



# Evaluation Update 14

September-October 2013

Web <http://www.thepresidency-dpme.gov.za/pebble.asp?reid=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 two months have seen the development of the 2014/15 National Evaluation Plan, and most evaluations for 2013/14 underway. A very successful SAMEA Conference was held, including launching the Evaluation Repository and awarding the best government evaluation using the quality assessment undertaken for the Repository. Our work has been showcased at the American Evaluation Association and at a Evaluation Capacity Development Conference in Sao Paulo, Brazil.

## Evaluations being taken forward

4 of the 2012/13 evaluations have completed. 15 other evaluations are underway including 3 completing from the 2012/13 National Evaluation Plan, and 12 starting from the 2013/14 National Evaluation Plan. Annex 1 has the status on each of these as well as the proposed evaluations for 2014/15.

## Development of policies and guidelines

- 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.
- 6 draft guidelines have been produced on Diagnostic Evaluation, Implementation Evaluations, Impact Evaluations, Economic Evaluations, Evaluation Synthesis and Evaluation Quality Assessment. These will be finalised in December.

## Capacity development

- A training on the National Evaluation System was undertaken as part of the SAMEA workshop series, as well as one on Theory-Based Evaluation.
- The major **training** with the Centre for Learning on Evaluation and Results (CLEAR) has continued with Course 2 on Deepening Evaluation held in October. In addition part of Course 4 on Planning Implementation Programmes will be piloted in November, building on the Guideline produced in July. Course 3 on Methodology will be piloted in the New Year. DPME organised a training of MPs, which included a session on evaluation which was well-received.
- A course with UCT for **Director/Deputy Director Generals** on evidence-based policy-making and implementation will be held 18-20 November 2013 with funding from DFID. This will aim to build support from senior management for evidence-based policy-making and implementation including the use of M&E.

## Quality assurance

- A design clinic was held on 12-13 September to critique the emerging TORs for the 2014/15 evaluations. Top international and national evaluators participated and this proved a useful modality for helping to conceptualise the evaluations.

### Box 1: SAMEA Conference

The South African M&E Association with DPME and the Public Service Commission organised the biannual SAMEA Conference entitled Meaningful Evaluation: Improving Use and Results from 18-20 September, and preceded by a number of workshops. Over 400 people attended including delegations from Uganda (including Ministers in the Presidency), Kenya, Benin.

One stream was organised by DPME and the Public Service Commission on government evaluations. Awards were given for the best government evaluation, building on the quality assessment undertaken for the evaluation repository, best paper amongst others. Collins Chabane, the Minister of Performance M&E and Administration in the Presidency spoke on the last day.

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## Research

- DPME is partnering with CLEAR to manage some research grants for doctoral or post-doctoral research on elements of DPME's work. The research should start in 2014.

## Evaluation and research evidence shared

- Paper written for African Development Bank Publication, **Evaluation Matters** for September 2013.
- A successful **SAMEA Conference** was held in September 2013 on Meaningful Evaluation: Improving Use and Results (see Box 1). **A repository of evaluations** conducted for government since 2006 was launched on 18 September at the SAMEA Conference. This can be accessed at <http://evaluations.dpme.gov.za/sites/EvaluationsHome/SitePages/Home.aspx>
- DPME participated in two panels at the American Evaluation Association highlighting the work we are doing on evaluation, as well as participating in the UNDP Evaluation Capacity Development workshop in Sao Paolo.
- DPME is co-organising a **South-South Roundtable** in November with countries from Latin America, Africa and Asia on the demand & use of evidence in policy-making and implementation.

## Management

- **National Evaluation Plan 2014/15 to 2016/17** – 15 evaluations have been selected (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 for 2013/14 and Gauteng have provincial evaluation plans. Free State, North West and Limpopo are in the process of developing one.
- **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. However there are weaknesses in the panel and training of the panel will be encouraged. A big weakness is only one university is actively bidding for evaluations so we are missing a major source of expertise.
- **Staff** – two Directors started in September and we are interviewing for a research director. We also have an intern, Sanelisiwe.

## Priorities for the next two months

- The first evaluations from the 2012/13 plan are completing and the processes of management response, improvement plans, and submission to cluster and Cabinet will be happening.
- Most of the 2013/14 evaluations are underway and the TORs will be developed for the 2014/15 evaluations.
- South-South Roundtable and course for Directors General, both focusing on evidence-based policy and implementation.
- Submission of the 2014/15 National Evaluation Plan to Cabinet for approval.

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## Annex 1: status of evaluations as at 31 October 2013

NEP	Name of Evaluation	Department(s) responsible for the programme being evaluated	Current Stage	Anticipated or actual date of receipt of final report	Anticipated or actual date of Cabinet approval or presentation to Parliament
2011/12	Diagnostic Review of Early Childhood Development (ECD)	Social Development Basic Education Health	Evaluation completed in June 2012. Improvement Plan completed in October 2012. First progress report on improvement plan awaited from DSD. <b>Report has taken over 3 months to produce. A second letter has been written to DSD requesting the report.</b>	Final report approved by Steering Committee 15 June 2012 and report on DPME website.	Presented to Basic Education Portfolio Committee in June 2013
NEP 2012/13	Evaluation of Business Process Services Programme	Trade and Industry	Evaluation report completed. Management response received from Department. Workshop for Improvement Plan held 26 September 2013	May 2013	October 2013
	Impact Evaluation of Grade R (reception year of schooling)	Basic Education	Evaluation report completed. Management response requested (DG DPME & DBE to meet); cab memo drafted; discussion around a implementation evaluation for 2014/15 – not happening	17 June 2013 (received)	January 2014
	Implementation Evaluation of Land Recapitalisation and Development (RECAP) programme	Rural Development	Final report approved by Steering Committee 27 Oct 2013 (approved)	27 October 2013 (received)	February 2014
	Implementation Evaluation of Comprehensive Rural Development Programme (CRDP)	Rural Development	Final report approved 16 October 2013.	24 October 2013 (received)	February 2014
	Implementation Evaluation of Nutrition Programmes addressing under 5s	Health Rural Development Social Development Agriculture	Stakeholder workshop held on 1 October 2013 based on draft report submitted.	10 December 2013	February 2014
	Implementation Evaluation of Urban Settlements Development Grant (USDG)	Human Settlements	Currently busy with data collection at Metro 1 (CT)	May 2014	August 2014
	Implementation Evaluation of Integrated Residential Development Programme (IRDP)	Human Settlements	Calls for proposals made. A successful bidder has been recommended and awaiting appointment by DHS. Major delays due to DHS systems.	August 2014	November 2014
	Impact evaluation of National School Nutrition Programme	Basic Education	First evaluation stopped. DBE have indicated they wish to proceed with revised concept. Awaiting concept from DBE.	N/A	N/A
Other	Formative Evaluation of the Presidential Intervention within King Sabata Dalindyebo Municipality (KSD).	DPME	Field work reports submitted	November 2013	February 2014
NEP 2013/14	Implementation Evaluation of Government Coordination System (clusters/MinMECs and	Presidency	Draft report submitted and presented to FOSAD on 7 October 2013	November 2013	March 2014

NEP	Name of Evaluation	Department(s) responsible for the programme being evaluated	Current Stage	Anticipated date of receipt of final report	Anticipated date of Cabinet approval or presentation to Parliament
	Implementation Forums)				
	Implementation Evaluation of the Export Marketing Investment Assistance Incentive Programme (EMIA)	Trade and Industry	Underway. Service Provider submitted the questionnaires for Steering Committee and Peer Reviewer comments, as well as the literature review.	6 December 2013	March 2014
	Evaluation of the Support Programme for Industrial Innovation (SPII)	Trade and Industry	Underway. Literature review and questionnaires approved. Field work starting.	March 2014	June 2014
	Evaluation of Technology and Human Resources for Industry Programme (THRIP)	Trade and Industry	Underway. Submitted literature review and instruments. Methodology workshop to be held on the 8 <sup>th</sup> November 2013	March 2014	June 2014
	Evaluation of Military Veterans Economic Empowerment and Skills Transferability and Recognition Programme	Military Veterans	TORs developed and agreed with dept. Call for proposals issued. Service Provider contract signed and evaluation has started.	March 2014	June 2014
	Evaluation of Tax compliance cost of small businesses	SA Revenue Service	TORs finalised, service provider appointed, 2 steering committee meetings held. Evaluation started 30 August 2013. Inception Report accepted. Instrument development and data-collection underway.	March 2014	June 2014
	Evaluation of Land Restitution Programme	Rural Development and Land Reform	TORs developed and agreed with dept. Call for proposals issued. Service Provider Contract Signed. Evaluation plan, literature view and instrument design complete	March 2014	June 2014
	Evaluation of Comprehensive Agricultural Support Programme	Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	TORs developed and agreed with dept. Call for proposals issued. Service Provider contract signed and work underway.	March 2014	June 2014
	Evaluation of Advanced Manufacturing Technology Strategy (AMTS)	Science and Technology	TORs finalised. Initial delay with Call for Proposals in September – too little interest from service providers. Rescheduled for October 2013.	April 2014	June 2014
	Evaluation of Community Work Programme (CWP)	Cooperative Governance	TORs developed but currently being revised. SC met 19 September. Meeting to finalise and sign off on evaluation TOR scheduled for 8 November.	June 2014	September 2014
	Evaluation of Provision of State Subsidised Housing (Assets)	Human Settlements	Pre inception meeting took place on the 7 <sup>th</sup> October and inception meeting happened on the 29 <sup>th</sup> October 2013.	April 2014	July 2014
	Evaluation of Access to the City	Human Settlements	ToRs previously tentatively approved by SC, however DHS want to review the ToRs. DHS Unit currently short staffed and there has been really slow response on these ToRs.	May 2014	August 2014
	Evaluation of Upgrading of informal Settlement	Human Settlements	Second call for proposal was made and 6 tenders were received to be assessed on the 29 <sup>th</sup> October 2013	August 2014	November 2014
	Evaluation of Impact Evaluation of	DPME	The service provider is selected and the inception meeting	May 2014	August 2014

NEP	Name of Evaluation	Department(s) responsible for the programme being evaluated	Current Stage	Anticipated actual date of receipt or final report	Anticipated actual date of Cabinet approval or presentation to Parliament
	the Outcomes Approach		will be held on 21 November		
	An Impact Assessment (quantitative) of the Micro Agricultural Financial Institution of South Africa (MAFISA)	Agriculture	Work started but SLA not signed. To be signed by 4 Oct. inception phase is now complete.	March 2014	June 2014
	Evaluation of quality of National Senior Certificate (Matric)	Basic Education	Ministerial Review Committee looking at this and DBE has requested not to take forward the evaluation		

## Annex 2: Evaluations selected for 2014/15 and being proposed to Cabinet in November 2013

Dept	Evaluation
DCOG	Evaluation of the Free Basic Service Programme (FBS)
DEA	Evaluation of the Effectiveness of Environmental Governance in the Mining Sector (EEGM)
DHET	Design Evaluation of the Policy on Community Education and Training Colleges (PCETC)
DHS	Impact Evaluation of the Social Housing Programme (SHP)
DST	Evaluation of the Indigenous Knowledge Systems Policy (IKSP)
DSD	Diagnostic Evaluation/Programme Audit for Violence Against Women and Children (AVAWC)
DSD	Diagnostic Review of Coordination of the Social Sector Expanded Public Works Programme
SAPS	Economic Assessment of the SAPS Forensic Service Capability (Modernisation) (Forensic Labs)
DRDLR	Impact evaluation of Land Restitution Programme
DAFF/DRDLR	Impact Evaluation of the Ilima Letsema Programme/Irrigation Schemes
DAFF	Impact evaluation of MAFISA
DAFF/DRDLR	Policy Evaluation of Small Farmer Support
DBE	Evaluation of the Funza-Lushaka Bursary Scheme
DPME	Implementation evaluation of the Management Performance Assessment Tool
DPME	Impact/implementation evaluation of the departmental strategic planning and APP system

### 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.