The tasks of the two main German networks (NRN and Monitoring & Evaluation Network) are coordinated through a clear division of work: M&E Network is responsible for all M&E related tasks at the RDP and national levels and the NRN supports M&E activities at the sub-RDP level, specifically for Local Action Groups’ task of self-assessment.

“Support for the implementation of the EU’s M&E framework, especially concerning indicators and methods on all levels for monitoring performance and evaluation.”

In the beginning of 2014, with the publication of the EU’s regulations for the programming period 2014 - 2020, MEN-D began to prepare a ‘ToR Template’ for the German Managing Authorities (MAs). The aim of this ‘ToR Template’ was to reduce the administrative burden for MAs and to avoid inefficient individual preparation. Finding a balance for the ‘ToR Template’ between standardisation and the specific needs of the different RDPs/MAs was of great importance. In order to achieve this goal, the ‘ToR Template’ has been divided up by different evaluation tasks in order to provide individual building blocks, which could then be chosen to meet each MAs’ individual and unique needs.

The documents have been developed, discussed and agreed in close cooperation with the target group (MAs). These documents and templates are very good instruments for the direct implementation of support by the MAs (comparable material was provided for RDP evaluation plans and specific parts of the AIR submitted in 2017).

1. Analysis of EU regulations and related documents to define the mandatory/non-mandatory scope of work for evaluations in the 2014 – 2020 period.
4. Workshop with MAs to discuss draft documents and next steps.
5. Final version and dissemination.

• ToR Templates could be done at the EU level to support all MAs and reduce the administrative burden. This would allow for more certainty about which requirements need to be fulfilled.

• Member States with regional programming should find synergies between their RDPs. Monitoring and Evaluation Networks/NRN should be used to develop/provide joint documents.