Evaluation under the 2014-2020 financial perspective

Evaluation is a study assessing the quality, value and impact of public programmes on social and economic situation. It is a necessary tool to improve and streamline the implementation process of those programmes and to reliably assess the obtained results. Evaluation studies are used for assessing the efficiency of operational programmes co-financed from the funds of the EU cohesion policy. The European Commission defined very ambitious goals for evaluation for the programming period 2014-2020. The focus shifted from issues related to the implementation system to evaluation of the logic of operational programmes and precise identification of results. This approach will allow for more extensive application of evidence-based approach in the cohesion policy implementation and will increase its transparency.

Evaluation Plan of the Operational Programme Eastern Poland 2014-2020

The Managing Authority of the Operational Programme Eastern Poland 2014-2020 (OP EP 2014-2020) developed a comprehensive Evaluation Plan which determines the strategy for the evaluation process of the Programme. The list and schedule of the planned evaluations constitute an integral part of the Plan. The Plan will be regularly reviewed and, if necessary, appropriately modified.

What will be evaluated?

In the years 2014-2020, the macroregion of Eastern Poland (covering Lubelskie, Podkarpackie, Podlaskie, Świętokrzyskie and Warmińsko-Mazurskie voivodeships) will for the second time be a beneficiary of the supra-regional operational programme, co-financed from the European Regional Development Fund.

EUR 2 billion available under the Programme will be allocated for development of innovative entrepreneurship and investments in urban transport, roads and railways. Those measures will contribute to increasing the competitiveness and innovativeness of Eastern Poland, which is the main objective of the Programme,
and to achieving development goals stemming from the Europe 2020 strategy. Projects implemented under OP Eastern Poland will enhance and supplement the support provided to individual voivodeships of the macroregion under national and regional operational programmes for 2014-2020.

**Scope of OP EP 2014-2020**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority axis</th>
<th>Measure</th>
<th>Allocation (EUR million)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Priority axis I: Entrepreneurial Eastern Poland</strong></td>
<td>1.1 Start-up platforms for the new ideas</td>
<td>200.1</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.2 Supporting the internationalisation of SMEs</td>
<td>115.0</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1.3 Support for supra-regional cooperation ties</td>
<td>260.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.4 Use of design processes by SMEs</td>
<td>144.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Priority axis II: Modern transport infrastructure</strong></td>
<td>2.1 Sustainable urban transport</td>
<td>440.1</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2.2 Road infrastructure</td>
<td>476.1</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Priority axis III: Supra-regional railway infrastructure</strong></td>
<td>3.1 Railway infrastructure</td>
<td>330.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Priority axis IV: Technical Assistance</strong></td>
<td>4.1 Support for the implementation process and Programme promotion</td>
<td>34.0</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>2,000.0</strong></td>
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The three main thematic areas in which evaluation studies will take place:

- **assessment of the implementation system, effects and impact of OP EP 2014-2020** on achievement of development objectives in Eastern Poland;

- **assessment of complementarity of development interventions implemented in the years 2014-2020 for the macroregion** under OP EP 2014-2020, Regional Operational Programmes of five Eastern Poland voivodeships and central Operational Programmes (primarily OP Smart Growth and OP Infrastructure and Environment);

The above areas will not be analysed separately, as the complementarity of support will constitute an integral element of numerous planned evaluations, both ongoing and ex post.

**Specific characteristics of OP EP 2014-2020 in the context of evaluation**

- the Programme consists of **investment projects with a varying scope** (ranging from support for entrepreneurs with elements of advisory services to construction of transport infrastructure), which requires a varied methodological approach, adequate for the evaluated thematic area;
- a significant share of the Programme’s allocation is intended for infrastructural projects with a complex and long implementation process, which means that their **effects will be achieved at the end of the implementation period** – this in turn postpones a reliable and comprehensive evaluation of the Programme;
- other interventions, apart from the supra-regional programme, are carried out in Eastern Poland under instruments implemented at the regional and national level. Their effects will intertwine, which may result in **difficulties in determining the isolated impact of OP EP 2014-2020 on the macroregion of Eastern Poland**;
- in view of the auxiliary nature of the Programme, the key issue is the appropriate **coordination of measures at the regional and central level** to maximize the development effects. Evaluation should examine mechanisms ensuring complementarity and synergy of support for the macroregion to formulate useful conclusions for their optimisation.

**How will evaluation be performed?**

**Theory-based evaluations** allowing to find out why intervention generated the specific effects, taking into account the context of its implementation, will be the ones most extensively used in the evaluation process of OP EP 2014-2020. The planned studies are programme evaluations, i.e. evaluations concerning one operational programme, although taking into account the aspect of complementarity with other operational programmes influencing socio-economic situation in Eastern Poland. **Impact evaluations**, which assess (intended and not intended) social and economic changes resulting from the Programme’s implementation, prevail.
The research approach adopted for the purposes of evaluation will include a vast array of research methods and techniques to enable the most complete and reliable evaluations of the Programme implementation system, as well as its effects and impact on the socio-economic situation in Eastern Poland. The measures addressed to the enterprise sector will be evaluated using counterfactual methods to identify net effects of intervention. Detailed methodology will be developed individually for each evaluation, taking into account specific characteristics of the evaluated area, timing of evaluation and its objectives.

**Methodological approach to OP EP 2014-2020 evaluation**

- dominant approach: **theory-based evaluation**
- programme evaluations, taking into account **assessment of complementarity** of support for the macroregion
- **quantitative and qualitative** methods
- evaluations using **counterfactual methods**
- internal and external evaluations
- ex ante / on-going / ex post evaluations
Institutions engaged in the OP EP 2014-2020 evaluation process

National Evaluation Unit:
- coordinates the cohesion policy evaluation process in the years 2014-2020;
- coordinates and implements measures related to developing the evaluation capacity and culture;
- manages the Database of Evaluation Studies and the Recommendation Implementation System.
Evaluation Unit at the Managing Authority of OP EP 2014-2020:

- is responsible for the evaluation process at the Programme level;
- coordinates the cooperation of entities engaged in the Programme’s evaluation process as members of the OP EP 2014-2020 Evaluation Steering Group;
- evaluation activities will also be performed by Evaluation Units at Intermediate Bodies of OP EP 2014-2020, i.e. the Polish Agency for Enterprise Development and the Centre for EU Transport Projects.

OP EP 2014-2020 Evaluation Steering Group:

- is a forum for cooperation and exchange of knowledge and experience concerning ongoing evaluations, their methodology and optimal ways of using their results;
- its activities aim at building and enhancing the evaluation capacity of OP EP 2014-2020 institutions.

Steering Group for Eastern Poland:

- is the main mechanism for strategic coordination of the European cohesion policy undertakings implemented in the macroregion of Eastern Poland during the programming perspective 2014-2020;
- ensures coordination and complementarity of measures in the area of monitoring and evaluation of their effects.

Monitoring Committee of OP EP 2014-2020:

- follows the principle of partnership in the evaluation process and constitutes an important mechanism of integrating evaluation of the Programme with its implementation process;
- approves the Evaluation Plan and its periodic updates and monitors the Programme evaluation process, reviewing the results of evaluations, as well as recommends areas and topics that should be evaluated.
Data for the needs of OP EP 2014-2020 evaluations

Reliable and comprehensive data are necessary for adequate conduct of evaluation studies. They are primarily derived from the monitoring system of OP EP 2014-2020 and other cohesion policy instruments for 2014-2020. The central IT system SL 2014 gathers comprehensive monitoring data on all EU cohesion policy programmes. It allows reporting the data arranged in ways useful for evaluation.

The other primary source of data are the information resources of the Central Statistical Office (GUS). The STRATEG on-line database contains a wide range of data that allow programming and monitoring of the development policy. It includes indicators used to monitor the implementation of development strategies pursued in Poland (at the national, supra-regional, and voivodeship level) and in the European Union (Europe 2020 strategy).

For a reliable measurement of the net effects of measures addressed at entrepreneurs, it is of vital importance to collect data for the needs of studies using counterfactual methods on a regular basis. Such data will be collected in the framework of on-going evaluation Eastern Poland Entrepreneurship Barometer. The Barometer will allow comprehensive on-going measurement of the results of the implemented measures and gathering information on the degree of achievement of the planned objectives.
Basic sources of data for the needs of OP EP 2014-2020 evaluation

Use of evaluation in the process of OP EP 2014-2020 implementation

Findings and recommendations from evaluations have two basic uses, as they:

- **support the on-going decision-making process** within the framework of the Programme through the formulation in due time of reliable and useful recommendations concerning various aspects of implementation, and
- **provide evidence** for the purpose of designing and provision of effective support for macroregion in the future, and assessment of the effects of Programme implementation.
An important tool supporting the evaluation process is the **Recommendation Implementation System**, which allows to assign adequate status of importance to recommendations drawn up as a result of evaluations and to closely monitor their implementation.

Evaluation also serves to strengthen the transparency of the EU cohesion policy. Final reports from studies are made available to both Programme’s stakeholders and the general public via website dedicated to the Programme (www.polskawschodnia.gov.pl) and the publicly available Evaluation Database.

**OP EP 2014-2020 evaluation budget**

The total amount earmarked for OP EP 2014-2020 evaluation is PLN **3.05 million**. Evaluation-related expenditure will be covered from the funds available under technical assistance (priority axis IV of OP EP 2014-2020).
## OP EP 2014-2020 evaluation schedule

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Evaluation of the project selection system under OP EP 2014-2020</td>
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<td>2.</td>
<td>Evaluation of the implementation of horizontal rules in the framework of OP EP 2014-2020</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>Mid-term evaluation of OP EP 2014-2020 physical progress and implementation system, including the implementation of the provisions on performance framework and reserve</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>Evaluation of the results of support under priority axis I <em>Entrepreneurial Eastern Poland</em> of the OP EP 2014-2020</td>
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<td>8.</td>
<td>Ex post evaluation of physical progress and results of the OP EP 2014-2020</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Evaluation of achievement of the main objective and impact of OP EP 2014-2020 as an additional instrument to support socio-economic development of Eastern Poland</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Complementarity of support for enterprises in the macroregion under OP EP, Smart Growth OP, and 5 Regional Operational Programmes 2014-2020</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Evaluation of the impact of transport infrastructure under OP DEP 2007-2013 on improvement of Eastern Poland’s accessibility</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>Evaluation of the impact of OP DEP 2007-2013 on development of entrepreneurship in Eastern Poland</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Evaluation of achievement of the main objective of the OP DEP 2007-2013</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Ex-post evaluation of OP DEP 2007-2013 Measure III.1 Urban collective transport systems in Eastern Poland</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Regular assessment of durability and the effects achieved after completion of the projects under OP DEP 2007-2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Regular assessment of the implementation of horizontal issues in OP DEP 2007-2013 projects</td>
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</table>
1. Evaluation of the project selection system under OP EP 2014-2020

Objective of the evaluation

Evaluation of the project selection system under priority axis I *Entrepreneurial Eastern Poland*, including the project selection criteria.

The study should result in proposed changes to the system and the project selection criteria that would ensure the selection of projects adequate to specific objectives of priority axis I of OP EP, and thus will contribute to more effective Programme implementation, measured with the value of contracted and certified funds.

Key evaluation questions

- Should any changes (simplifications, more precise phrasing) be introduced to the project selection and assessment system in order to streamline it? If so, what are they?
- Do the criteria have clear, accurate, and unambiguous names, descriptions, assessment methods and point weights?
- Do the criteria allow selection of projects that contribute to achieving the objectives of measures and sub-measures of priority axis I to the greatest extent?
- Is the proposed list of criteria consistent and does it allow comprehensive assessment of projects?

Evaluation timeline | Estimated cost
---|---
Q3 of 2015 – Q2 of 2016 | PLN 100,000
2. Evaluation of the implementation of horizontal rules (promotion of equality between men and women and non-discrimination; sustainable development) in the framework of OP EP 2014-2020

**Objective of the evaluation**


The study should also include the creation of tools for monitoring the implementation of horizontal rules for reporting purposes. Information obtained as a result of the study will be used in the development of annual reports and the final report on Programme’s implementation.

**Key evaluation questions**

- How and to what extent the institutions involved in Programme implementation follow the above-mentioned horizontal rules?
- How and to what extent the beneficiaries implementing projects follow the horizontal rules?
- How can the implementation of the horizontal rules in projects be effectively monitored?

**Evaluation timeline**                          **Estimated cost**

Q2–Q3 of 2017                                  PLN 100,000
3. Mid-term evaluation of OP EP 2014-2020 physical progress and implementation system for the needs of the mid-term review, including the implementation of the provisions on performance framework and reserve

Objective of the evaluation

Evaluation of the physical progress of OP EP 2014-2020, including the implementation of the provisions on performance framework and reserve, in the context of effective use of allocated funds. Additionally, the implementation system of the Programme should be assessed for the purpose of its possible optimisation.

The physical progress and financial advancement of the Programme during the mid-term review will affect the disbursement of allocations provided for in the framework of the performance reserve. This is why it is so important to examine the reasons for any problems and risks arising in the course of the implementation of the Programme and the achievement of indicator values as set out in the implementation framework, in order to prevent their occurrence early on. The evaluation of the implementation system will allow for its optimisation during the final implementation phase as well as for designing a possible support system for the macroregion post-2020.

Key evaluation questions

- Is the physical progress observed in the course of Programme implementation adequate to the financial progress? Did the recorded Programme indicator values allow for the achievement of intermediate values (for 2018) and how likely is the attainment of target values (for 2023)?
- What are the main reasons for the discrepancies between the observed and achieved values of output indicators? Do the target values for output indicators require corrections and to what extent?
- How to prevent possible problems and risks arising in the course of physical and financial implementation of individual priority axes?
- To what extent is the system meeting the assigned objectives? Is the division of tasks between the institutions involved in the implementation process appropriate and effective?
- Are the human resources involved in the Programme implementation process sufficient and do they allow for efficient and timely discharge of the tasks assigned?

Evaluation timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evaluation timeline</th>
<th>Estimated cost</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Q3 of 2018 – Q1 of 2019</td>
<td>PLN 120,000</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
4. Evaluation of the results of support under priority axis I *Entrepreneurial Eastern Poland* of the OP EP 2014–2020

**Objective of the evaluation**

Estimation and evaluation of the results of support granted under priority axis I *Entrepreneurial Eastern Poland* with regard to the objectives pursued.

The conclusions from the study will be used i.a. to develop the contribution to the final report on the implementation of the Programme.

**Key evaluation questions**

- What are the results of support for enterprises under priority axis I?
- Did the intervention allow for achieving the objectives pursued in accordance with the theory of change adopted for the purposes of the Programme?
- What factors had an impact on increasing the effectiveness of support, and what factors were limiting its effectiveness?

**Evaluation timeline**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evaluation timeline</th>
<th>Estimated cost</th>
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<tr>
<td>Q4 of 2022 – Q2 of 2023</td>
<td>PLN 150,000</td>
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</table>

**Objective of the evaluation**

Estimation and evaluation of the results of support granted under priority axis II *Modern transport infrastructure* with regard to the objectives pursued.

The conclusions from the study will be used to develop the contribution to the final report on the implementation of the Programme.

**Key evaluation questions**

- What are the results of support for infrastructure granted under priority axis II?
- To what extent are the results of the implemented projects contributing to the achievement of the specific objectives set for priority axis II?
- Are the results of implemented projects sustainable?

**Evaluation timeline**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Evaluation timeline</th>
<th>Estimated cost</th>
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<tr>
<td>Q3 of 2023 – Q1 of 2024</td>
<td>PLN 120,000</td>
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</table>

**Objective of the evaluation**

Estimation and evaluation of the impact of railway investments implemented under priority axis III *Supra-regional railway infrastructure* on increasing the accessibility of transport in Eastern Poland.

The evaluation study will allow for a summary and assessment of the intervention results. The study should also identify factors affecting the success or failure of interventions. The conclusions from the study will be used i.a. in developing the contribution to the final report on the implementation of the Programme.

**Key evaluation questions**

- To what extent have the rail investments contributed to the achievement of the objectives set for priority axis III?
- What is the gross effect of investments and what is their net effect?

**Evaluation timeline**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Estimated cost</th>
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<td>PLN 100,000</td>
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**Evaluation timeline**

Q4 of 2023 – Q2 of 2024

**Objective of the evaluation**

Estimation and evaluation of the results of support granted under priority axis IV *Technical Assistance* with regard to the objectives pursued as at the end of 2020.

The study will verify whether allocated funds are being used effectively, whether comprehensive support was provided and appropriate human resources and technical facilities for the institutions involved in the management and implementation of the Programme were secured, whether appropriate support for the monitoring, evaluation, audit and inspection system and for the project selection process was ensured, whether the preparation and implementation of projects by beneficiaries were efficient and effective, and – finally – whether the system for information and promotion of the Programme has effectively supported its implementation.

**Key evaluation questions**

- What are the results of support for the implementation and promotion of the Programme under priority axis IV?
- Were the objectives set for priority axis IV met at the end of 2020?
- Was the financial progress pursued under priority axis IV attained at the end of 2020?

**Evaluation timeline**

The deadline for the study will be determined by MA OP TA 2014-2020 and the National Evaluation Unit.

**Estimated cost of the study**

The study will be financed from the OP TA 2014-2020 and the National Evaluation Unit.

Objective of the study

Summary of the physical progress and results of the Programme and the evaluation of its impact on the socio-economic development of the Eastern Poland macroregion in the context of the implementation of the *Europe 2020* strategy objectives.

The study will evaluate the results and outcomes of the implementation of the Programme with regard to the situation of the Eastern Poland macroregion and its inhabitants. The Programme’s contribution to the implementation of the *Europe 2020* strategy will also be subject to analysis. Quantitative and qualitative information on the implementation of the Programme per individual action, investment priority, priority axis and thematic objective will be used i.a. in developing the contribution to the final report on the implementation of the Programme.

Main evaluation questions

- What are the results and outcomes of the Programme?
- To what extent has the implementation of the Programme contributed to the socio-economic development of Eastern Poland?
- What is the impact of the Programme on the implementation of the *Europe 2020* strategy objectives?

Evaluation timeline

<table>
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<th>Evaluation timeline</th>
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<tr>
<td>Q3 of 2021 – Q1 of 2022</td>
<td>PLN 150,000</td>
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**Objective of the evaluation**

Evaluation of the results of the pilot project implemented under the Measure *Start-up platforms for the new ideas*, including the assessment of the correctness of the measure implementation model, the level of attainment of the objectives and the identification of additional solutions that can be used in the course of further implementation of the measure under the Programme.

The conclusions of the evaluation will be used by the European Commission to decide on the merits of further implementation of the measure and to make any changes in the established form of its implementation with the view to improving it.

**Key evaluation questions**

- How effective is the designed intervention, measured by the level of achievement of output indicators set for the pilot phase?
- What is the capacity of start-up Platforms to attract potential initiators?
- How can the level of innovativeness of business ideas be assessed?
- What structure should the partnership have, taking into account its financial, technical and organisational potential, in order to successfully implement the measure?
- What is the quality and availability of services rendered for entrepreneurs by institutions which are members of start-up platforms?
- What implementation problems with a significantly adverse effect on achieving the objectives of the measure may be identified? In what way may the risks of their occurrence be mitigated?
- How should the validity of the support provided under measure 1.1. be assessed based on the conclusions obtained? Can any changes in the above-mentioned measure be recommended, and if so in what respect?

**Evaluation timeline**

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<tr>
<th>Estimate cost</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Q1 2016 – Q3 2017</td>
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<td>PLN 150,000</td>
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</table>
10. **Assessment of the possibility to use financial instruments under OP EP 2014-2020**

**Objective of the evaluation**

The assessment of the possibility to use financial instruments under the Programme, along with the assessment of the rationale for/adequacy of the use of a non-refundable form of support in the case of projects chosen in the course of competition proceedings under the priority axis I *Entrepreneurial Eastern Poland*.

The study will allow to answer the question of optimal selection of the form of support for beneficiaries (refundable, non-refundable) under priority axis I with reference to supported target groups. The European Commission indicated the need to assess the adequacy of applying a non-refundable support scheme instead of financial instruments under OP EP 2014-2020 during negotiations of the Programme.

**Key evaluation questions**

- Are the currently designed forms of support efficient and effective in respect of the priority axis I?
- Would a refundable support under priority axis I be valid in the context of influence on the innovation and competitiveness of enterprises–beneficiaries?
- What direction should the potential changes in the principles governing the support for entrepreneurship take?

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Evaluation timeline</th>
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<td>Q2–Q4 of 2016</td>
<td>PLN 100,000</td>
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**Objective of the evaluation**

The on-going systematic measurement of the results and influence of individual measures under the priority axis I.

The data collected in the evaluation – apart from providing an updated knowledge on the projects’ results (e.g. for the purpose of Programme implementation reports or ad hoc analyses) – can contribute to the final assessment of the Programme efficiency, as well as to an assessment of the net effect of the intervention in progress.

**Key evaluation questions**

The evaluation will involve collecting data regarding the profile of beneficiaries, their economic condition, most important economic parameters (revenues, employment, innovative activity, etc. – comparable with data collected by the Central Statistical Office of Poland), beneficiaries’ development strategies (taking into account public resources as a source of funding), direct and indirect results of projects under implementation.

**Evaluation timeline Estimated cost**

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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Estimated Cost</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Development of the evaluation system</td>
<td>PLN 450,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>2018–2023</td>
<td>Evaluation</td>
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Objective of the evaluation

Evaluation of the achievement of objectives and impact of the Programme as an additional instrument to support economic development of the macroregion of Eastern Poland.

The specificity of the macroregion of Eastern Poland makes it an area of particular interest of the central government. Other interventions, apart from the OP EP 2014-2020, are carried out in Eastern Poland under instruments implemented at the regional and national level (mainly 5 Regional Operational Programmes, OP Infrastructure and Environment, OP Smart Growth). Their effects overlap, what may make it difficult to distinguish the influence of OP EP 2014-2020 on the macroregion. The study is to provide knowledge on the extent to which the Programme objective has been met, i.a. by verifying whether the target values of programme indicators have been achieved. The study should provide knowledge on the Programme influence on the level of the macroregional development in the context of the whole support framework for this area under cohesion policy programmes in 2014–2020. The efficiency of support coordination mechanisms will also be assessed. The evaluation should also assess which forms of support implemented under the Programme are the most adequate and particularly important in the context of achieving the objectives of The Strategy for socio–economic development of Eastern Poland by 2020.

Key evaluation questions

- To what extent have the projects implemented under OP EP 2014-2020 contributed to achieving the objective of the Programme and meeting the intended values of target indicators?
- Has the implemented coordination mechanism for the support provided for the macroregion been conducive to maximising the observed development effects?
- Is OP EP 2014-2020 contributing to levelling the playing field in terms of economic development of the macroregion as compared to the whole country?
- What is the financial efficiency of interventions made under OP EP 2014-2020?
- Which forms of support for OP Easter Poland have proved to be most effective?
- How did the intervention under OP EP 2014-2020 translate into achieving the intended development objectives of the macroregion?
- To what extent are the obtained effects durable?

Evaluation timeline

Q4 of 2023 – Q2 of 2024

Estimated cost

PLN 200,000

Objective of the evaluation


The evaluation will assess and verify the extent of the achieved complementarity of support instruments offered to entrepreneurs under indicated programmes and make recommendations concerning the ways in which it can be maximised. The study recommendations may also help to improve the monitoring of the complementarity of the interventions.

Key evaluation questions

- To what extent and in what scope are the interventions under the priority axis I of OP EP 2014-2020 complementary with each other and with the interventions carried out under OP Smart Growth and in five individual Regional Operational Programmes?
- What type of solutions allow to monitor the complementarity of measures undertaken between indicated programmes?
- What type of solutions could enhance the complementarity between the programmes with respect to supporting entrepreneurship?

Evaluation timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Estimated cost</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Q4 of 2018 – Q2 of 2019</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Objective of the evaluation**

Evaluation of the impact of transport infrastructure under OP DEP 2007-2013 on improvement of Eastern Poland’s accessibility will assess the effects of the priority axis IV *Transport infrastructure*.

The conclusions from the study will be used to develop the contribution to the final report on the implementation of OP DEP 2007-2013.

**Key evaluation questions**

- What is the influence of transport projects implemented under measure IV.1 on the transport accessibility of Eastern Poland?
- What are the effects of transport projects implemented under measure IV.1?
- What is the expected durability of the investments supported under priority axis IV?

**Evaluation timeline**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evaluation timeline</th>
<th>Estimated cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Q1–Q4 of 2016</td>
<td>PLN 120,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
15. Evaluation of the impact of OP DEP 2007-2013 on development of entrepreneurship in Eastern Poland

**Objective of the evaluation**

Evaluation of the impact of OP DEP 2007-2013 on development of entrepreneurship in Eastern Poland by assessing the achievement of the objectives of measures under the priority axis I of the Programme.

The conclusions from the study will be used to develop the contribution to the final report on the implementation of OP DEP 2007-2013.

**Key evaluation questions**

- What was the impact of projects under priority axis I on development of innovativeness of enterprises in Eastern Poland?
- Did the intervention contribute to the improvement of conditions of conducting economic activity in the macroregion?
- Which factors increased and which decreased the efficiency of support?
- To what extent are the obtained effects of support durable?
- What was the survival rate of companies supported with the funds of OP DEP 2007-2013?

**Evaluation timeline**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evaluation timeline</th>
<th>Estimated cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Q2–Q4 of 2016</td>
<td>PLN 150,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
16. Evaluation of achievement of the main objective of the OP DEP 2007-2013

Objective of the evaluation

The main objective of OP DEP 2007-2013 was described using two indicators, the target values of which were estimated using the HERMIN model:

- net number of new jobs;

The verification of the achievement of their target values and evaluation of their impact on the situation in the Eastern Poland macroregion will be carried out in comparison to the baseline year. Conclusions from the study will be presented in the final report on OP DEP 2007-2013 implementation.

Evaluation timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evaluation timeline</th>
<th>Estimated cost</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To be defined by the National Evaluation Unit</td>
<td>The study will be financed from the OP TA 2014-2020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
17. Ex post evaluation of OP DEP 2007-2013 Measure III.1 Urban collective transport systems in Eastern Poland

Objective of the evaluation

Evaluation of the situation of collective urban transport in metropolitan areas of voivodeship cities in Eastern Poland by determining the value of selected indicators related to collective urban transport after completion of the projects under Measure III.1 of OP DEP 2007-2013.

The initial value of selected indicators of collective urban transport was measured in 2009. The conclusions from the evaluation will be used to develop the contribution to the final report on the OP DEP 2007-2013 implementation.

Key evaluation questions

- How has the mobility of inhabitants changed after the completion of projects, compared to the initial situation in 2009?
- How is the functionality of urban transport perceived in five voivodeship cities of Eastern Poland after completion of projects under OP DEP 2007-2013?
- How has the economic effectiveness of collective urban transport systems in voivodeship cities of Eastern Poland changed as a result of the completion of projects under OP DEP 2007-2013?

Evaluation timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evaluation timeline</th>
<th>Estimated cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Q2 of 2016 – Q1 of 2017</td>
<td>PLN 110,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
18. Regular assessment of durability and the effects achieved after completion of the projects under OP DEP 2007-2013

Objective of the evaluation

The study allows to obtain information about effects and durability of projects carried out under OP DEP 2007-2013. In line with the durability monitoring procedures, once a year the beneficiaries of completed projects submit to the OP DEP 2007-2013 Managing Authority the information about durability of the project, within the meaning of Article 57 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006, and on compliance with the assumed project objectives, indicators and conditions based on which the beneficiary received co-financing. The information obtained during regular assessment may be the basis for correction of the payment application or for commissioning the project control.

Evaluation timeline

| 2015-2021 |

Estimated cost

| Internal evaluation |
19. Regular assessment of the implementation of horizontal issues in OP DEP 2007-2013 projects (equal opportunities, complementarity, sustainable development)

**Objective of the evaluation**

The assessment will be used for drawing up reports on implementation of horizontal issues under OP DEP 2007-2013. It will be based on the analysis of existing data obtained from questionnaires for the purposes of monitoring of horizontal principles, submitted by beneficiaries of OP DEP 2007-2013 that filed applications for final payment during the six months in question.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evaluation timeline</th>
<th>Estimated cost</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015-2017</td>
<td>Internal evaluation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Evaluation of achievement of the main objective of OP DEP 2007-2013*
- Evaluation of performance opportunities to use financial instruments under OP EP 2014-2020
- Evaluation of implementation of horizontal rules in the framework of OP EP 2014-2020
- Evaluation of the project selection system under OP EP
- Evaluation of the impact of transport infrastructure under OP DEP 2007-2013 on improvement of Eastern Poland’s accessibility
- Evaluation of the impact of OP DEP 2007-2013 on the development of entrepreneurship in Eastern Poland
- Ex post evaluation of OP DEP 2007-2013 Measure III.1 Urban collective transport systems in Eastern Poland
- Regular assessment of the implementation of horizontal issues in OP DEP 2007-2013 projects
- Mid-term evaluation of OP EP 2014-2020 physical progress and implementation system for the needs of the mid-term review, Inc. the implementation of the provisions on performance framework and reserve
- Evaluation of the project selection system under OP EP
- Evaluation of the impact of transport infrastructure under OP DEP 2007-2013 on improvement of Eastern Poland’s accessibility
- Evaluation of the impact of OP DEP 2007-2013 on the development of entrepreneurship in Eastern Poland
- Ex post evaluation of OP DEP 2007-2013 Measure III.1 Urban collective transport systems in Eastern Poland
- Regular assessment of durability and of the effects achieved after completion of the project

The evaluations above the timeline are commissioned and supervised by the Evaluation Unit of the MA. The evaluations below the timeline – by the Evaluation Unit of the IB.

* The National Evaluation Unit will commission a horizontal study on the achievement of the main objective indicators for operational programmes from the years 2007-2013, including OP DEP, using the HERMIN model.
** A horizontal study covering the axes Technical Assistance under operational programmes 2014-2020 will be carried out on commission of the National Evaluation Unit.
Evaluation of Operational Programme Eastern Poland 2014–2020


- 2020
- 2021
- 2022
- 2023
- 2024

- Ex post evaluation of physical progress and results of OP EP 2014-2020
- Evaluation of achievement of the main objective and impact of OP EP 2014-2020 as an additional instrument to support socio-economic development of Eastern Poland
- Evaluation of the results of support under priority axis IV *Technical Assistance* of the OP EP 2014-2020**
- Evaluation of the results of support under priority axis I *Entrepreneurial Eastern Poland* of the OP EP 2014-2020
- Evaluation of the results of support under priority axis II *Modern transport infrastructure* of the OP EP 2014-2020
- Evaluation of the results of support under priority axis III *Supra-regional railway infrastructure* of the OP EP 2014-2020

*The National Evaluation Unit will commission a horizontal study on estimation of target values of the main objective indicators for operational programmes from the years 2007-2013, including OP DEP, using the HERMIN model.

** A horizontal study covering the axis *Technical Assistance* under operational programmes of the MA OP TA, in cooperation with the National Evaluation Unit.

Regular assessment of durability and of the effects achieved after completion of the projects under OP DEP 2007-2013


Mid-term evaluation of OP EP 2014-2020 physical progress and implementation system for the needs of the mid-term review, inc. the implementation of the provisions on performance framework and reserve

Evaluation of the pilot project *Start-up platform* for new ideas

Ex post evaluation of OP DEP 2007-2013 Measure III.1 *Urban collective transport systems in Eastern Poland*

projects under OP DEP 2007-2013
Contact data of persons and institutions engaged in the OP EP 2014-2020 evaluation

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