

# Synthesis of ex ante evaluations

State of play

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## Legal reference for the synthesis of ex ante evaluations

*Article 79 of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 on Support for Rural Development by the EAFRD*

Synthesis of ex ante evaluations to be undertaken under the responsibility of the Commission

Latest by 31<sup>st</sup> December of the year following submission of the relevant evaluations

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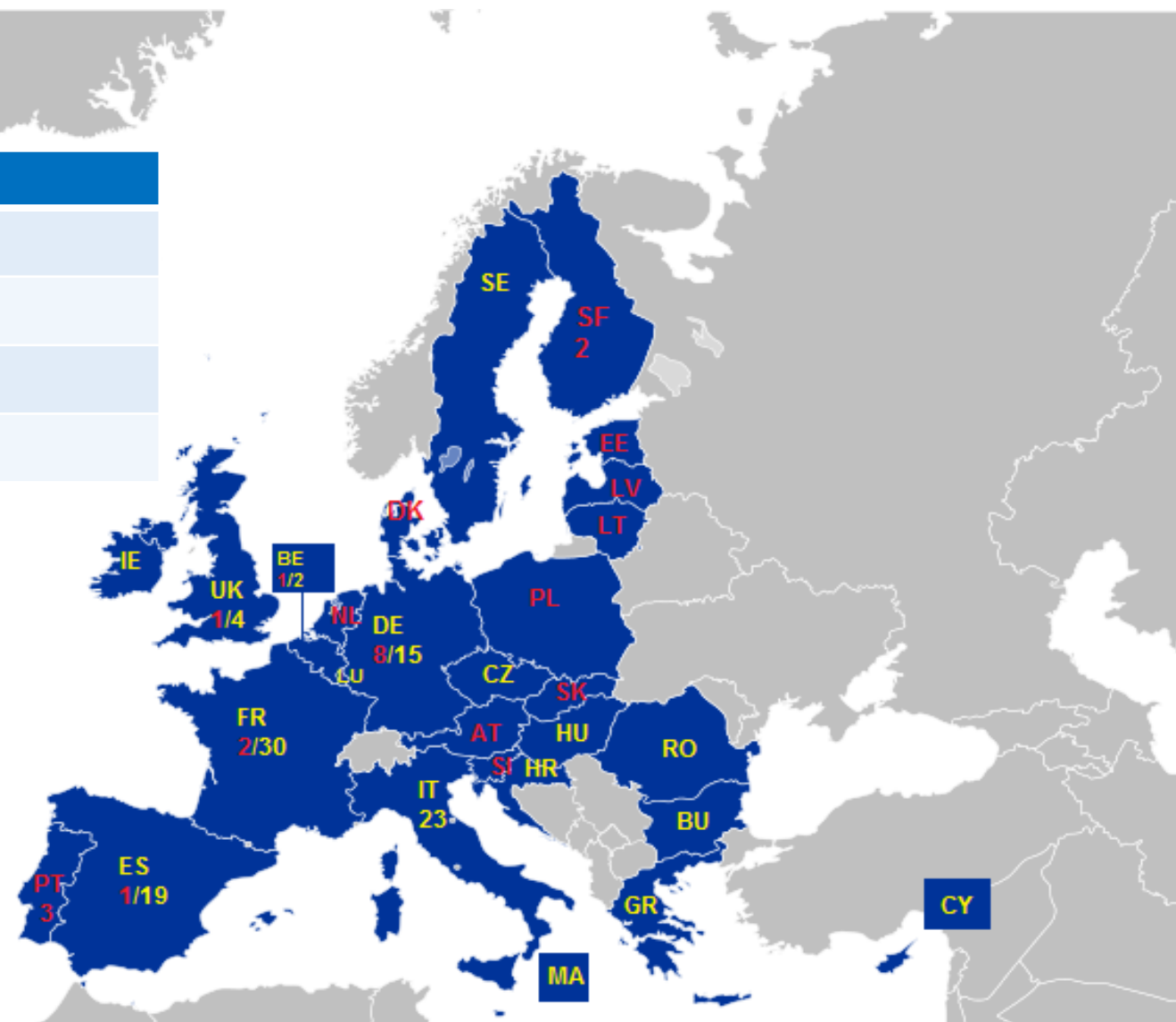
## Main challenges of the synthesis

- Increased number of RDPs/ex ante evaluations
- RDPs in different stages of the approval process
- Varying degrees of completeness of ex ante evaluation reports / RDPs
- Completion of synthesis within contract deadlines (draft final report due end of October 2015)

# Rural Development Programmes in the EU per country

*situation as at 13/02/2015*

Adoption	of 118 RDPs
Dec. 2014	9
Feb. 2015	18
→ May 2015	34
May 2015 →	57

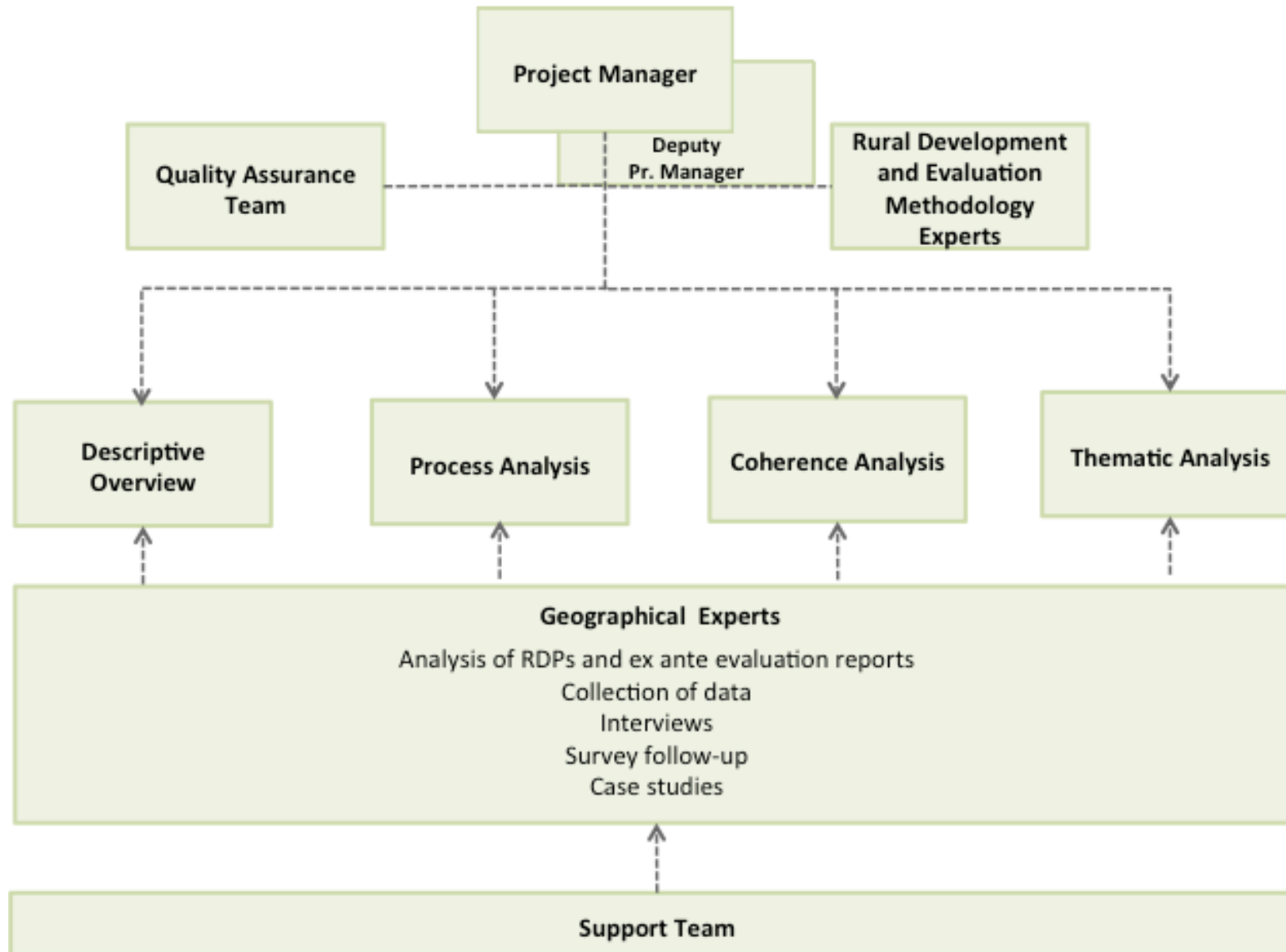


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## Evaluation themes

- Evaluation Theme 1: Process
- Evaluation Theme 2: Intervention logic and internal coherence
- Evaluation Theme 3: External coherence
- Evaluation Theme 4: Thematic clusters
  1. Investment
  2. Knowledge transfer, advisory services and the EIP
  3. Agri-environment - climate
  4. Forestry
  5. Young farmers, small farmers and areas with natural constraints
  6. Risk management

# Project organisation



# Evaluation methodologies and tools - Overview

Methods/Tools	Applicable for evaluation theme			
	Descriptive (2 EQs)	ET1 (5 EQs)	ET2 & ET3 (6 + 2 EQs)	ET4 (15 EQs)
Analytical Grids	X	X	X	
Screening templates			X	X
Survey of MAs		X	X	
Interviews				X
Case studies				X
Clustering	X	X	X	

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## Evaluation methodologies and tools – Key content

- Summary of findings of the ex ante evaluations for each ET
- Identification of information gaps
- Clustering criteria for assessing the completeness of the information provided in ex ante reports
- Coverage of information gaps with the survey
- Interviews in the context of case studies for ET4



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## Survey – Preliminary key topics

- Intervention logic and hierarchy of objectives
- Role of CLLD and LAGs
- Contribution to EU2020 targets
- Methodologies for quantified target values for indicators / expected impacts
- Difficulties encountered in identifying context indicators / impacts
- Specific evaluation systems – measuring progress and results
- Human resource, administrative, technical needs for programme implementation
- Bottlenecks identified in implementation arrangements
- Emphasis on horizontal themes – justification
- Key success factors for effective coordination (ex ante evaluation process)
- Key success factors for effective coordination (with other ESI Funds/Pillar I)

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## Case studies – Key selection criteria

- Budget (max / min / %)
- Geography
- Thematic cluster specific criteria, e.g.
  - Investments in irrigation / water management (TC1 Investment)
  - MS with equivalent practices to greening (TC3 agri-environment-climate)
  - Existence of forest management plans (TC4 forestry)
  - Support to areas with natural constraints (TC5 YF, SF and ANC)
- Finalised programmes