

Evaluation and Monitoring Fundamentals: Methods, Concepts and Indicators for ESI Funds in 2014-2020

Maastricht (NL), 18 October 2017 (optional day)

Evaluation and Monitoring of EU Structural and Cohesion Funds Programmes, 2014-2020

Maastricht (NL), 19-20 October 2017



European Institute of Public Administration
Institut européen d'administration publique



Erasmus+

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What is this course about?

EU Structural and Cohesion Funds will spend €350 billion in the 2014-2020 period. But will these Funds deliver Value for Money? Can we expect programmes to achieve their many objectives? How do we measure and understand the impacts? Will the key economic development problems have been tackled?

Stage 1 (day 1) will deal with the fundamentals: the Evaluation-Policy Cycle, evaluation terminology and concepts, monitoring/reporting tasks. We describe the basic methods used for conducting ex ante programme and project appraisals, evaluations during the programming period and ex post impact assessments of projects and programmes. The quantification of programmes using result and output indicators for projects and programmes will be examined.

Stage 2 (days 2 & 3) assumes that participants have the background knowledge of methods and concepts covered in Stage 1. The evaluation and monitoring requirements for 2014-2020 are outlined. A guest speaker from the European Commission will describe progress on Evaluation Plans, and the particular challenges for Member States in measuring impact. A senior evaluation consultant-economist will provide insight into our other areas of focus, including:

- theory-based evaluations, counterfactual evaluations;
- other favoured best practice techniques in evaluation;
- key issues for evaluations during the programme period and ex post evaluations;
- conducting evaluation studies, aspects of fieldwork.

We will also examine ex ante project appraisal techniques (with reference to the new Major Projects application form and a basic introduction to cost-benefit analysis), as well as the Performance Framework and the Annual Implementation Report (AIR).

How will it help you?

At the end of the seminar the participants should have a clear understanding of all the evaluation and monitoring requirements associated with EU Cohesion Policy. Participants should also have a quick general tool kit for undertaking impact evaluations and conducting programme and project appraisals. Mini-workshops and exercises are used both to develop simulations of essential elements of evaluation and monitoring to provide a clear view of good practice in the key disciplines involved.

Who will benefit most?

Officials from central, regional and local government, programme officers and managers, as well as project managers and developers involved with the implementation and evaluation of Structural and Cohesion Fund projects and programmes in 2014-2020. The seminar is also open to economic and social partners involved in Structural Funds and evaluation activities, such as NGOs, higher education establishments, and consultants.

Programme

WEDNESDAY 18 OCTOBER 2017

Stage 1: Optional day

Evaluation and Monitoring Fundamentals: Methods, Concepts and Indicators for ESI Funds in 2014-2020

09.00 **Registration of three-day participants**

09.15 **Opening of the seminar: introduction to the objectives and methodology of the seminar**

Marco Lopriore, Expert, EIPA, Maastricht (NL)

09.30 **Introduction to the Evaluation-Policy Cycle; indicators to measure progress and success**

- Choices and value in Cohesion Policy; the policy-evaluation cycle
- Methods for ex ante evaluations; evaluations during the programming period; ex post evaluations
- Quantifying projects and programmes – generating output and result indicators

Robin Smail, Consultant and Visiting Expert EIPA (UK/IE) (former National Expert EC, and formerly of Evaluation Division, Scottish Enterprise)

10.30 Coffee break

11.00 **Workshop: Generating Result and Output indicators, challenging sectors and issues**

11.45 **Evaluation 2014-2020: new conceptual framework, evaluation requirements**

- Intervention Logic of new programmes, result-orientation
- Specific objectives and result indicators
- Evaluation Plans
- Ex ante evaluation of programmes 2014-2020

Robin Smail

13.00 Lunch at Hotel Derlon

14.30 **Workshop: Ex ante project appraisal**

15.15 **Monitoring projects and programmes in 2014-2020**

- Key monitoring tasks, relations with projects
- Monitoring data requirements
- Annual Implementation Reports
- The Performance Framework

Robin Smail

15.45 Coffee break

16.15 **An introduction to methods used for evaluations during the programming period and ex post Impact Assessments of projects (and programmes)**

- Evaluations – measuring effects and impacts, understanding causality
- Evaluation questions
- Desk research, the fieldwork, the analyses
- Building the counterfactual or policy-off scenario
- A case study

Robin Smail

16.45 **Workshop: Calculating gross and net jobs created**

17.30 Historical City short walking tour

19.00-20.30 Buffet meal at Hotel Derlon

THURSDAY 19 OCTOBER 2017

Stage 2: two-day seminar

Evaluation and Monitoring of EU Structural and Cohesion Funds Programmes, 2014-2020

08.45 **Registration of two-day participants**

09.00 **Welcome and introduction to the objectives and methodology of the seminar**

Marco Lopriore, Expert, EIPA, Maastricht (NL)

09.10 **European Commission framework for evaluation and monitoring – measuring impact in 2014-2020**

- new evaluation and monitoring requirements
- evaluation questions; measuring impact
- Value for Money
- reporting indicators and the new Performance Framework
- programme revisions

Robin Smail, Consultant and Visiting Expert EIPA (UK/IE) (former National Expert EC, and formerly of Evaluation Division, Scottish Enterprise)

10.15 **Exercise: Using the performance framework, 2014-2020**

Robin Smail

11.00 Coffee break

Programme

11.30 Evaluation methods, issues and technical concepts

- Evaluation objectives, scope of evaluations
 - Testing the intervention rationale and logic
 - Assessing quantitative performance; theory-based evaluations; counter-factual evaluations
 - Assessing processes
 - Transferring ownership
 - Logic models, theory of change, causality
- Dr Iain Jenkins, Director, EKOS Consultants, Glasgow (UK)*

13.00 Lunch at Hotel Derlon

14.30 Monitoring and evaluation of the ESIF 2014-2020: a view from the European Commission

- Evaluation Plans
 - Issues for impact evaluations: theory-based and counterfactual evaluations
 - Evaluating Cohesion Policy effects competition
- Violeta Piculescu, Evaluation and European Semester Unit, DG Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission, Brussels (BE)*

16.00 Coffee break

16.30 Workshop: The practical application of technical concepts in evaluation

Theory-based evaluation case study

- Logic models and theory of change
 - Determining the nature and scope of an evaluation
 - Designing evaluation questionnaires
- Dr Iain Jenkins*

18.15 Close of second day

18.30 Reception at Hotel Derlon

FRIDAY 20 OCTOBER 2017

09.15 Issues for ex ante project appraisal, major projects, revenue-generating projects

- Project objectives, context and rationale, market failure, theory of change
 - Demand, feasibility, options, environmental impact assessment
 - Financial and economic appraisal: calculating the costs, the benefits (NPV, IRR for major projects)
 - Risk assessment, sensitivity analysis
- Robin Smail*

10.30 Coffee break

11.00 Issues for ex ante project appraisal, major projects, revenue-generating projects (contd.)

- Major project application forms
 - Calculating the grant for revenue-generating projects
- Robin Smail*

11.30 Conducting thematic evaluations in 2014-2020: evaluation plans, preparing for studies, managing studies, using the results

- Project evaluation plans, preparing for studies
 - The Call for Proposal
 - Managing evaluations, stages of evaluations
 - Issues for evaluations, using the results
- Dr Iain Jenkins*

13.00 Lunch at Hotel Derlon

14.30 Workshop: Counterfactual Evaluation case study – business support

- Why do businesses apply for support?
 - Data collection for studies
- Dr Iain Jenkins*

15.20 Exercises with ex ante project appraisal

- How to judge a good project – selection criteria
 - Identifying objectives and contribution to results
 - Designing a good project, assessing risks
 - Measuring project impacts
- Robin Smail and Dr Iain Jenkins*

16.20 Seminar feedback and conclusion of the seminar

16.30 Close of seminar

General Information

Programme

The programme will commence with an Optional day (Stage 1) on Wednesday 18 October 2017 at 09.00. The main Seminar (Stage 2) will commence on Thursday 19 October 2016 at 09.00. and will finish on Friday 20 October at 16.30.

Seminar venue

European Institute of Public Administration (EIPA)
O.L. Vrouweplein 22
6211 HE, Maastricht
the Netherlands
tel.: +31 43 32 96 222
www.eipa.eu

Working language

The seminar will be conducted in English.

Fee

3-day seminar (Stage 1 and 2), 18-20 October 2017
EIPA members' fee*: €1275 (Regular fee: €1415)

2-day seminar (Stage 2), 19-20 October 2017
EIPA members' fee*: €900 (Regular fee: €1000)

The fee includes documentation, lunches, reception(s) and refreshments. Accommodation and travel costs are at the expense of the participants or their administration. Note that reductions cannot be accumulated. For more information: <http://seminars.eipa.eu> (Training courses - Discount policy)

* EIPA members can take advantage of a reduced fee; this is available to all civil servants working for one of EIPA's member countries (i.e. AT, BE, BG, CY, CZ, DK, FI, FR, DE, GR, HU, IE, IT, LT, LU, MT, NL, NO, PL, ES, SE, UK), and civil servants working for an EU institution, body or agency.

Hotel reservations

The European Institute of Public Administration has special price arrangements with a number of hotels. All hotels are within 10 minutes walking distance from EIPA.

Should you wish to make use of this possibility, please book directly via the links below. Payment is to be made directly and personally to the hotel on checking out. At the time of booking, please mention in the requested field the EIPA project number **1730210**.

- **Townhouse Hotel**
www.townhousehotels.nl/eipa
- **Hotel Derlon**
www.derlon.com/eipa
- **Designhotel Maastricht – Hampshire Eden**
www.hampshire-hotels.com/eipa
- **Bastion Hotel**
www.bastionhotels.nl/en/eipa.html

Meals

The lunches will be served at Restaurant Derlon, O.L. Vrouweplein 6 in Maastricht. The receptions on Wednesday and Thursday evening 18 and 19 October will also be held at Restaurant Derlon. Should you require a special menu (e.g. vegetarian, diabetic), please inform the Programme Organiser so that this can be arranged.

Registration

Kindly complete the online registration form which can be found on EIPA's website <http://seminars.eipa.eu> before **1 October 2017**.

Programme Organiser

Ms Nancy Vermeulen
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Location: Headquarters Maastricht

Your name and address will be part of EIPA's database for our mailing purpose only. If you do not want to be included in our mailing database, please tick the box on the registration form.

Confirmation

Confirmation of registration will be forwarded to participants on receipt of the completed registration form.

Payment

Prior payment is a condition for participation. Please indicate the method of payment on the registration form. For cancellations received within 15 days before the activity begins, we will have to charge an administration fee of €150 unless a replacement participant is found.

Cancellation policy

EIPA reserves the right to cancel the seminar up to two weeks before the starting date. EIPA accepts no responsibility for any costs incurred (travel, hotel, etc.). For more information: <http://seminars.eipa.eu> (Training courses - Cancellation policy).

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