Impact evaluations 2014-2020 – what DG REGIO is (not) expecting

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Impact evaluations -where do they belong in the regulation?

• Part of result orientation
• Other elements:
  Testable objectives in programmes (specific objectives and result indicators)
  Performance framework
  Ex ante and ex post conditionalities
(Draft) legal requirements

- "At least once during the period, an evaluation shall assess how support...has contributed to the objectives for each priority." Art. 49 (3)

- "Contribution to objectives" = impact

- See also art. 44.3 (annual report): "the contribution...to changes in the values of result indicators, when evidence is available from evaluations"

Which approaches?

- Theory-based evaluations
- Counterfactual evaluations
- Combination would be ideal
- Other methods: models, CBA,...
- Guidance: "Concepts and recommendations" – see Inforegio website
Some more hints

- Consider cooperation with other programmes
- Data from past periods can be used, when appropriate
- Often evaluation at level of investment priorities likely to be appropriate
- Differentiate depth of evaluation depending on existing knowledge and programme features
- Guidance: "Concepts and recommendations" – see Inforegio website

Evaluation plan
(ERDF + ESF)

- Planning improves quality
- Data (creation) needs planning
- Responsibility of managing authority – to be approved by monitoring committee
- Commission might comment as member of monitoring committee
- See "concepts and recommendations", section 3.5
Reference documents - Guidance

Concepts and Recommendations

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http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/information/evaluations/guidance_en.cfm#1