European Evaluation Network for Rural Development

Guidelines for the RD Ex Post Evaluation

Preparatory steps for Thematic Working Group

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- Why?
- What? How?
- Who? For whom?
- When?

Ex post evaluation 2015

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- Assess the **impacts** of RD policy interventions → what has the policy achieved?
- Judges the **entire programme** and its impacts
- Aims to account for the **use of resources** (effectiveness and efficiency)
- Focuses on **factors of success or failure**, **sustainability** of results and impacts.
- Although ex post evaluation results are not available in the phase of programme-redesign, they are **relevant for successive programming periods** (sequence of evaluation phases!)

Why an ex post guidance?

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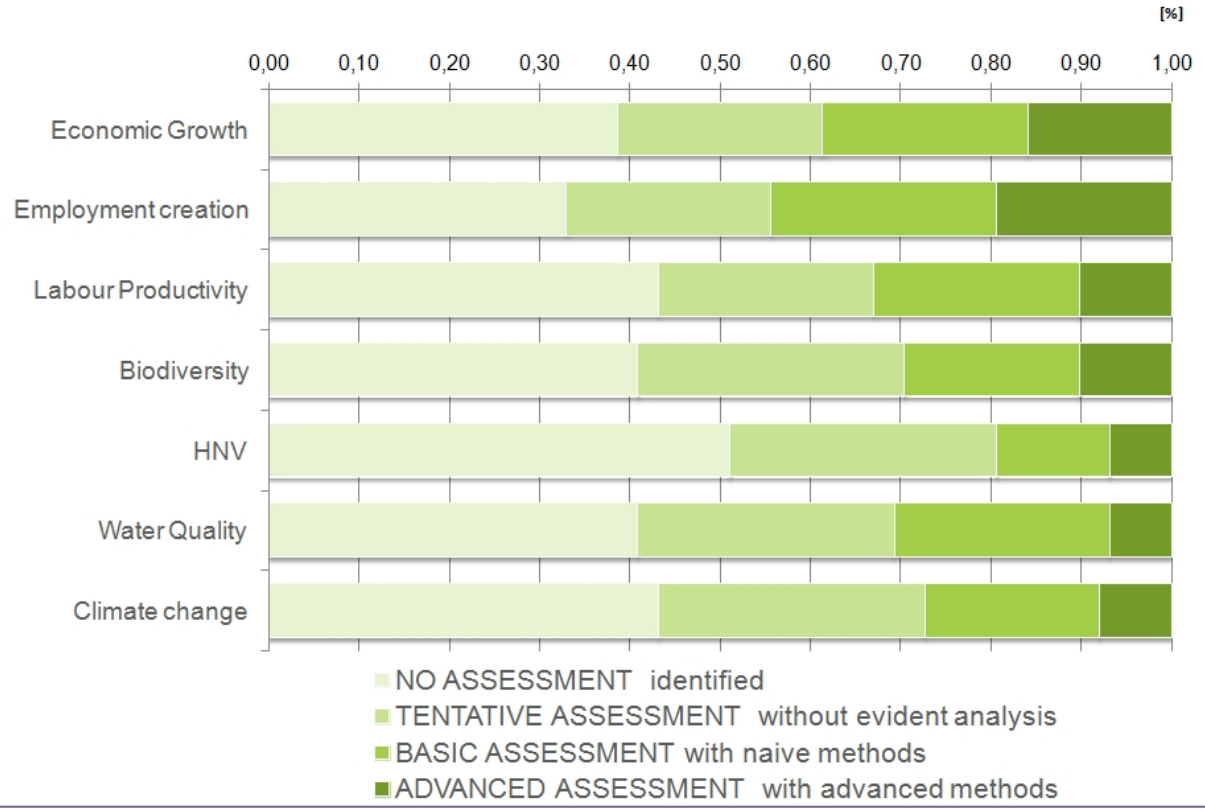
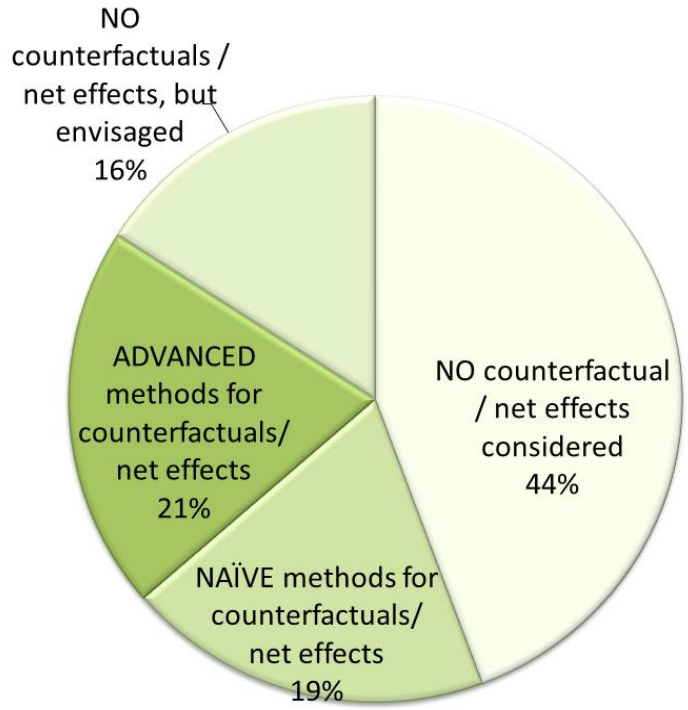


MTE 2010:

- No, tentative or only basic assessment of RD impacts
- Few advanced assessments
- Impacts mainly assessed at the measure level

How to properly assess the **impacts** of the **whole** RDP!

Why an ex post guidance?

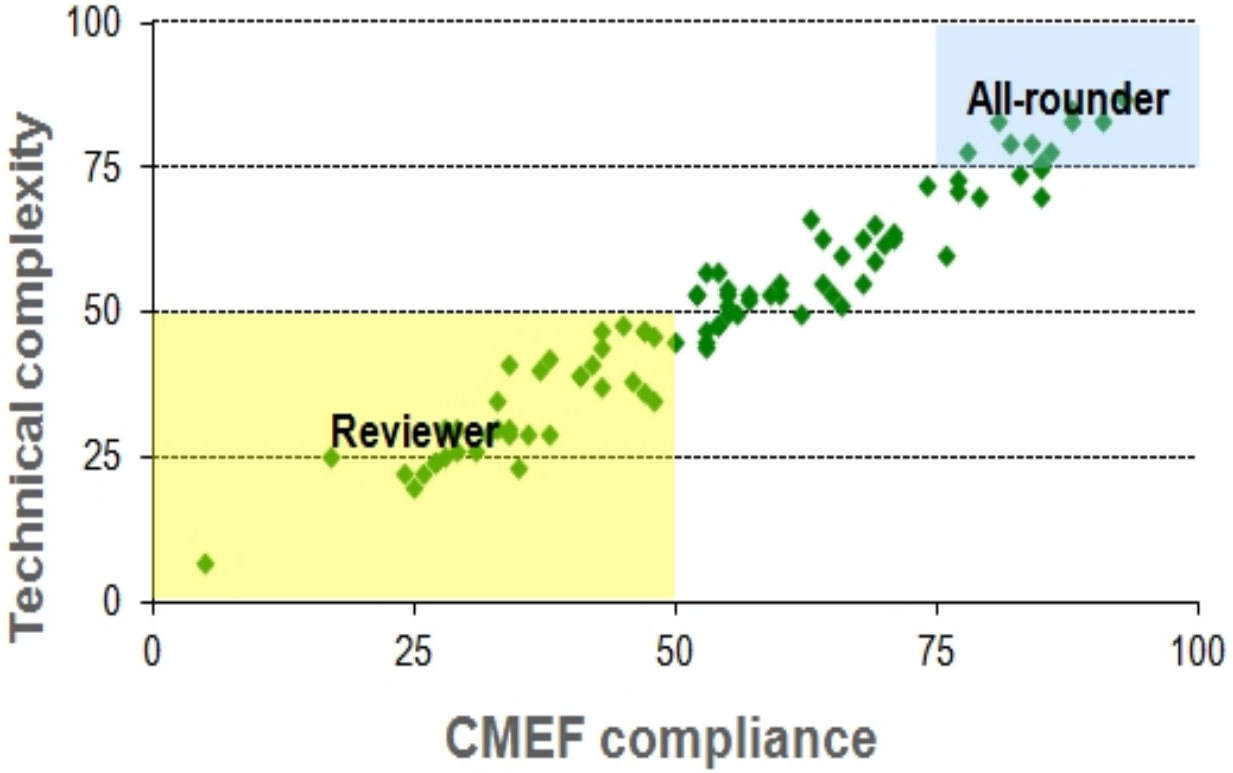


MTE 2010:

- Only a minority of programmes assessed net effects
- Advanced methods for counterfactuals rather rare
- Weak analytical bases for cons. & recs.

How to base conclusions and recommendations on more robust evidence?

Why an ex post guidance?



MTE 2010:

- Big differences among Member States regarding technical and methodological complexity!
- Many evaluations with rather low technical complexity and simple methods!

What can RDP evalutor(s) learn from each other?
exchange of practices!

What should the guidance achieve?

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- Formally: **Support fulfilment of Art. 86 of Reg. 1698/2005**
  - In 2015, ongoing evaluation shall take the form of a separate ex post evaluation report.
  - The mid-term and ex post shall examine the degree of utilisation of resources, the **effectiveness** and **efficiency** of the programming of the EAFRD, its **socio-economic impact** and its **impact on the Community priorities**.

- Practically: **Achieve evaluation reports of higher quality!**
  - Provide practical support for **Managing Authorities** to prepare for the ex post and to conduct it
  - Provide help for **evaluators** to apply advanced evaluation approaches and methodologies (illustrated with examples of good practices from the current period)

What are the working steps for drafting the guidelines?

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1. Screening of good practices

2. Establishment of the Thematic Working Group

3. Drafting process & involvement of evaluation stakeholders in MS

4. Dissemination of guidelines

Screening of good practices

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- To be used as **illustrations** in the *ex post* evaluation guidelines (and stand-alone?)
- Covering all **4 RD axes** and **horizontal issues**
- **Criteria for selection** of Good Practices:
  - Robustness of the methodology
  - Uselfulness in relation to next programming period
  - Innovative approach

A first snapshot of collected GP

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Axis	Case study topic	Method
I	Economic growth & employment creation	• Econometric Input-Output model MultiREG • Non-linear programming model PASMA
I	Competitiveness of agricultural sector	• PSM • DiD
II	Reversing biodiversity decline	• MITO2000
II	Maintenance of HNV farmland (HNVf) and forestry	• Shannon Index
III	Diversification of the rural economy	• Analysis of outputs • Interviews • Desk research
IV	LEADER	• Video interviews
Horiz.	National Rural Network Programme	• Social Network Analysis

What is the timing for the Guidelines?

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- Part 1 (mainly for MA) to be finished in Q1/2014

- Part 2 (mainly for evaluators) to be finished in Q2/2014 (spring)

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Thank you for your attention!

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