



EC Dissemination Seminar on the results of the Environment and Forests Regulations Evaluation

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Evaluation in the context of the RELEX Family

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<http://europa.eu.int/comm/europeaid/evaluation/index.htm>



Principles of Policy Evaluation in the Commission

- * Common function for DGs RELEX, DEVELOPMENT and EuropeAid
- * Independence in the hierarchy: reports to RELEX Commissioners
- * OECD-DAC Guidelines and Commission standards



Fundamental requirements

- *Timely
- *Useful
- *Relevant
- *Transparent
- *Sound findings and usable recommendations
- *Clear feedback process



Evaluation

External, independent and periodic.

In-depth analysis and judgment of aid policies and actions based on:

- evaluation questions (limited number);
- judgment criteria;
- indicators.



Evaluation: What for?

- **Lesson-learning (improve decision-making)**
 - ▲ **Accountability**
- ▲ ***Through:***
 - ▲ *Informing the decision-making processes*
 - ▲ *Informing the public*
 - ▲ *Encouraging on-going organisational learning*



Follow-up to Evaluations

Assure that stakeholders are aware of the evaluation results

Publication of the report with quality grid

Dissemination products and channels

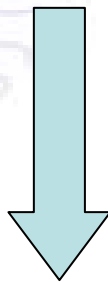
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“Fiche contradictoire” - obligatory Commission response;



Mandate of this Evaluation

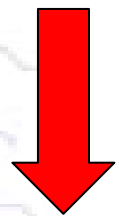
- The Environment Regulation, provides in article 11 for an **evaluation** to be presented in November 2004.
- The Forests Regulation, similarly provides, in article 12, for an **evaluation** to be presented in November 2004.



In response to these legal obligations, the joint Evaluation Unit to the RELEX family included provision for the evaluations in its Work Programme for 2003.



Potential overlapping between the subject-areas covered by the two Regulations - decision - **single exercise**, with forests treated in large measure as an aspect of the wider environmental context.



- Composite report
- entirely separate, free-standing sets of conclusions, lessons and recommendations for each Regulation.

Work was started in September of 2003 while the synthesis report was completed in November 2004.



The purpose of this Evaluation:

Is **to account to the legislative authority and wider public** for the funds expended under the Environment and Forests Regulations.

In addition to provide the relevant services of the EC with:

- **an overall independent evaluation of the activities financed by the EC** under the two Regulations in the context of overall Community development co-operation;
- **proposals for the future of the Regulations**, including their possible **modification or termination**.



The scope of this Evaluation:

- ▶ Commission's actions and interventions in developing countries (part I of Aid Recipients DAC List) undertaken under the two Regulations - mainly between Nov 2000 and the first trimester of 2004.



- ▶ Complementarity and synergies with interventions funded under "geographical" budget lines among others.

A sample of 16 countries and 39 projects were selected for in-depth analysis on the field phase:

- Asia (Cambodia [2], India [4], Indonesia [4], Vietnam [2],)
- Africa (Cameroon [4-2R], Senegal [1], Kenya [3-1R], Ethiopia [1R]);
- Central and Latin America (Brazil [4], Peru [2], Belize [3-1R], Honduras, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Nicaragua [3]);
- Global projects [2]



Responsibility for managing the evaluation

- The evaluation is carried out by external evaluators
- The management rests with the Evaluation Unit
 - Role – to ensure quality and feedback
- Which is assisted by a Steering Group:
 - composed by officials from various services
 - the main professional interface between the evaluation team and the Services



EVALUATION'S STRUCTURE

<i>Five Main Phases of Development:</i>	<i>Methodological Stages:</i>
1. Preparation Phase	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪Reference group constitution▪ToR's drafting (evaluation unit)▪Launch Note (consultants)
2. Desk Phase 3. Field Phase 4. Synthesis phase	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪Structuring of the evaluation▪Data Collection, verification of hypotheses▪Analysis▪Judgements on findings
5. Feedback and Dissemination	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪Quality Grid▪Board summary▪Evinfo (summary for OECD and Commission databases)▪<i>Fiche contradictoire</i> (a statement of key recommendations followed by the Commission's response)