



Evaluations in the next programming period: evolution or revolution

Consolidating the 2014-2020 revolution with simplification in mind

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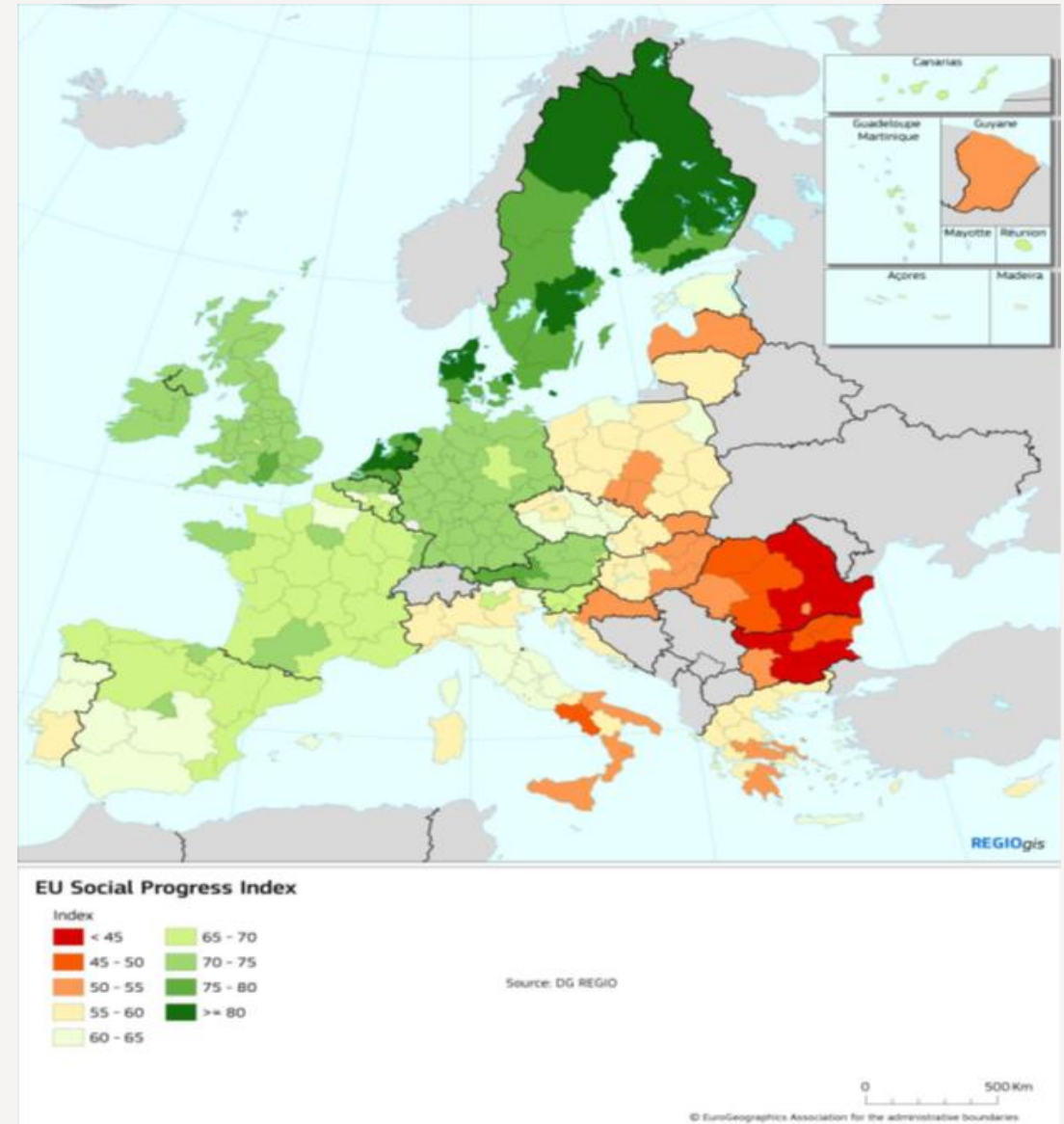
DG Regional and Urban Policy

European Regional Development Fund, Cohesion Fund

- ✓ 24% of the EU Budget (€ 262 bln.)
- ✓ 318 programmes for 2014-2020

Focus on gathering evidence:

- ✓ Monitoring and Evaluation
- ✓ Impact Assessment and Economic Analysis



2014-2020 revolution: strong focus on results

Reinforced focus on results :

- requirement for clearer programme objectives/improved intervention logic;
- strengthened monitoring provisions;
- stronger focus on evaluation of programme results;
- introduction of a performance framework and related performance reserve.

The Open Data Platform of ESI Funds

European Structural and Investment Funds (ESI Funds) - explore our data



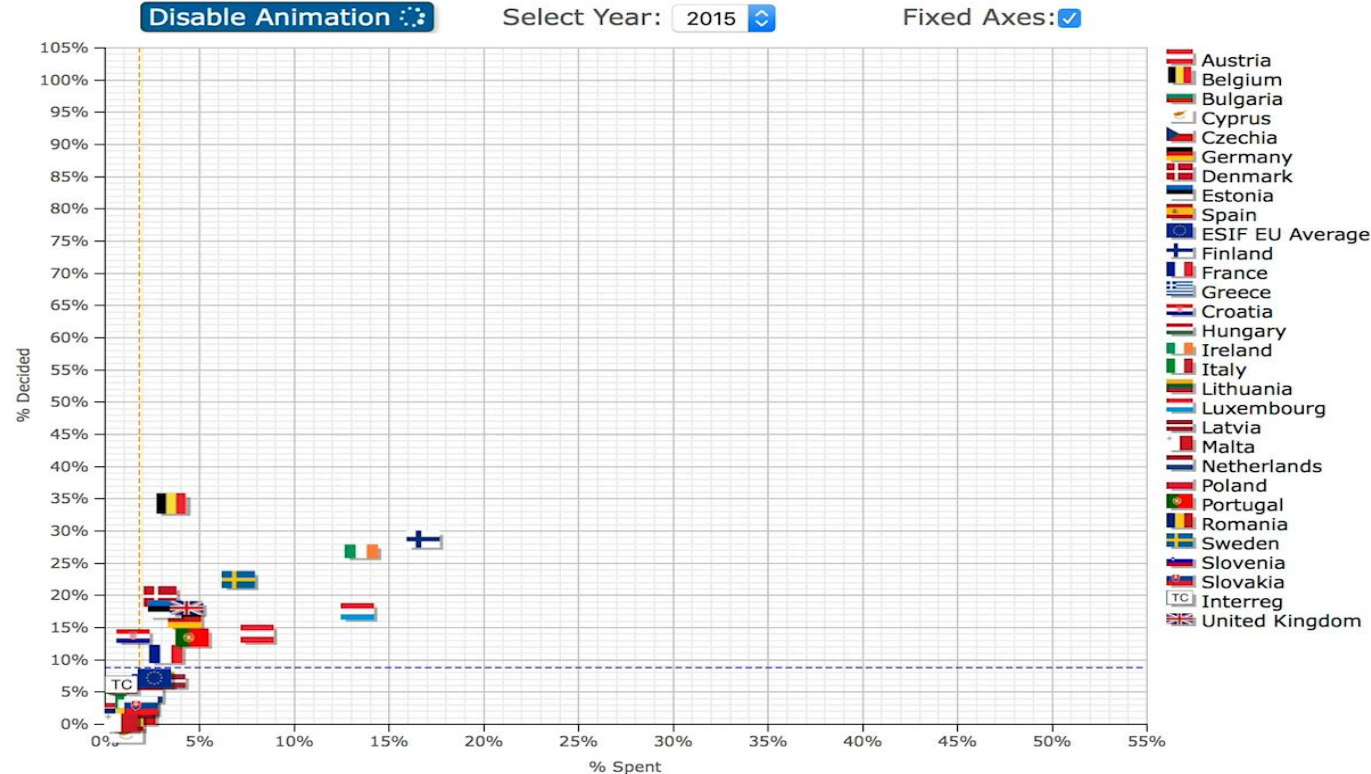
- ✓ **Data collection and dissemination**
- ✓ **Public data platform for the programming period 2014-2020**
- ✓ **Four ESI DGs: AGRI, EMPL, MARE, and REGIO**
- ✓ **Launched in December 2015 – updated, developed and enriched regularly**

<https://cohesiondata.ec.europa.eu/>

The Open Data Platform of ESI Funds

EU overview of implementation by Member State – total cost of selection and spending as % of planned (scatter plot)

Explore and Share this Data [↗](#)



▪ The chart axes will dynamically update to fit the data range for that year when "fixed axes" is not selected

Period Covered: up to 30/9/2018

Refresh Date: 15/1/2019

Evaluation work in DG REGIO

- Design and manage evaluations providing evidence of results and outcomes of Cohesion Policy, including strategic and thematic evaluations on selected EU priorities to feed policy developments,
- Impact assessments,
- Ensure coherent communication on evaluation results,
- Analyse evaluation results from the Member States,
- Support evaluation capacity in the Member States, facilitate the exchange of good practices,
- Manage the Evaluation Network, bringing together Commission and Member State evaluation expertise.

Current evaluation activity in DG REGIO

Recently finalised and on-going evaluations:

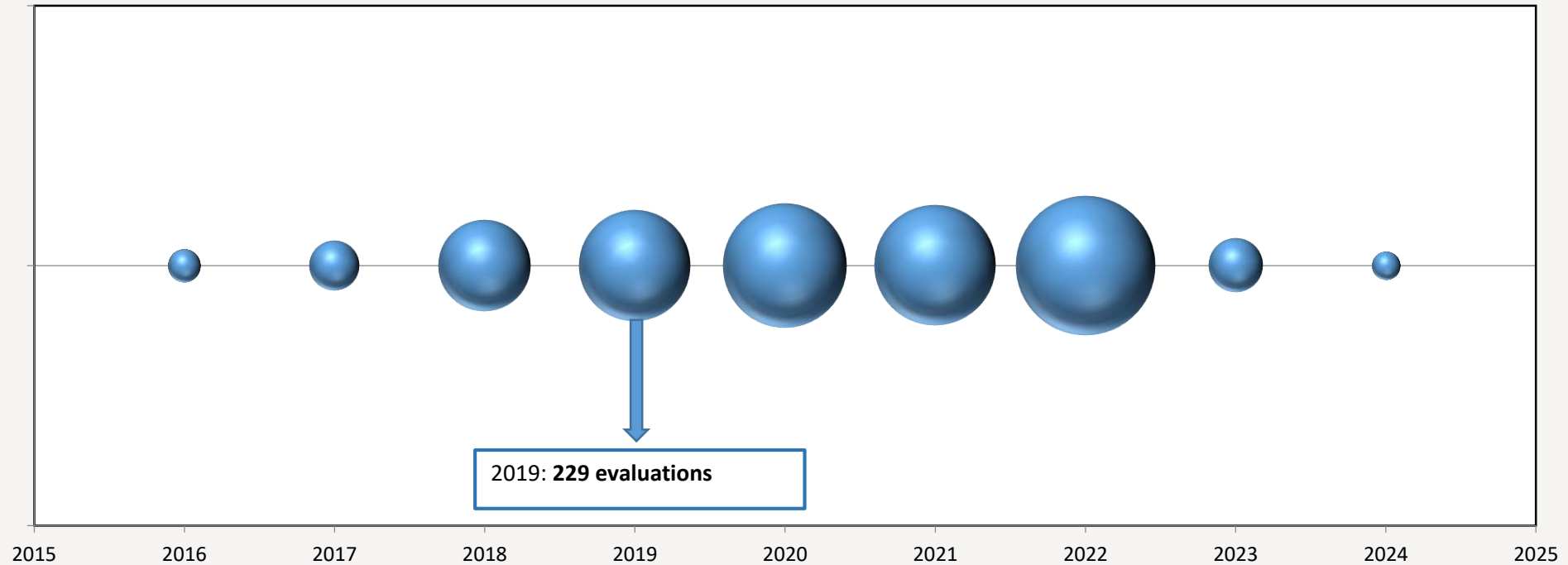
- EU Solidarity Fund,
- Major projects in the field of transport,
- Major projects in the field of environment,
- Jaspers mid-term evaluation.

Upcoming evaluations:

- R&D infrastructure,
- Ex-post evaluation of broadband projects,
- E-cohesion

Evaluations by the Member States

Evaluations during the period 2016-2024



Ex-post evaluations for the 2014-2020 programming period

Art. 57 CPR:

- Ex-post evaluations to examine the efficiency and effectiveness of ESI Funds and their contribution to the Unions strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth,
- To be completed by 31/12/2024.

To be finalized after a gap analysis based on MS evaluations.

Details still to be decided, including how to best complement thematic and cross-cutting evaluations.

EU Cohesion Policy - continued investment support

The Cohesion Policy will continue to provide support for jobs and growth in the upcoming programming period (2021-2027):

273 bln. (~21% of the EU budget)*



Accompanied by an effective monitoring and evaluation framework

*In current prices, according to the EC proposal (May 2018).

Evaluation framework in the next programming period

Designed in line with the overall drive for simplification, underpinned by the work of the High-Level Group on Simplification.

Fine-tuning of the current provisions, to allow for more simplification, in line with the overall approach taken by COM in the legislative proposals of May 2018.

Post-2020 provisions – what remains unchanged

Member states (art. 39):

- Evaluations during the programming period,
- Functional independence of evaluators,
- MS to guarantee procedures necessary to produce and collect data needed for evaluations,
- Evaluation plans to be submitted to MC within 1 year of programme adoption,
- MCs to examine progress in evaluations, synthesis and follow-up to findings (art. 35).

Commission (art. 40):

- Impact evaluation of Funds (by 2031).

Post-2020 provisions – what is new

- MS evaluations to assess programme relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, coherence and EU added value,
- Programme impact evaluation by June 2029,
- MS to publish all evaluations on the internet,
- Commission mid-term evaluation by end 2024,
- Ex-ante evaluation no longer mandatory (possibility exists, where necessary),
- No more reporting on synthesis of evaluations (only MC, no AIR).

A coherent calendar for evaluation work – the milestones

- **1 year after the OP adoption:** evaluation plans by MS,
- **2024:** mid-term evaluation by COM,
- **2025:** mid-term performance review (MS and COM),
- **2029:** programme impact evaluations by MS,
- **2031:** retrospective evaluations by COM.

These are the milestones; other evaluations will be carried out by COM and the MS.

Magnitude of change

- The changes aim at fine-tuning and improving the current system.
- The revolution took place when we moved from the 2007-2013 to the 2014-2020 programming period:
 - introduction of evaluation plans,
 - systematic evaluations by the MS, with an emphasis on impact covering all specific objectives.

A simplified, yet more coherent approach

Regulatory

Regulations (only what is necessary) + Soft measures (evaluation culture, summer schools, peer reviews, tailored methodological support).

Evaluation work

Increased coherence between COM and MS evaluations.

Conclusion

The evaluation framework for the post-2020 programming period aims at:

- Simplifying the rules to reduce the burden on MA and beneficiaries,
- Maintain those aspects which have proved useful and eliminate certain requirements (ex-ante evaluations, reporting on synthesis of evaluations),
- Rely more on soft measures, instead of the regulatory approach.

Simplification-driven evolution of the Cohesion Policy evaluations



THANK
YOU!