



Mid Term Evaluation of the 9th EDF Energy Facility Call for Proposals

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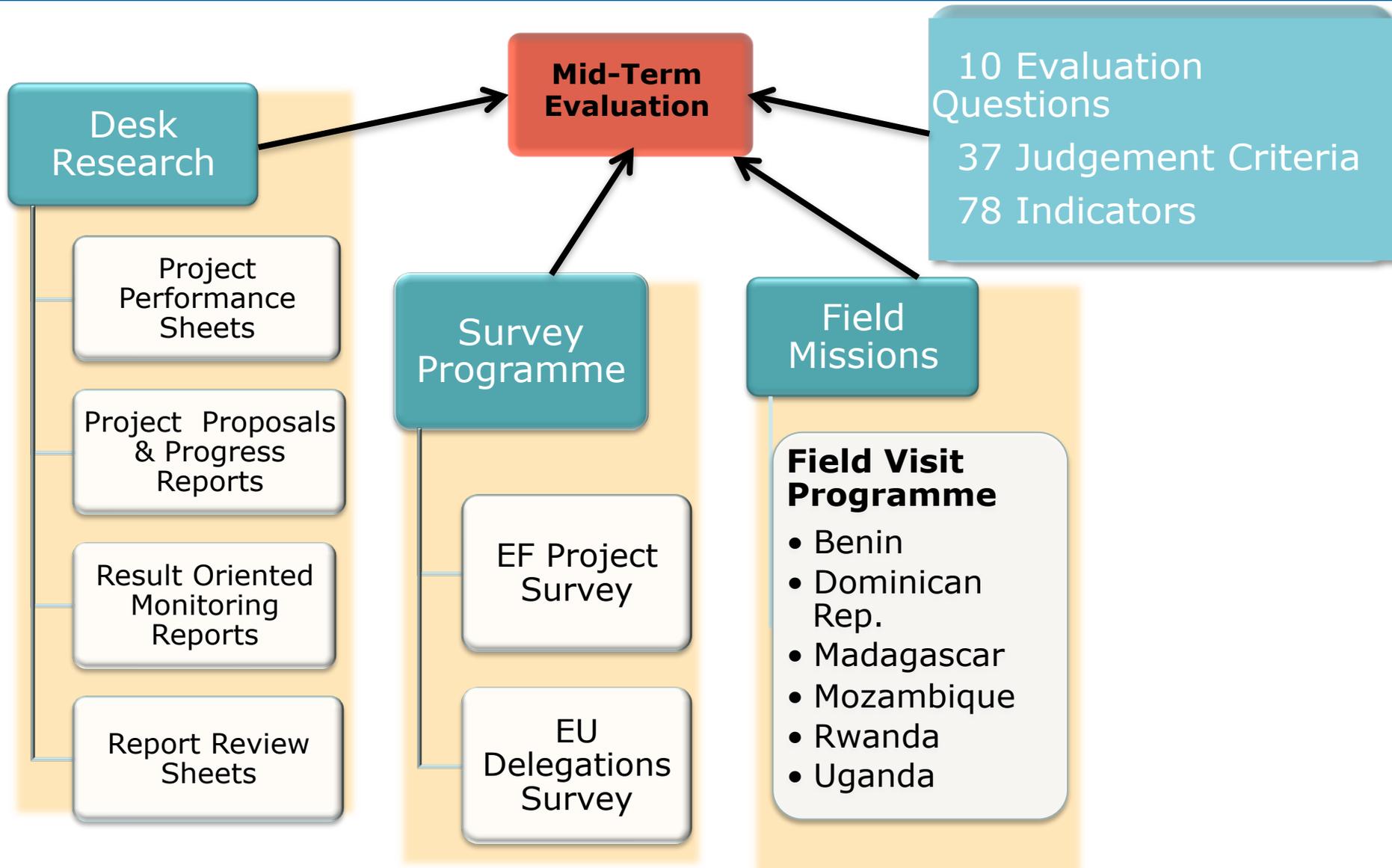
OBJECTIVES: Draw key lessons to improve i) Relevance, ii) Efficiency, iii) Effectiveness, iv) Sustainability and v) Impact of:

- ✓ The implementation of the 1st CfP and the commencing implementation of the 2nd CfP by DEVCO HQ.
- ✓ The decision making process involving the EU Delegations, the European Commission and ACP Secretariat for the Energy Sector Policies, Programmes and Financing Instruments.
- ✓ The continued follow up of the implementation of the EF projects portfolio by the EU Delegations.

SCOPE:

- ✓ 74 EF projects under the 1st Call
- ✓ Operational aspects of the implementation of the 1st Call
- ✓ 1st Call's programming and management aspects
- ✓ EF Action Fiche's dominant & auxiliary principles

Evaluation Components



- 1. Relevance and Project Design**
- 2. Effectiveness**
- 3. Efficiency**
- 4. Impact**
- 5. Sustainability**
- 6. Overview of Recommendations**

Relevance relates to the consistency of EF project objectives with Partner Country policies and needs of target groups

EF 1st Call project aims are **relevant to Partner Country (PC) objectives and needs of Final Beneficiaries (FBs)**, including policy objectives to promote energy access, reduce poverty and contribute to the achievement of the MDGs

Projects are **relevant to needs of ACP' s poor** in rural & peri-urban areas

Projects **are** contributing to exploring and testing **innovative energy access** approaches

- **Result Oriented Monitoring (ROM) carried out an assessment of relevance on EF Projects**

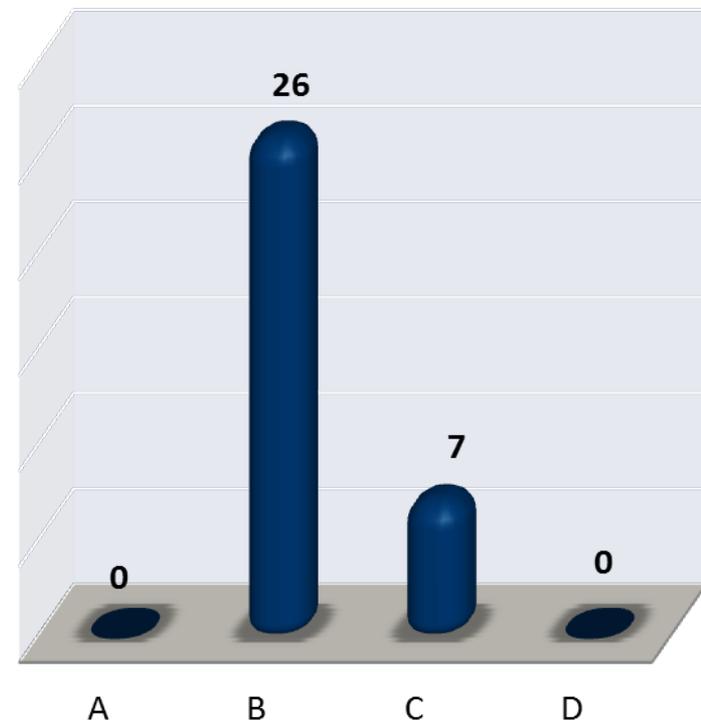
Positive Relevance assessments

- Tackling national poverty concerns
- Environmental frameworks
- Goals for sustainable energy
- Meeting partner country objectives

Areas of Weakness

- Quality of Project Design
- E.g. Some of the original project designs were altered as they were not suitable for purpose
- Projects ignoring principles of the Logical Framework of the EC.

Results of ROM:



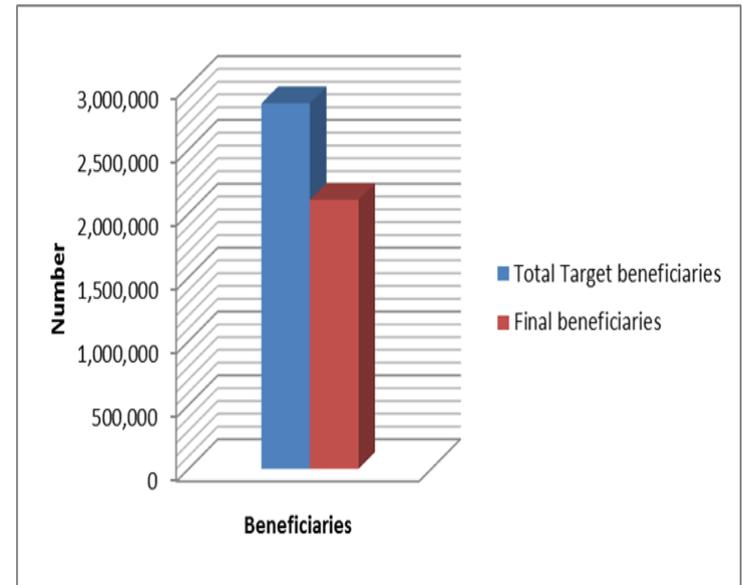
Legend: a = very good; b = good; c = problems; d = serious deficiencies

Effectiveness refers to the projects progress in contributing to improved access to modern energy services and to improved energy sector governance and management.

Energy Access (C1 plus C3) Projects:

MTE findings indicate that out of 27 selected projects, 2.10 million people(actual) out of the 2.86 million targeted beneficiaries have access to modern energy services

If we extrapolate the above results to-date from 27 projects across the 1st Call project portfolio, and take into account the impact of project delays, then there are good prospects for the 1st Call to achieve its collective target results - in particular if implementation challenges are addressed



Governance (C2) Projects:

Progress in this area is difficult to assess since there are very few quantifiable targets

Results in capacity building and other EM&G activities in C1 & C3 projects appear in numerous cases to be stronger than in C2 projects

Success factors include:

Local action / linkage to real energy access activities

Motivated partners / clear self-interest

▪ **Barriers to effectiveness:**

- Many projects have fallen behind project work plan / not following Logframe
- Delays due to outside factors (e.g. election violence, difficult public tender procedures)
- Project management shortcomings
- Lack of proper feasibility work

Efficiency refers to the extent to which time or effort is well used for the intended task or purpose. In this case, efficiency was evaluated by management capacities and monitoring/reporting tools

- MTE found that delays play a major role in the implementation of most projects
- The implementation experience of projects points to a number of common challenges. Project delays have been a key limitation, but have been caused by both internal project factors and external factors.

Cause of delays:

- Project Management Shortcomings
- Over optimistic work plans
- Cost overruns
- Capacity shortcomings among partners
- Management staff turnover
- Insufficient feasibility work
- Insufficient reporting and monitoring
- Election violence
- Tendering delays
- Government Authorisation

EF Project Management Performance

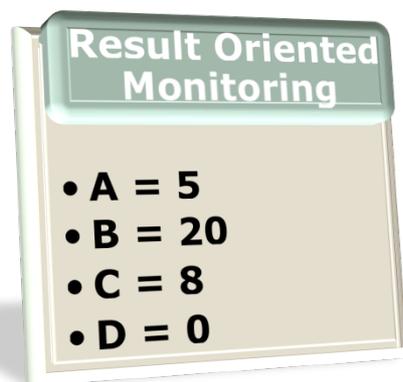
- Local management capacity varies significantly across projects
- Factors related to project delays and implementation challenges
- Reason for high level (soft) transaction costs in several projects
- Too often sub-standard project reporting

Standard of and Deviation from Log frames

- 26 out of 103 Project Performance Sheets (PPSs) referred to the quality of Logframes as having ‘problems’
- The field visits point to differing levels of use of the project Logframe.
- Many Log frames have been amended or are in need of reconstruction
- According to Report Review Sheets (RRSs) 104 (80% of) progress reports did not include a log frame

Impact refers to the influence and effect which has come about because of project actions. EF projects were evaluated by their *Socio-Economic* and *Environmental* impact, *EU visibility* impact and the *wider impact on EU partner countries*.

- EF has an added value in acting as a catalyst for projects initiation
- EF Facility-level impact on improving energy access
- Positive impact on energy policy dialogue



ROM Reports indicate a lack of results among projects and therefore no impact was evident for many at the time of reporting. In the absence of results, the impact prospects were evaluated.

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Local Ownership

- Ownership Commitment and Institutional Support are key pillars for the sustainability prospects of the different EF projects
- Field visits point to a broad sustainability satisfaction level in this regard

Financial Sustainability:

- Number of projects display strong prospects for financial stability
- However, some projects are likely to be damaging their financial sustainability prospects due to lack of sufficiently detailed advance financial planning
- Several projects affirmed a need for additional financing in post-EF project period

Technical & Operational Sustainability

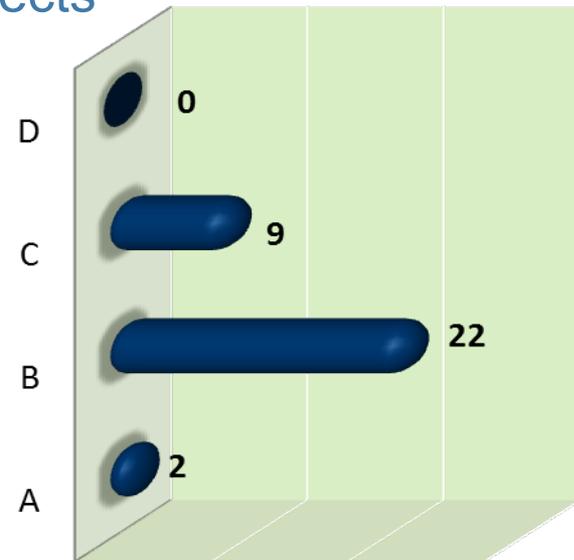
- Field visits suggest that situation is relatively satisfactory in most field projects

■ Scope for Increasing EF Impact and Sustainability

- Findings suggest significant scope exists for increasing EF project impact and sustainability prospects

ROM:

- Institutional and Governmental support is the most desired type of support to assist in project sustainability.
- Financial sustainability is the most common weakness among projects.
- Projects highlight difficulties in seeking future donors



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The evaluation recommendations are intended to help the continued development of the EF 1st Call in two ways;

- Firstly, by helping to **address some of the implementation challenges identified from the 1st Call EF projects** and thereby help maximise the prospects for these projects to achieve their targeted results and impacts; and
- Secondly, by helping to build on some of the promising work being done in the Energy Facility and under the 1st Call, and **maximise the Energy Facility's impact going forward.**

1. RECOMMENDATIONS - EF Call/Proposal Selection Phase

Regarding the proposal selection process in future EF Calls (or any other proposal selection processes), it is recommended that:

- R1a.** Requirement for Feasibility work to be completed
- R1b.** Include explicit assessment of proposed project manager in EF proposals assessment
- R1d.** Assess project partner skills, complementarity and previous work collaboration track record
- R1e.** Ensure Energy Access Project Proposals adequately factor in social mediation and building local awareness and ownership

2. RECOMMENDATIONS - EF Component Type

A number of recommendations are provided below in order to increase the effectiveness of EF projects:

R2a. Requirement for Feasibility work to be completed

R2b. Where possible, link capacity building work to direct energy access actions

R2c. Avoid financing projects where applicant is the beneficiary and all capacity building is outsourced

R2d. Develop adapted technical standards for rural electrification

3. RECOMMENDATIONS - Strategic Recommendations

The following are recommendations to strengthen the impact of the energy facility 1 call:

- R5.** Develop a Support Services for Scaling Up Successful EF Projects and Energy Access Models in order to secure quantum leaps in EF impact and Sustainability
- R6.** A Modified EF Call for Proposals to allow for increased focus on both Scaling Projects and on Demonstration Projects.