



1) Background of the Ex post evaluation of the RDP 2007-2013

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Project introduction

- According to the contract between the Department of Contracts and KPMG Advisory Ltd. on 21 March 2012 (CT 3008/2011)
- The contract covers the period between 21 March 2012 and 27 January 2016
- The **Ex post Evaluation Report is proposed to be finalised by September – October 2016**, with a Draft EER to be submitted by August 2016
- Submission deadline of the EER to the European Commission is 31 December 2016

Interim Evaluation Reports

- **4 Interim Evaluation Reports** (2010-2013), with IER 13 submitted this May and IER 14 to be carried out in the first half of 2015
- **1 Strategic Monitoring Report** (2010-2011), and one more this July for 2012-2013
- These form part of the **ongoing evaluation**, which also serves as the basis of the Ex-Post Evaluation Report

Objectives of the Ex post Evaluation Report

- Examine the degree of **utilisation of resources**
- Evaluate the **effectiveness and efficiency** of the Programme
- Examine the **socioeconomic impact** of the Programme and its impacts on Community priorities
- Assess whether the **goals of the Programme** are met
- **Draw lessons** regarding success and failure factors and for future programmes
- Identify **best practice**



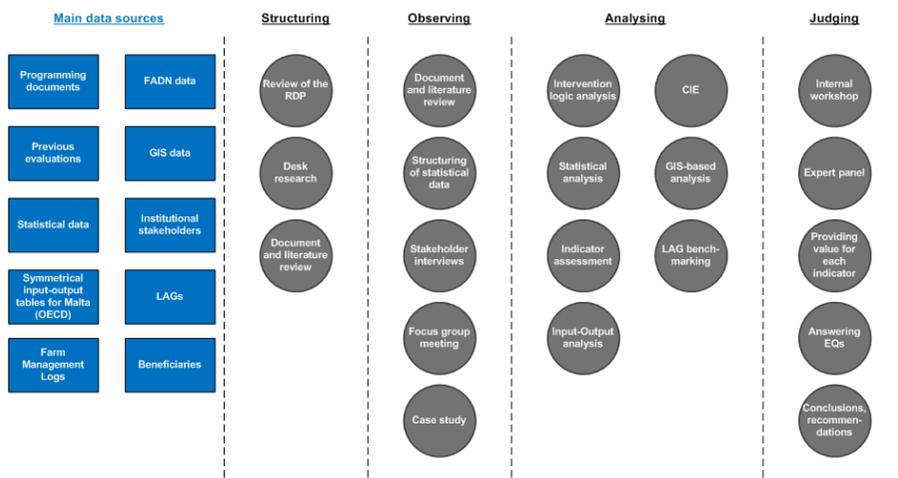
2) Approach and proposed methodology

Priorities for the Ex post Evaluation Report

1. Establish and apply methods to calculate result and impact indicators
2. Provide more comprehensive answers to measure-specific and horizontal EQs
3. Evaluate the effectiveness and efficiency of the Programme through Counterfactual Impact Evaluation
4. Assess the intervention logic and the relevance of the Programme to the local needs at the end of the programming period
5. Provide overall qualitative assessment of the Programme implementation
6. Identify success and failure factors and also best practices
7. Provide detailed recommendations for the future programming periods

Key methods to be applied for the Ex post Evaluation Report

- The Ex post Evaluation Report will utilise the main findings and conclusions of the IERs and SMRs, and also the data collected during the compilation of these evaluation reports



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Highlights: Counterfactual Impact Evaluation (CIE)

Estimation technique	Variant	Outcome, EUR	Total net impact, EUR	Average net impact, EUR
Difference-in-differences without matching	Non-balanced sample	5,188 / farm	1,888,432	5,188
	Non-balanced sample, weighted	4,249 / farm	1,546,636	4,249
	Balanced sample	4,099 / farm	1,492,036	4,099
Propensity score matching with DID	Balanced sample, weighted	1,152 / farm	419,328	1,152
	Nearest neighbour matching	13,839 / farm	5,037,396	13,839
	Nearest neighbour matching, weighted	15,566 / farm	5,666,024	15,566
	Kernel (Gaussian) matching	13,736 / farm	4,999,904	13,736
	Kernel (Gaussian), weighted	16,108 / farm	5,863,312	16,108
Kernel (Epanechnikov) matching	Kernel (Epanechnikov)	12,918 / farm	4,702,152	12,918
	Kernel (Epanechnikov), wtd.	15,890 / farm	5,783,960	15,890
	Kernel matching			
Cross-section regression with differenced estimation	Differenced (treatment: dummy)	not applicable	-	-
	Differenced (value) (treatment: dummy)	not applicable	-	-
Panel regression with balanced data	Panel Least Squares	0,037 / RDP €	814,453	2,238
	Fixed Effects	0,045 / RDP €	997,984	2,742
	Random Effects	not applicable	-	-
	Generalized Least Squares	0,034 / RDP €	738,469	2,029
	Two-Stage Least Squares	0,138 / RDP €	3,020,575	8,298

See as an example the [Summary of the net impacts on economic growth \(GVA\) from IER 13](#)

The overall aim of counterfactual impact evaluation is to provide quantitative evidence in terms of impact indicators related to 'Economic growth', 'Employment creation' and 'Labour productivity':

'Counterfactual' is a term used to indicate the situation that would have happened should the intervention, i.e. the receipt of RDP fund not taken place. Since the counterfactual situation cannot be observed directly (we never know what would have happened to a farm if it had not applied for support), it has to be estimated in a way that produces credible results.

Following state-of-the-art approaches of programme and project evaluation, relevant Commission guidelines, and available evaluations in the subject, it applies, experiments with and juxtaposes the following techniques:

- Difference-in-differences method without matching
- Propensity score matching combined with difference-in-differences
- Cross-section regression models on the difference of outcome variables
- Panel regression models (including methods using Instrumental Variables)

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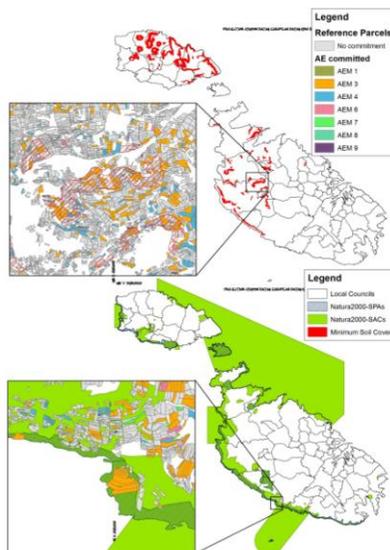
Highlights: GIS-based analysis

The aim of the method is to provide **robust evidence** to impact indicator 6 of the Rural Development Programme, which is 'Area of successful land management contributing to

- (a) biodiversity and high nature value farming
- (b) water quality
- (c) mitigating climate change
- (d) soil quality
- (e) avoidance of marginalisation and land abandonment

The following data is utilised during the analysis:

- geographical data (maps) of Malta
 - physical location of agri-environment support (parcels, ha);
 - distribution of Natura 2000 areas;
 - minimum soil cover maps;
 - topographic map, administrative boundaries, parcel boundaries;
- measure guidelines
- qualitative expert judgments



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Highlights: LAG benchmarking

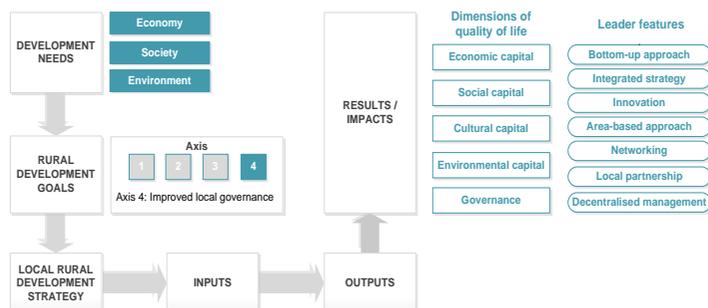
A number of **international examples** of the implementation of the Leader programmes have been analysed through a comprehensive benchmarking through the year of 2013.

Benchmarking helps to assess the achievements of the LAGs, by placing the results in context, and by identifying the main factors that potentially improve the outcomes.

The results and impacts of the Leader programmes carried out by the LAGs can be assessed in line with the different **dimensions of quality of life**. These dimensions can be juxtaposed with the **seven distinguishing features of Leader**.

Outcome: **comparative analysis** of the implementation of the Leader program and its results and impacts in light of the above mentioned **dimensions of quality of life** and **Leader characteristics**.

Framework of the analysis:



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Indicator values

IER 2013 made a significant progress related to the calculation of result and impact indicators, 67% and 37% of which is already calculated.

Ex post evaluation will focus on assessment of currently missing indicators and update of values according to latest available data.

	IER 10-11	SMR 10-11	IER 12	IER 13
Output indicators (42)	90%	100%	100%	100%
Result indicators (11+3)	10%	14%	41%	67%
Impact indicators (7+3)	0%	0%	21%	37%

IER 13	Axis 1	Axis 2	Axis 3	Axis 4
Output indicators (42)	100%	100%	100%	100%
Result indicators (11+3)	44%	100%	100%	33%
Impact indicators (7+3)	39%	38%	100%	25%

Changes to CMEF for the Ex post Evaluation

- **Continued relevance** of result (11) and impact (7) indicators
- Number of common **EQs** has been significantly **reduced** from 57 to **17** for the Maltese RDP:
 - **Axis 1: 4 EQs** (2 on axis level and 2 to be answered for each measure separately)
 - **Axis 2: 3 EQs** (1 on axis level and 2 to be answered for each measure separately)
 - **Axis 3: 6 EQs** (2 on axis level and 2-2 for each measure)
 - **Axis 4: 4 EQs** (all on axis level)
- EQs are more of **general nature** overarching multiple topics, which requires more comprehensive answers



- Increased emphasis on development of **programme specific EQs** and indicators

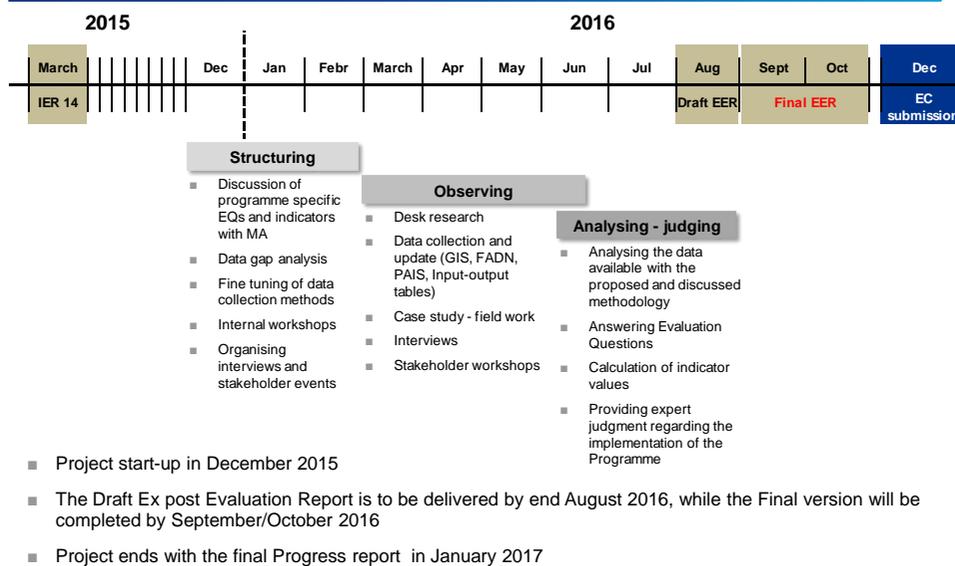
Main focus of the Ex post Evaluation Report

- Update of **counterfactual impact evaluation** for investment measures
- Providing quantified values for the result and impact indicators (Axes 1,2 and 4), with special focus on **environmental impact indicators** (Axis 2) and currently missing values (Axes 1 and 4)
- Elaboration of the answers provided for **the new axis level and horizontal evaluation questions**, taking into account the outcomes of previous evaluation reports
- Special emphasis on evaluation of the **implementation of LEADER**
- Capturing **specificities of TA** and **NRN**, and their contribution to programme delivery



3) Provisional project timeline

Provisional project timeline



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Thank you for your attention!

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