Evaluation Policy and Implications for Project Design

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OVERVIEW

⇨ Quick introduction / refresher: the AF-TERG and the Evaluation Policy

⇨ Preview of newest guidance note on evaluation in project design

⇨ Introduction to additional resources

⇨ Q&A

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The AF-TERG and the Evaluation Policy

Evaluation policy and guidance: the journey so far

Year 1: (2019-2020):

Year 2: (2020- 2021):
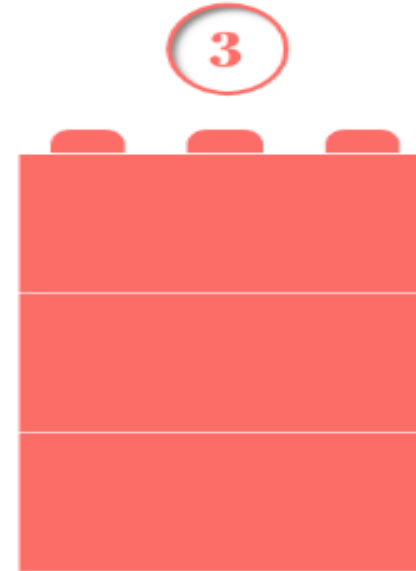
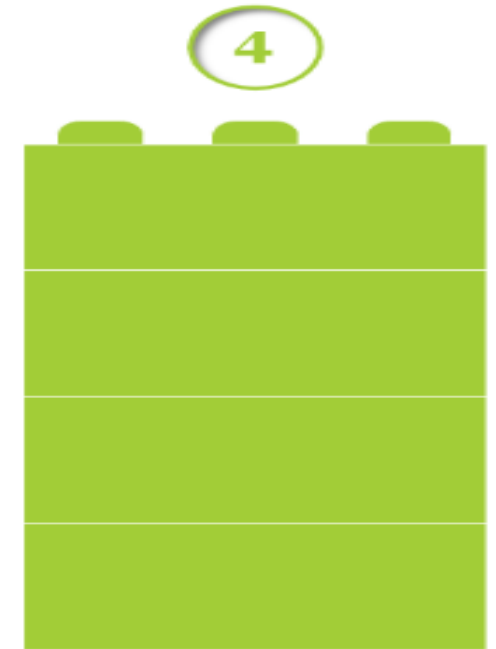**Year 3: (2021- 2022)**

Years 4-5: (2022- 2024)

Establishment of AF-TERG

Review of Evaluation Framework

New Evaluation Policy

EP Guidance

Background: the Adaptation Fund Evaluation Policy (EP)

- The EP was approved in April 2022 by the Board as a **fund-wide** policy

- The EP replaced the 2012 Evaluation Framework

- The EP entered into effect in **October 2023**

- The EP applies to all projects approved on or after that date; it is optional (but recommended!) for older projects

Available at:
https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/evaluation-policy-of-the-adaptation-fund-graphically-edited/

Guidance Note Preview

Evaluability

The extent to which an activity or project can be evaluated in a reliable and credible fashion

Three elements
- ***Project design***
- Availability of relevant data
- Systems and capacities for evaluation

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Overview of guidance areas

1. **Description of the project's contribution to resilience (theory of change)**

2. **Results Framework**

3. **Use of indicators**

4. **Cross-cutting issues**

5. **M&E Plan**

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Funding Proposal

> **Part II, Section A**
>
> A. Describe the project / programme components, particularly focusing on the concrete adaptation activities, how these activities would contribute to climate resilience. For regional projects describe also how they would build added value through the regional approach, compared to implementing similar activities in each country individually. For the case of a programme, show how the combination of individual projects would contribute to the overall increase in resilience.

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Evaluation Checklist

- ✓ Activities are clearly linked to achieve each output, with at least one deliverable for every output.
- ✓ Outputs should lead to substantial tangible outcomes.
- ✓ Activities respond to threats posed by the likely climate scenarios from the context section Climate risks are well understood, and the project activities are likely to succeed in spite of these risks.
- ✓ The theory of change includes assumptions for each outcome, output, and activities; and the barriers that could prevent the realisation of the project outcomes.
- ✓ The risks associated with the barriers are included in the proposal's risk section.

1. Results framework

Baseline & targets
Baseline and target measures clearly show how outcomes will be measured and achieved. Changes needed to achieve them are clearly described for each outcome.

Quality of outputs and outcomes
AF Strategic Outcomes are relevant, and outputs and outcomes are clearly linked to deliverables and goals.

Activities' link to results and deliverables
Activities are clearly linked to achieve each output. At least one specific deliverable can be inferred for each output (e.g. technical assessment, action plan, workshop report, communication materials, information system, training materials, etc.).

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2. Use of Indicators

☑ **SMAART Indicators**
Almost all or all indicators are SMAART. ('specific', 'measurable/ 'manageable', 'achievable',/ 'attributable' 'relevant' and 'time-based')

☑ **AF Core Indicators**
All applicable core indicators are present and estimates are consistent with guidance

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4. Cross-cutting issues

☑ **Gender Equality and Indigenous Rights**
- ✓ Most or all indicators of how both gender-related concerns and indigenous rights are included in design and as relevant to the sectoral work and are clear in the project results framework.
- ✓ Most indicators have clear data collection / monitoring/ analysis that is gender-disaggregated and/or disaggregated by vulnerable group (youth, indigenous people).
- ✓ It is clear is how data gathering, monitoring, data retention and analysis are embedded in the operations and decision-making processes of national institutions or between institutions.

☑ **Sustainability (stakeholder engagement, post-exit and knowledge**
- ✓ The proposal clearly describes how project participants are consulted or engaged in implementation & monitoring and how it builds into project activities a framework for the sustainability of support beyond the life of the proposed readiness/adaptation planning intervention as well as retaining knowledge.
- ✓ There is sustainability strategy of how relevant adaptation planning activities will be sustained after the AF funds are spent, including data and document archiving, retention of knowledge, complementarity with existing web-based platforms, and actors trained through the process.
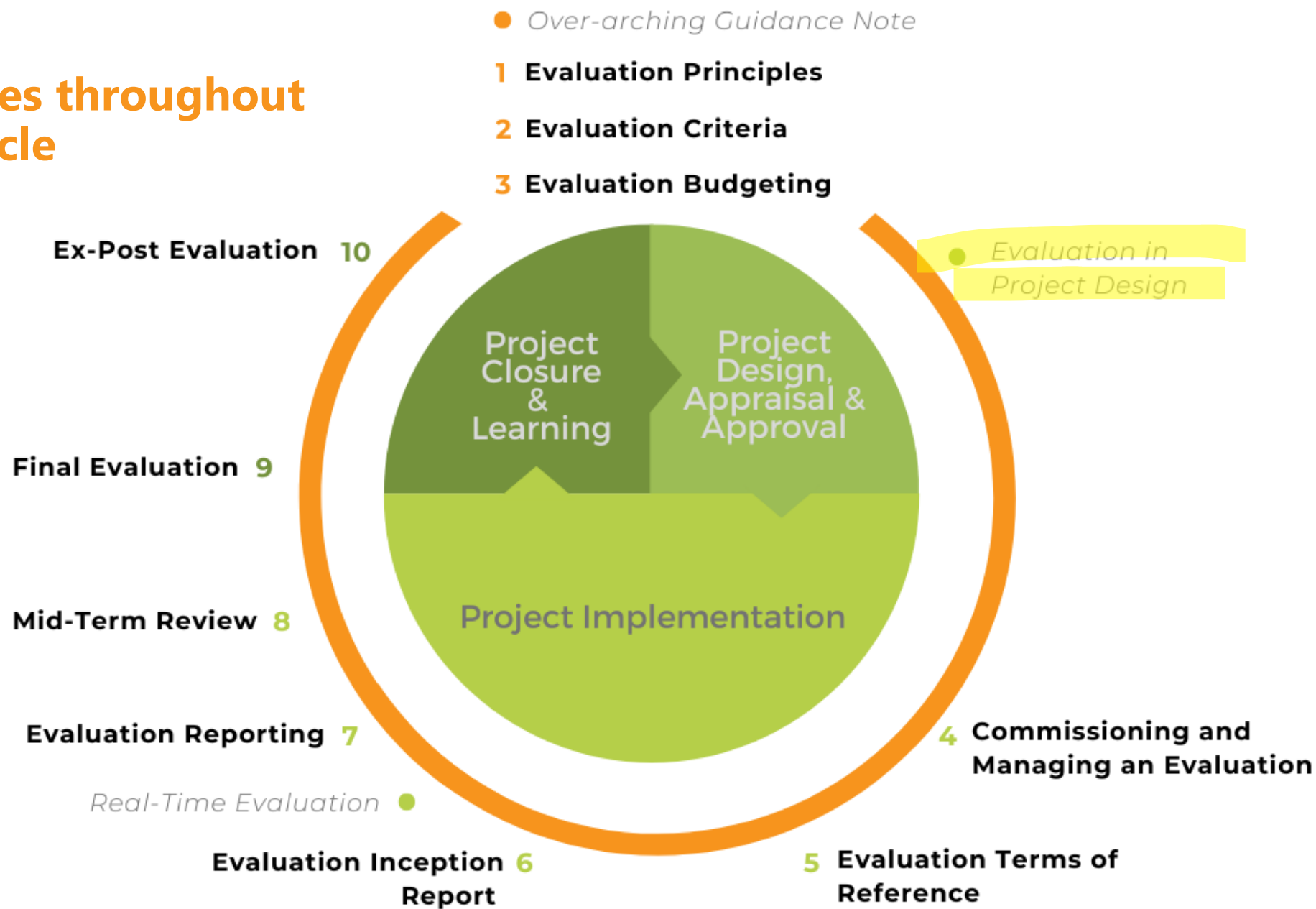
5. M&E Plan

☑
- ✓ M&E plan contains all required M&E products (inception workshop/report, baseline report, annual monitoring and PPRs, MTR (if applicable), and terminal evaluation,
- ✓ M&E plan includes an itemized budget that specifies the source of funding (project activity budget, project support costs, IE fee) for each item.
- ✓ Budget is sufficient for types of M&E products planned

Additional Guidance and Other Resources

Guidance Note Resources

GIZ, UNEP-WCMC and FEBA (2020) Guidebook for Monitoring and Evaluating Ecosystem-based Adaptation Interventions. Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, Bonn, Germany.

IPCC, 2022: Annex II: Glossary. In: Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability Contribution of Working Group II to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK and New York, NY, USA, pp. 2897–2930, doi:10.1017/9781009325844.029

Lamhauge, N., Lanzi, E. and Agrawala, S. (2012). Monitoring and Evaluation for Adaptation: Lessons from Development Co-operation Agencies.
DOI: https://doi.org/10.1787/5kg20mj6c2bw-en.

Leagnavar, P., Bours, D., and McGinn, C., 2015. Good Practice Study on Principles for Indicator Development, Selection, and Use in Climate Change Adaptation Monitoring and Evaluation. A. Viggh Ed. Washington, DC: Climate-Eval Community of Practice and the Global Environment Facility's Independent Evaluation Office (GEF IEO).

McGray, H., Rai, N., Dinshaw, A., Fisher, S. and Schaar, J. (2014). Monitoring and Evaluation of Climate Change Adaptation. 74. http://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/environment/monitoring-and-evaluation-of-climate-change-adaptation_5jxrclr0ntjd-en.

Stern, E., Stame, N., Mayne, J., Forss, K., Davies, R. and Befani, B. (2012). Broadening the Range of Designs and Methods for Impact Evaluations. DFID Working Paper, 38. Department for International Development. DOI: 10.22163/fteval.2012.100.

Silva Vilanueva, P. (2011) Learning to ADAPT: monitoring and evaluation approaches in climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction – challenges, gaps and ways forward.

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Questions?

https://www.adaptation-fund.org/about/evaluation/