



Independent Evaluation of the Swiss Contribution



Annual Meetings 2016
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Evaluation - Context

Timeframe

2007 – 2015

Method

- Independent evaluation by GOPA consultants
- Documentation review EU-10
- Interviews in HU, LV, PL, SK, CH
- Questionnaires EU-12
- 29 projects covering 20 thematic areas assessed in depth



Evaluation – Findings

Relevance: Satisfactory

- + complementary to other programmes
- + corresponds to national objectives
- difficult to show impact

Effectiveness: Satisfactory

- + outputs exceeded
- + bilateral relations enhanced
- + flexible approach
- difficult to measure effectiveness due to absence of core indicators/objectives
- no systematic guidance for communication in partner states

Efficiency: Satisfactory

- + functioning procedures
- delays (project approval, tenders, reporting)

Sustainability: Satisfactory

- + commitment and ownership
- + strengthened capacities
- potential for follow-up monitoring
- up-scaling of pilot projects and long-term financing not always ensured



Evaluation - Findings

Rating of the 33 evaluation questions:

Rating Criterion	Highly Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Highly Unsatisfactory
Relevance	2	5	0	0
Effectiveness	3	12	0	0
Efficiency	1	5	2	0
Sustainability	0	3	0	0



Evaluation - Findings

Rating of the 29 sample projects:

Rating Criterion	Highly Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Highly Unsatisfactory
Relevance	16	10	3	0
Effectiveness	9	18	2	0
Efficiency	3	13	13	0
Sustainability	1	21	7	0



Evaluation – Main Recommendations

Enhance efficiency and effectiveness of reporting: simplification and greater precision of reporting templates and guidance

Strengthen the thematic, geographic and/or financial concentration in each partner state

Provide guidance for a limited series of standard ‘core’ objectives and indicators per ‘specific objective’

Enhance efficiency of the ‘two-loop’ approach although not at the cost of good quality: Project Outline as a concise concept note and statement of project readiness

Possible
future Swiss
Contribution



Evaluation – Main Recommendations

Strengthen communication efforts: more actively communicate the results at the thematic, regional, geographic and country program levels

Ensure sustainability: define how capacity building measures will be institutionalized

Further enhance partnerships: through joint meetings where feasible and meaningful

Measure in case of significant delays in reporting: Merge interim reports (submit one interim report for the entire outstanding period)

**Current
Swiss
Contribution**



Evaluation – Follow-up 2016/2017

Discussion on the use of remaining funds in projects or TAF :

Communication

- Professional pictures of beneficiaries and projects
- Thematic conferences
- Competitions
- Information campaigns

→ see ideas in the paper “Communication Measures 2016 / 2017 in the EU-10”



The Swiss side would like to avoid additional project amendments and prolongations.



Evaluation – Follow-up 2016/2017

Discussion on the use of remaining funds in projects or TAF :

Sustainability

- Reinforce in-house capacity (e-learning, trained trainers, manuals)
- Specific measures for projects where high risks of financial sustainability have been identified



The Swiss side would like to avoid additional project amendments and prolongations.



Evaluation – Follow-up 2016/2017

Discussion on the use of remaining funds in projects or TAF :

Partnership

- Additional joint meetings to exchange experience and enhance sustainability
- Invite Swiss experts to thematic closing events



The Swiss side would like to avoid additional project amendments and prolongations.



Discussion and questions

