



European Commission

Enterprise and Industry Directorate General
Management and Resources Directorate

Evaluation in the European Commission

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Evaluation is not...

- Financial Audit
- Monitoring
- Scientific research



Why evaluation?

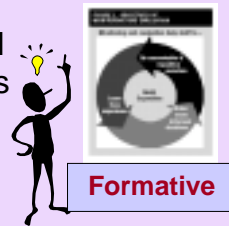
Periodic and critical re-evaluation of the efficiency of management, and of the impact and effectiveness of actions, is the best guarantee of the proper use of public resources.

“A judgement of interventions according to their results, impacts and the needs they aim to satisfy.”

3

The purpose of Evaluation

- **Improve management:** Evaluation is a tool for managers in assessing the effectiveness and impact of activities, and learning from this how performance can be improved



- **Accountability and Policy-making :** Evaluation reports on results to demonstrate value, and supports policy making

- **Allocate resources:** Evaluation results contribute to decision-making on priorities and resource allocation



Evaluation culture in the Commission

- Legal obligations
- Standards and Good Practices across the Commission
- Commission-wide Guidelines
- Methodological reference publications such as the Means Collection
- Evaluation network to share best practice and knowledge
- Partnership with the European Evaluation Society (conference in Oct 2005)

5

Key documents setting the legal bases for evaluation in the Commission

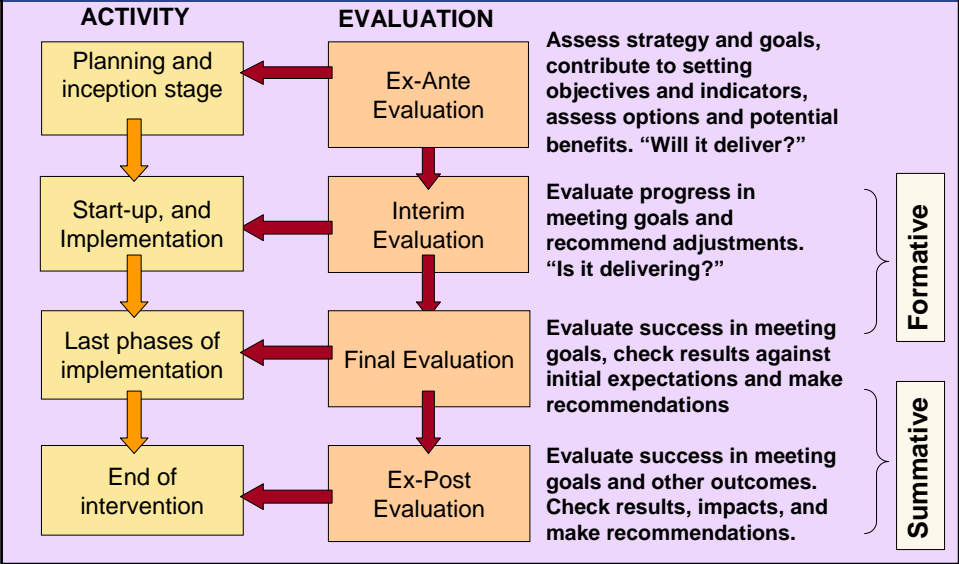
- Financial Regulation art. 27 and 28
- Implementing rules art. 21
- Focus on results: strengthening evaluation of Commission activities Commission
(*Communication SEC (2000) 1051 – 27/07/2000*)
- Internal Control Standards (*Standard 23: Evaluation*)
- Standards et Bonnes Pratiques d'Evaluation
(*COM(2002) 5267, 12/2002*)

6

How to identify the evaluation needs

- General legal requirements (Financial Regulation)
 - Annual activities: interim evaluation at least once every 6 years
 - Multi-annual and expenditure programmes: mid-term and ex-post evaluation
 - New proposals: ex ante evaluation
- Specific legal requirements
- Political priorities and operational need for information in relation to strategic planning

When to evaluate and what to look at ?



Understanding the Intervention Logic

- In order to form a judgement on how relevant or effective an intervention is, it is necessary to first analyse its logic:
 - What is it designed to do?
 - What needs does it aim to satisfy?
 - With what means?
 - What are the expected results and outcomes?

9

Based on the intervention logic of the evaluated activity, evaluation looks at a number of Key Issues

