



Evaluation of 4 pilot projects - ERDF programme 2014-2020 Luxembourg

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Agenda/Topics:

Evaluation of 4 pilot projects of the 2014-2020 ERDF programme

- EU regulation and introduction
- Objectives
- Processing
- Outcomes and recommendations



Evaluation of 4 pilot-projects – 2014-2020

- EU regulation and introduction:

- Article 56 of EU regulation n°1303/2013 -> **at least 1 evaluation** during the programming period (must be done until 31.12.2022 at latest)
- Theory based impact evaluation -> (minor impact) (31,2.- bio EUR (national budget) vs. 19,5.- mio EUR (ERDF-budget)) -> not possible
- Counterfactual impact evaluation -> only 1 ERDF-zone in Luxembourg -> not possible
- MA choose to do a **qualitative evaluation of 4 pilot-projects** by using qualitative and naturalistic methods in combination with quantitative data.
- A **pilot project**, also called a feasibility study or experimental trial, is a small-scale, short-term experiment that helps an organisation learn how a large-scale project might work in practice.
- Qualitative evaluation provides you with the ability to **gain an in-depth understanding of a project**. It involves the “why” and the “how” and allows a deeper look at issues of interest and to explore nuances.
- The qualitative evaluation method includes **3 kinds of data collection**:
 - (1) interviews (beneficiaries, partners, researchers, users, etc...)
 - (2) observation (example: urban mobility projects)
 - (3) documents (reports, articles, project fiche, etc...)

Evaluation of 4 pilot-projects – 2014-2020

Objectives:

- detailed analysis of output and result indicator of each project
- **Identify and analyse** each projects' **added value** as well as **direct and indirect impacts** on the national economy and, if applicable, on the Greater Region
- Establish a **cost-benefit analysis** for each project (via a detailed cost analysis)
- Identify a mechanism or an **intervention logic delivering the results achieved** – answering the question: how and why did the intervention work or not
- Identify the **potential key elements, or obstacles, having lead to the results,**
- Identify, where appropriate, **other (social economic) key elements** that had an impact on the results achieved
- Identify and analyse the jobs created as well as the sectors and types of jobs
- **Analyse data from partners** and/or companies involved in projects
- Provide **conclusions and relevant recommendations for future political decisions** regarding regional/national policymaking
- Identify potential **future markets, opportunities** and potential spin-offs

Evaluation of 4 pilot-projects – 2014-2020

Axis	Selection of 2 pilot-projects per axis
Axis 1	<p><u>Strengthening research, technological development and innovation:</u></p> <p>1) ECON4SD – University of Luxembourg Strengthening R&D capacities in sustainable construction by developing components and design models for resource and energy efficient buildings based on the construction materials concrete, steel and timber.</p> <p>2) PROSPACT – Luxinnovation Enhancing prospection activities and promoting economic development in the prior sectors of the luxembourgish economy and to increase the number of foreign enterprises and SME's investing in Luxembourg</p>
Axis 2	<p><u>Supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy in all sectors:</u></p> <p>1) Lycée technique pour professions de santé à Ettelbrück – Administration des Bâtiments publics Construction of a secondary school for health jobs, integrating positive and innovative energy production systems.</p> <p>2) SOLSTICE – University of Luxembourg Enabling the optimal exploitation of the potential for photovoltaic installations in the Grand-Duchy of Luxembourg.</p>

Evaluation of 4 pilot-projects – 2014-2020

Preparation of the evaluation mission done by the MA:

- Selection of pilot-projects
- Draw up of the specification book (cahier de charges)
- Launching of public procurement – 3 offers
- Analysing evaluation offers
- Selecting the most suitable external and independent evaluator
- Supporting evaluator during evaluation
- Identifying and analysing outcomes and recommendations
- Publication of final evaluation report – December 2022 – www.feder.lu
- Integrating recommendations into new ERDF programme 2021-2027



Evaluation of 4 pilot-projects 2014-2020

Outcomes:

- Projects are **in line with the specific objectives** of OP and “Europe 2020” strategy
- 3 projects produced **new sustainable concepts and models** for construction sector
- 1 project **attracted new innovative SME’s** to Luxembourg, dealing with RDI activities
- Every project produced and realised results, outcomes and jobs -> **increasing indicators**

Recommendations:

- Favor projects with a more **defined and specific perimeter** in order to optimise the impacts (Prospect)
- Reinforce the **implication of private partners** in RDI projects – (problem: state aid)
- Evaluate **more** ERDF-projects in construction sector in order to understand the technological, political, economical and regular interdependence of these projects -> **return of experience & lessons learned**
- Reinforce the **monitoring of projects** during period of realisation and anticipate to manage blocking obstacles or other difficulties -> COVID-19 -> delays of realization – unavailability of partners, etc...
- Reinforce a better supervision and **integration of the European horizontal principles** into the projects -> (Equal opportunity between men and women, equal opportunity of chances, sustainable development) – create a better understanding for beneficiaries
- MA should **reinforce the technical assistance** for beneficiaries during the definition of their ERDF-project in order to get a better intervention logic and to put the right and prior elements into the project fiche -> organisation of information/assistance sessions for beneficiaries
- Especially for pilot projects: **do a potential risk analysis** while project definition



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Thank you for your attention

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