

Evaluation Update 15

November 2013 - January 2014

Web http://www.thepresidency-dpme.gov.za/pebble.asp?relid=137

Evaluation Update is a summary of progress on establishing the South African National Evaluation System, led by the Evaluation and Research Unit of the Outcomes M&E Branch of the Department of Performance M&E in the Presidency (DPME). It is intended to keep stakeholders updated on progress. These three months have seen the approval of the 2014/15 National Evaluation Plan, most evaluations for 2013/14 well underway, and the TORs for the 2014/15 evaluations being developed. A total of 38 evaluations are completed, underway, or about to start. Two significant events were coorganising a South-South Roundtable with 6 other countries on the use of evidence. including MPs, and a course for DGs/DDGs on evidence.

Evaluations being taken forward

4 of the 2012/13 evaluations are complete (so 5 completed to date), and on their way to cluster and Cabinet. 3 will finish in the next few weeks and 15 other evaluations are underway including 3 from the 2012/13 National Evaluation Plan, and 12 from the 2013/14 National Evaluation Plan. TORs have been developed for most of the 2014/15 evaluations and the assignments will be started by April 2014. This means the cycle will have been brought forward so these can complete within the 2014/15 financial year. Annex 1 has the status on each of these.

Development of policies and guidelines

- Version 2 of 6 draft guidelines have been produced on Diagnostic Evaluation, Design Evaluation, Implementation Evaluation, Impact Evaluation, Economic Evaluation, Evaluation Synthesis. Comments have been sought from national and international reviewers. These will be finalised by February.
- Other Guidelines now available TORs for Evaluations, Guideline for Peer Reviews, Template for Evaluation Project Plan, TORs for Evaluation Steering Committees and Guideline for Inception Phase, Management Response, Improvement Plan, Communication, Provincial Evaluation Plans, Planning Implementation Programmes.

Capacity development

- The major training with the Centre for Learning on Evaluation and Results (CLEAR) has continued with Course 2 on Deepening Evaluation held in November. In addition part of Course 4 on Planning Implementation Programmes was piloted in November, building on the Guideline produced in July. DPME organised a training of MPs, which included a session on evaluation which was well-received. A total of 280 people had been trained to December, so we will exceed our target of 300.
- Course 3 on Methodology will be piloted in the New Year. This draws from the Guidelines which have just been
- A course with UCT for Director/Deputy Director Generals on evidence-based policy-making and implementation was held 18-20 November 2013 with funding from DFID. It went well with 37 participants including 4 DGs, and one whole management team (DCOG). This will aim to build support from senior management for evidence-based policy-making and implementation including the use of M&E. This will be repeated in 2014/15.

Quality assurance

A second contract for the quality assessment of evaluations is underway, funded by DFID. So far 21 are being quality assessed including 10 provincial evaluations from the Western Cape. Once completed all the evaluations scoring more than 3/5 will be put on the Evaluation Repository.

Box 1: South-South Roundtable

DPME organised a Roundtable with Mexico, Peru, Ghana, Uganda, Benin November 2013. India in supported by the Gates Foundation and CLEAR. The focus was on demand and use of evidence by policy-makers and public servants, and above all trying to build bridges between these. Several countries sent MPs, and Uganda also sent the Minister from the Office of the Prime Minister focusing on performance M&E. Participants explored differing perceptions but common interests, explored the potential role of evidence, and opportunities for doing this, nationally and regionally. The event helped to build understanding between these stakeholders of how evidence can improve outcomes.

Research

- Interviews for a research director are being held in January 2014, and the first task will be to develop a strategy for the appropriate role for DPME in ensuring research is available and used to inform policy and implementation. DPME will collaborate with the Programme to Support Pro-Poor Policy Development (PSPPD), a partnership between the Presidency and the EU.
- DPME is partnering with CLEAR to manage 6 research grants for doctoral or post-doctoral research on elements of DPME's work. The call for researchers has gone out. This is again funded by DFID.
- DPME is involved in two projects under the Building Capacity for Use of Research Evidence (BCURE) also funded by DFID, one focusing on capacity development, and the other on developing tools of using evidence.

Evaluation and research evidence shared

- DPME co-organised a South-South Roundtable 11-13 November 2013 with Mexico, Peru, Ghana, Uganda, Benin and India on the demand & use of evidence in policy-making and implementation. This was very successful, particularly for those countries who managed to have MPs present (and Uganda even brought a Minister), helping to build bridges across the political-administrative divide.
- A presentation was made in a panel at a (US) Institute of Medicine Conference 7-8 January 2014 in London on Evaluation Methods for Large-Scale, Complex, Multi-National Global Health Initiatives
- The Evaluation Repository has been visited extensively and a system for tracking visitors is being put in place.

Collaborative management

- National Evaluation Plan 2014/15 to 2016/17 approved by Cabinet 4 December 2013 (see Annex 2).
- Departmental Evaluation Plans three departments now have departmental plans: Trade and Industry; Science and Technology; and Rural Development.
- Provincial Evaluation Plans Western Cape Plan has updated their provincial evaluation plan for 2014/15 and Gauteng also has a provincial evaluation plan. Mpumalanga, North West and Limpopo are in the process of developing a PEP.
- Panel of service providers other government departments and provinces are now seeking to use the panel. Our procurement system is proving to be far faster and more efficient than most departmental systems. A big weaknesses is only one university is actively bidding for evaluations and so contacts have been made with the Vice Chancellors of the other 4 universities on the panel to make sure the universities are prepared to respond to the calls for evaluation expected in February 2014.
- 2 new evaluation officers started this quarter (Mutondi Rambau, and Ntando Buthelezi), so each evaluation director has an EO for support.
- With 38 evaluations in progress, monitoring is much more complex. The evaluation tracking system is improving, now established on MS Project and thinking is starting on establishing a tracking system for evaluation improvement plan. International support will be sought for this.

Priorities for the next two months

- Completing 8 evaluations and well.
- Ensuring the first six evaluations are tabled at cluster and Cabinet.
- Undertaking procurement for the 2014/15 evaluations.

Contacts:

Dr Ian Goldman, Head of Evaluation and Research Unit

Mr Jabu Mathe, Director: Evaluation

Ms Christel Jacob, Director: Evaluation

Mr Antonio Hercules, Director Evaluation

Ms Matodzi Amisi, Director Evaluation

Dr Octavia Mkhabela (consultant)

Mr Mark Everett, Deputy Director, Programme Administration

Ms Harsha Dayal, Research Manager

Ms Rosina Maphalla, Deputy Director: Research Management

Thabisile Zuma, Evaluation Officer

Mr Bongani Maluka, Evaluation Officer

Ms Ntando Buthelezi, Evaluation Officer

Ms Priscilla Mutondi Rambau, Evaluation Officer

Ms Nkamang Tsotetsi, Assistant Director, Administration

Ms Refilwe Masikane, Secretary

ian@po-dpme.gov.za

jabu@po-dpme.gov.za

christel@po-dpme.gov.za

antonio@po-dpme.gov.za

matodzi@po-dpme.gov.za

mkhbl.ok@intekom.co.za

mark@po-dpme.gov.za

harsha@po-dpme.gov.za

rosina@po-dpme.gov.za Thabisile@po-dpme.gov.za

Bongani@po-dpme.gov.za

Ntando.Buthelezi@po-dpme.gov.za

Priscilla@po-dpme.gov.za

nkamang@po-dpme.gov.za

refilwe.masikane@po-dpme.gov.za

Annex 1: status of evaluations as at 31 December 2013

NEP	Referen ce	Name of Evaluation	Department(s) responsible for the programme being evaluated	Date of contract & Service Provider to carry out evaluation	Current Stage	Anticipated or actual date of receipt of final report	Anticipated or actual date of Cabinet approval or presentation to Parliament
2011/	11/1103	Diagnostic Review of Early Childhood Development (ECD)	Social Development Basic Education Health	27 October 2011 HSRC	Evaluation completed in June 2012. Improvement Plan completed in October 2012. First progress report on improvement plan received from DSD. Second report to be requested.	Final report approved by Steering Committee 15 June 2012 and on DPME website.	Presented to Basic Education Portfolio Committee in June 2013
NEP 2012/ 13	12/0288	Evaluation of Business Process Services Programme	Trade and Industry	3 October 2012 Genesis Analytics	Evaluation report completed. Management response received 12 August 2013. Improvement Plan completed 18 November 2013 and awaiting approval by DG of the dti. Cab memo drafted and submitted to the Economic Cluster secretariat.	May 2013	12 Feb 2014 at Economic Cluster Cabinet March 2014
	12/428	Impact Evaluation of Grade R (reception year of schooling)	Basic Education	12 December 2012 Stellenbosch University	Evaluation report completed. Management response requested (but not received). Presented at cluster. Cab memo drafted.	17 June 2013	Aim for Social Cab Committee 25 February 2014
	12/0287	Implementation Evaluation of Nutrition Programmes addressing under 5s	Health Rural Development Social Develop. Agriculture	06 Nov 2012 Khulisa Management Services	Stakeholder workshop held on 1 October 2013 based on draft report submitted. Waiting for approval of final evaluation report by Steering Committee.	4 February 2014	Aim for Social Cab Committee 11 March 2014
	12/410	Implementation Evaluation of Land Recapitalisation and Development (RECAP) programme	Rural Development	11 December 2012- University of Pretoria	Evaluation report completed and approved by Steering Committee 29 Oct 2013. DRDLR had workshop on management response and improvement plan on 22-24 January 2014.	18 October 2013 (received)	Aim for Cluster 11 February 2014 Economic Cab Committee on 12 March 2014
	12/409	Implementation Evaluation of Comprehensive Rural	Rural Development	11 December 2012- Impact Economix	Evaluation report completed and approved by Steering Committee 16 Oct 2013 subject to some	24 October 2013	Aim for Cluster 11 February 2014 Economic Cab

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		Development Programme (CRDP)			changes. DRDLR working on management response and improvement plan		Committee on 12 March 2014
	Procure d by DHS	Implementation Evaluation of Integrated Residential Development Programme (IRDP)	Human Settlements	African Development Economic Consultants	Service provider has been appointed but some issues to be addressed in inception report.	August 2014	November 2014
	Procure d by DHS	Implementation Evaluation of Urban Settlements Development Grant (USDG)	Human Settlements	PDG. SLA waiting for DG DHS signature.	Case study report of Cape Town submitted on 15 th and discussed by Technical Working Group on 22 November. Data collection in the remaining three metros is well underway.	May 2014	August 2014
Other	12/0468	Formative Evaluation of the Presidential Intervention within the King Sabata Dalindyebo Municipality (KSD).	DPME	1 March 2013 Impact Economix	Field work completed and intermediate reports submitted. Final report drafted.	10 February 2014	Not under NEP and may not go to Cabinet
NEP 2013/ 14	12/0536	Implementation Evaluation of Government Coordination System (clusters/MinMECs and Implementation Forums)	Presidency	20 March 2013 - Impact Economix	Draft report submitted and presented to FOSAD on 7 October 2013. Final evaluation report is due to be approved on 30 January 2014.	24 January 2014	April 2014
	13/0836	Implementation Evaluation of the Export Marketing Investment Assistance Incentive Programme (EMIA)	Trade and Industry	16 August 2013: DNA Economics	Literature Review and Instruments approved by Steering Committee. Fieldwork underway. Waiting for submission of field work report (anticipated date, 31 Jan '14)	28 February 2014	May 2014
	13/0934	Evaluation of the Support Programme for Industrial Innovation (SPII)	Trade and Industry	4 October 2013 Genesis Analytics	Fieldwork Report received on 22 November 2013. Draft Evaluation Report for Review received on 18 December 2013.	14 February 2014	May 2014
	13/0933	Evaluation of Technology and Human	Trade and Industry	11 October 2013 Business	Literature Review approved. Review of Instruments underway	8 May 2014	August 2014

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		Resources for Industry Programme (THRIP)		Enterprises - University of Pretoria	(Anticipated date, 14 Feb '14).		
	13/0856	Evaluation of Military Veterans Economic Empowerment and Skills Transferability and Recognition Programme	Military Veterans	28 August 2013 Singizi Consulting	TORs developed and agreed with dept. Call for proposals issued. Service Provider contract signed and evaluation has started. Draft Evaluation report expected in January 2014.	February 2014	March 2014
	6	Evaluation of Advanced Manufacturing Technology Strategy (AMTS)	Science and Technology	Expected 31 January 2014 Business Enterprises (University of Pretoria)	TORs finalised. Initial delay with Call for Proposals in September. Service Provider appointed. Evaluation underway.	July 2014	October 2014
	13/0926	Evaluation of Tax compliance cost of small businesses	SA Revenue Service	4 November 2013 Genesis Analytics	Literature review produced. Instruments agreed. Adding survey of tax practitioners and will increase budget. Approval of report structure expected January 2014. Some delays in SARS who are to send out the survey.	April 2014	July 2014
	8	Evaluation of Community Work Programme (CWP)	Cooperative Governance	Not yet appointed	Final TOR developed. First Steering Committee Meeting to accept evaluation TOR scheduled for January 2014.	June 2014	September 2014
	13/0766	Evaluation of Land Restitution Programme	Rural Development and Land Reform	26 June 2013 Genesis Analytics	Evaluation plan, literature view and instrument design complete. Final evaluation report expected 24 January 2014.	24 January 2014	June 2014
	13/0958	Evaluation of Comprehensive Agricultural Support Programme (CASP)	Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	14 Nov 2013 Business Enterprises - University of Pretoria	TORs developed and agreed with dept. Call for proposals issued. Service Provider contract signed and work underway. Literature review produced. Instruments received.	July 2014	October 2014

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	11	Evaluation of Upgrading of informal Settlement	Human Settlements	2 nd Call for proposal was made	Service provider appointed and SLA currently being drafted.	August 2014	November 2014
	12	Evaluation of Access to the City	Human Settlements	Not yet appointed	TORs previously tentatively approved by SC, but DHS want to review them. DHS Unit currently short staffed and there has been slow response on these TORs.	September 2014	December 2014
	13	Evaluation of Provision of State Subsidised Housing (Assets)	Human Settlements	University of Free State	Inception report submitted on 15 November. Inception report discussed and approved by the Steering Committee and the Theoretical/ Conceptual framework is being prepared.	June 2014	September 2014
	13/1010	Evaluation of Impact Evaluation of the Outcomes Approach	26 December 2013 DPME	8 January 2014 HSRC	Inception Report approved on 28 November 2013, subject to a few amendments.	June 2014	September 2014
	13/0812	Impact Assessment of the Micro Agricultural Financial Institution of South Africa (MAFISA)	11 December 2013 Agriculture	5 August 2013 Business Enterprise - University of Pretoria	SLA signed by 4 Oct. Inception phase now complete. Draft report expected 31 January 2014.	April 2014	July 2014
NEP 2014/ 15		Impact Evaluation of the Social Housing Programme (SHP)	DHS	Not yet advertised	Summary drafted. 1 st draft TORs have been discussed by the steering committee.	November 2014	February 2015
	13/1712	Diagnostic Evaluation /Programme Audit for Violence Against Women and Children (AVAWC)	DSD	Call for proposals went out	TORs were advertised and three proposals were received (proposals submitted).	October 2014	February 2015
		Diagnostic Review of the Social Sector Expanded Public Works Programme	DSD	Not yet advertised	Summary drafted and TORs should be approved 27 January.	October	February 2015
		Design Evaluation of the Policy on Community	DHET	Not yet appointed	Final evaluation TORs prepared. Will accept TORs at first Steering	March 2014	June 2014

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		Education and Training Colleges (PCETC)			Committee meeting in January 2014.		
		Evaluation of the Indigenous Knowledge Systems Policy (IKSP)	DST	Not yet appointed	Final evaluation TORs prepared. Will accept the TORs at the first Steering Committee meeting in January 2014.	May 2014	June 2014
		Impact Evaluation of the Funza-Lushaka-Bursary Scheme	DBE	Not yet appointed	Final evaluation TORs prepared. Will accept the TOR at Steering Committee meeting January 2014.	October 2014	December 2014
		Economic Evaluation of the incremental investment into the SAPS Forensic Services	SAPS	Not yet signed	First Draft TORs completed. First Steering Committee to approve TORs in early February. (Call end February – no inception)	March 2015	May 2015
		Implementation Evaluation of the Management Performance Assessment Tool (MPAT)	DPME	Not yet signed	First Draft TORs completed. Steering Committee meeting to approve TORs scheduled for January 2014.	December 2014	February 2015
		Implementation/Impact evaluation of the Effectiveness of Environmental Governance in the Mining Sector	Environmental Affairs	Not yet signed	First Draft TORs completed. Call end of February.	May 2015	July 2015
		Joint Implementation Evaluation of the Ilima Letsema Programme & Cost-Benefit Analysis of the Revitalisation of existing Irrigation Schemes	Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF), Department of Rural Development and Land Reform (DRDLR)		Basis of TORs developed with DAFF but DRDLR not participated. Awaiting response from DRDLR		
		Impact evaluation of MAFISA (quantitative)	Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries		3ie have agreed to support but awaiting letter of partnership from DRDLR. Steering Committee		

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					established. 3ie will do TORs but will be agreed by Steering Committee.		
		Policy Evaluation of Small Farmer Support	Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries/ Rural Development and Land Reform		Basis of TORs developed with DAFF but DRDLR did not participate. Awaiting response from DRDLR.		
		Impact Evaluation of Land Restitution Programme	Rural Development and Land Reform		3ie have agreed to support but awaiting letter of partnership from DRDLR. Steering Committee established. TORs have been developed but 3ie will finalise TORs. Call ready to go when letter received.		
		Implementation/Impact Evaluation of the Departmental Strategic Planning and APP Process	Department of Environmental Affairs		Not yet started		
	12/427	Impact evaluation of National School Nutrition Programme	Basic Education	The evaluation was started in 2012/13 & it was stopped due to poor quality	First evaluation stopped. DBE first indicated they wish to proceed with revised concept but then requested dropping it. Cabinet decided that they should proceed and it has been included in 2014/15 NEP.	20 January 2014	April 2014

Process after an approved final report

Note that once the evaluation report is approved as factually correct and methodologically sound by the Evaluation Steering Committee, the DG of DPME writes officially to the relevant DGs requesting a management response on the evaluation report within one month, and that work should start on the Improvement Plan. After this month a presentation on the evaluation findings is made to the relevant cluster, and then on to Cabinet. Once Cabinet has approved a letter is written to the relevant portfolio committee indicating that the evaluation has completed and they may want the department to present on the findings. The Improvement Plan addressing the findings should be completed within a maximum of 4 months of the approval of the report by the Steering Committee.