

English Summary

This evaluation plan is the framework document for evaluation activities in the ERDF programme 2014-2020 in Berlin. In line with Art. 54 and 114 of regulation 1303/2013, it aims at providing the necessary expertise, resources and procedures to implement an efficient evaluation system. By doing so, it contributes to improving the intervention and providing evidence on the contribution to the Europe 2020-objectives. The evaluation plan is guided by the principles of independence, utility, transparency and quality. The evaluation system is designed to support these principles. It is characterized by:

- A long term setting in which the external evaluation team has been involved already in the phase of developing the monitoring system and is working on an ongoing basis allowing for close contact and continuous communication.
- An experienced Managing Authority s coordinating the whole process of planning, implementing and using the evaluation work.
- A steering group representing the different partners involved which is fine tuning the evaluation questions, guiding the evaluation process and examining the evaluation results. The ERDF-working group and the Monitoring Committee are also actively involved in these processes.
- A training programme helps to develop the capacities. Quality management procedures are in place to make sure that the evaluation process is meeting the evaluation standards of the German Evaluation society as good as possible.

This evaluation plan foresees five different evaluation studies. One implementation study is planned, which can be used in a flexible way to address process-related questions that might come up during implementation. Four impact evaluations will be implemented – one for each priority axis. They follow a theory-based approach. Use of counterfactual methods has been checked, but they are deliberately not applied (too small number of cases supported, difficulties in data availability and limited added value compared to existing evidence). All impact evaluations apply long-term designs, although they vary from axis to axis. They start with consolidating the programme theory and go deeper into analysis of effects while the funding period is proceeding. Innovative methods like “innovation biographies” or a place-based evaluation approach for integrated urban development are applied.