

Evaluation plan of Poland's development cooperation in 2018 and 2019

The Development Cooperation Act of 16 September 2011 requires the minister competent for foreign affairs to review the effectiveness in meeting the objectives set out in the Multiannual Development Cooperation Programme.

The evaluation covers annual and multiannual projects implemented both at home and abroad. Evaluation studies are performed in accordance with the principles and standards set out in OECD DAC and European Union documents.

The review of programmes and projects implemented under development cooperation provided through the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs has been in place since 2012 as ex-post external evaluation (following a programme's or project's end). Each year, an evaluation plan is prepared by the Department of Development Cooperation (DDC). It lays down the evaluation's purpose, scope, and system. The document is indicative in nature, and may be amended from time to time as required.

The 2018 and 2019 evaluations will be performed on the basis of objectives and priorities of the Multiannual Development Cooperation Programme 2016-2020.

Evaluation in 2018

In 2018, the Multiannual Development Cooperation Programme for 2016-2020 (MDCP) will be evaluated at mid-term. The document will be mostly analysed for effectiveness and efficiency of measures provided for therein.

A **mid-term review** of the MDCP will also be performed as part of the evaluation.

Schedule

- November 2017 – Approval of the Evaluation plan for Polish development cooperation for 2018 and 2019
- November-December 2017 – Development of an in-depth evaluation concept for 2018
- January/February 2018 – Preparation of documentation, launch of a tender procedure for activities envisaged for 2018
- April–July 2018 – Evaluation process
- August/September 2018 – Summary of results and preparation of the process of implementing recommendations

Evaluation activities

The mid-term evaluation of the MDCP will cover:

- the document's general scope and content,
- the extent to which its objectives and priorities have been met,
- the basic principles and forms of providing assistance through instruments of bilateral and multilateral cooperation,
- the reasons behind the success, or the lack of it, relating to the process of implementing the programme objectives.

Scope of examination

The DDC will submit for review a strategic document that sets out Polish development cooperation in 2016-2020. The study will involve the goals and priorities that are adopted, implemented, in progress, or pending implementation under the MDCP.

The evaluation will include a mid-term review of the multiannual programme.

Measures envisaged in the MDCP engage the partners: the administration, Polish non-governmental organisations and research institutes, and international organisations acting in collaboration with other donors.

Justification of implementation

Polish development cooperation is carried out pursuant to MDCP provisions. Appropriate planning will help Poland work better with its partners, more efficiently leverage opportunities that development cooperation offers the stakeholders, and enhance the country's visibility in supporting the Sustainable Development Goals. Study conclusions will improve the effectiveness and efficiency of Polish assistance and humanitarian activities.

The multiannual programme currently under implementation is a government document that sets out the entire Official Development Assistance (ODA). It is valid for the 2016-2020 period and follows up on the Multiannual Development Cooperation Programme 2012-2015. It lays down the geographical and thematic goals and priorities of development aid, humanitarian aid, and global education. It serves as the basis for annual development cooperation plans.

Evaluation conclusions will be used to introduce necessary modifications to development cooperation plans in 2019 and 2020 and to conceptualize a draft strategic document for the post-2020 period.

The mid-term review will focus on integrating partners' actions around tasks and goals essential for the MDCP implementation. It will be an additional tool for streamlining development cooperation and a vital one because of the nature of development and humanitarian projects.

Total planned cost

Budget: PLN 200,000

Evaluation in 2019

In 2019, the MFA will submit for evaluation information and promotion activities which concern the implementation of Polish development cooperation and which are carried out under the MDCP and addressed to the general public and selected audiences. The conclusions will be used to plan and proceed with information initiatives in 2020 and as part of the next multiannual document.

Measures helping to build evaluation potential

Apart from evaluation studies, 2018 and 2019 will see further measures to build evaluation potential in the area of development cooperation, among others on the basis of recommendations from the 2016 OECD review.

The DDC will be disseminating knowledge and information about the evaluation of Polish aid, chiefly through preparing and making available materials on evaluation activities (results, the process, and planning) as well as on the implementation of recommendations. The DDC will be also updating a special section devoted to evaluation on its website www.polskapomoc.gov.pl.