific evaluation topics (e.g. RDP delivery, administration etc.).
Evaluation questions in MTE 2010 - lesson learned

- Overall too large set of CEQs

- Uncertainty on general concept (e.g.: mix of thematic- impact- and implementation-related horizontal evaluation questions)

- Unclear formulation of EQs and missing definitions of key terms

- Missing judgment criteria

- Inconsistency:
  - between CEQ and the policy framework
  - between CEQs and RD indicators

- Insufficient guidance for answering EQs

- Insufficient planning and preparing the evaluation → difficulties in collecting data to answer CEQs
Revised set of common evaluation questions for the ex post

**Original set** of 150 common evaluation questions of CMEF has been **simplified and reduced** to the essential demand for knowledge from the European perspective.

3 groups of CEQs

**Programme-related:**
- Community strategic priorities
- Health Check objectives
- 7 impact indicators
- TA and NRN
- Efficiency of RDP resources

**Measure-related:**
- Contribution of the measure to its axis objectives
- Other measure effects and contribution to other axes objectives

**Leader approach-related:**
- Community strategic priorities:
- Employment, diversification and governance
- Leader approach
- LAG contribution to LDS and RDP
Evaluation system to answer the evaluation questions and conduct the evaluation 2014-2020

Preparing

- Re-visit the RDP intervention logic
- Link intervention logic to evaluation elements

Structuring

- Set up the consistent evaluation approach
- Establish the evidence for evaluation

Conducting

- Observing
- Analysing
- Judging – answering the evaluation questions

What are the challenges and solutions?

To what extent can it be applicable for answering the evaluation questions during the ex post evaluation of 2007 – 2013 RDPs?
Thank you for your attention!

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