

Annual evaluation plan of Poland's development cooperation in 2017

The Development Cooperation Act of 16 September 2011 **tasks** the minister competent for foreign affairs to assess whether Programme objectives have been successfully accomplished.

Department of Development Cooperation is responsible for preparing an annual evaluation plan which specifies aim, scope and the agenda of evaluation process. The evaluation plan has an indicative character and can be applied and modified accordingly to the changing needs and conditions.

Evaluation 2017

In 2017, MFA will assess the activities of Polish aid, which supported system reforms, fire-fighting and police services in the Ukraine. Moreover, selected educational initiatives carried out in Poland as part of the development cooperation in favour of Ukraine and other Eastern Partnership countries will be evaluated. The main objective will be to analyse the efficiency, sustainability, relevance, effectiveness, functionality and innovation of the delivered aid from the special reserve dedicated to the development cooperation.

Schedule

- *fourth quarter, 2016* Annual evaluation plan is approved
- *first/ second quarter, 2017* tender procedure begins
- *second – fourth quarter, 2017* evaluation process
- *fourth quarter, 2017* results are presented and preparations for implementing recommendations begin

Evaluating activities

1. Evaluation of complementarity and synergy of support measures provided to the reforms in Ukraine within the framework of 2012-2015 Multiannual Development Cooperation Programme and 2016-2020 Multiannual Development Cooperation Programme carried out by Polish organisations and institutions (also financed by MFA). Furthermore, the aim will be to evaluate the complementarity and synergy of the activities carried out by Polish organisations and institutions with the support provided to the Ukrainian reforms by other donors will be also evaluated.
2. Assessment of the projects' (addressed to firefighting and police services) influence on public security in Ukraine.
3. Examination of Ukrainian's and other Eastern Partnership citizens learning outcomes and results within selected educational initiatives co-financed by MFA.

Scope of examination

Department of Development Cooperation will analyse the following initiatives in favour of the Eastern Partnership countries carried out in Poland and Ukraine. The study will include programmes which are in line with the priorities identified in the 2016–2020 Multiannual Development Cooperation Programme, some of which have started within the framework of 2016-2020 Multiannual Development Cooperation Programme.

The above-mentioned programmes were carried out by Polish NGOs, public administration, universities, the College of Europe in Natolin and the National School of Public Administration in cooperation with local partners.

1. Since 2006 Ukraine has been priority country in terms of Poland's development cooperation. In response to recent events including signing of Ukraine – European Union Association Agreement additional support measures have been prepared to assist key reforms including local administration and education reform and also measures undertaken to ensure long-term sustainability of public finances. Furthermore, the assistance covers a broad scope of activities for instance development and training projects, expert work, multilateral aid. Aid is delivered through NGOs, universities, public administration and Solidarity Fund.
2. In recent years we can observe continued commitment of fire-fighting and police services to the development process of Ukraine. It is a result of cooperation between Polish and Ukrainian rescue services and public administration units (including police), which is aimed at enhancing Ukrainian capacity in risk reduction and prevention as well as emergency response. Project proposals have been prepared within the framework of call for proposals, Small Grants System and the activities of public administration. The projects usually consists of two elements – specialized training and related retrofitting.
3. In order to implement the reforms, Ukraine needs to enhance civil society and expert support (particularly professionalization of public administration). Poland has been involved in many initiatives in these region.
 - 3.1.1. On the initiative of Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National School of Public Administration created the Eastern Partnership Public Administration Academy, which main objective is to enhance the public administration in the Eastern Partnership countries. Within the framework of the Academy specialized training have been organized for the public servants from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine. The first evaluation of Polish Aid conducted in 2012 pointed out to greater need for the participation of Eastern Partnership countries in these initiative.
 - 3.1.2. Initiated in 2013 by Ministry of Foreign Affairs, *Stefan Banach Scholarship Programme* offers broader form of education for the Ukrainian citizens. It subsidises two-semester postgraduate studies at master level in different areas

and disciplines (e.g. law, economy, science and technical training). Ukrainian students are amongst the biggest recipients of the programme.

3.1.3. Internships for Civil servants from the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine Secretary at the Chancellery of the Prime Minister of Poland are organized as a consequence of the of 2009 cooperation agreement between those two bodies in terms of development of direct contacts. The overall objective of this project is to develop direct contact between the civil servants, which will serve as a tool for pooling experience and improvement of professional qualification. Such experience and qualifications can then be used to streamline the activity of the highest office of the Ukrainian public administration. As of 15th October 2015, 52 public servants have been undergone their internships in Poland. The project will be continued until 2018.

3.1.4. Pursuant to the agreement from 25 November 2009 between the Polish Government and Ukrainian Cabinet of Ministers on education of Ukrainian citizens in the College of Europe in Natolin, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs can finance annually up to 10 scholarships which allow them to complete two-semester postgraduate studies in Poland according to the College of Europe system.

Justification of implementation

The overall objective of the evaluation of projects carried out in favor of Ukraine and other Eastern partnership countries is to enhance the suitability and effectiveness of Polish development initiatives. While planning strategic and comprehensive bilateral aid (while leveraging multilateral mechanisms and EU joint programming) Poland can ensure better cooperation with its partners and become more reliable and visible donor of the development aid. It will allow to make a more effective use of the development cooperation possibilities.

Evaluation in 2017, will concentrate on selected types of activities. Its conclusions and recommendations can be effectively used to plan, carry out and manage tasks within the framework of current multiannual development plan and also to programme future strategic document.

Method of implementation

External evaluation conducted by specialized entity chosen in an open tendering process.

Total planned cost

Estimated budget for evaluation: 250 000 PLN

Measures helping to build evaluation potential

Apart from evaluation surveys in 2016, further activities contributing to building evaluation capacity will also be undertaken in the field of development cooperation for instance based on OECD peer review recommendations.