

EVALUATION PLAN FOR CENTRALIZED EVALUATIONS 2019 – 2021

1.1 On-going evaluations in 2019

Evaluation on Forced Displacement and Development Policy

Through one of the current development policy's central themes, the evaluation of forced displacement will assess the fulfillment of policy coherence for development (PCD) in areas of Finnish development cooperation, humanitarian aid, the EU influence, crisis management and refugee policy. The evaluation takes into account the development of the actions during the period of 2012-2018, with emphasis on current development policy. It will be completed in February 2019.

Business with Impact (BEAM) Programme, developmental evaluation 2015 – 2019. Phase 2

Joint Programme of Business Finland (former Tekes) and Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland, "Business with Impact (BEAM)" assists Finnish companies address global development challenges and promote well-being through innovation and sustainable business. The aim is also to promote international business development of the Finnish companies. The objective of the developmental evaluation is to support the programme management throughout the programme period as well as to provide immediate feedback on the different approaches and effectiveness, and to support strategic learning in the programme. Mid-term evaluation report was published in 2017. The Phase 2 of the evaluation will generate useful knowledge for design of BEAM 2.0 with a portfolio analysis and impact assessment framework. The evaluation will be completed at the end of 2019.

Evaluation on knowledge management, decision-making and learning in Finland's development policy and cooperation *"How do we learn, manage and make decisions in Finland's development policy and cooperation?"*

The purpose of the evaluation is to support the management of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs in developing leadership, decision-making and policy guidance practices as part of results based management, reform of development cooperation practices and capacity development within the organization. The evaluation will strengthen the results and recommendations of past results based management (RBM) evaluations. It will provide information on strengths and weaknesses as well as practical recommendations for different levels of development policy implementation. This evaluation is developmental and inclusive by nature and contributes to the organizational learning. It includes a document review; the creation of a theory of change; in-depth interviews; a survey to identify information needs and use; a comparison to find good practices; field trips to selected countries; and workshops on the use of evaluation results. Evaluation planning started in spring 2018 and the results will be published in autumn 2019.

Nordic Development Fund (NDF) – joint evaluation with other Nordic countries

The purpose of the evaluation is to assess the performance and effectiveness of the NDF. The evaluation provides information for possible revision of NDF's mandate. Another focus is on how NDF has succeeded in the climate finance architecture. The evaluation is commissioned by Swedish Expert Group for Aid Studies (EBA). The evaluation started in November 2018 and will be completed in May 2019.

1.2 New evaluations to be started in 2019

Evaluation of country strategies with focus on fragile states

The country strategies of fragile states have common features, such as security challenges, humanitarian crises and other fragile states' problems. This provides an opportunity to assess the feasibility of the country strategy modality, particularly in fragile contexts, affected by civilian and military crisis management measures and humanitarian action. In addition, these are countries where support is needed for state-building and to consolidate democracy and the rule of law, safeguard human rights and create economic foundations. The evaluation will consist of two parts: one common section evaluating the strategic level, and the other focusing on the specific features and evaluation needs of each country. The evaluation design will take into account the results of the mid-term reviews, implemented as self-assessments by the regional departments. In addition to the effectiveness of the strategies, the evaluation assesses the country programme instrument as a strategic planning tool and operating model.

The country strategies to be evaluated are Afghanistan, Myanmar, the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Somalia and the Syria-Iraq Regional Programme.

Influencing in the multilateral organizations

The objective is to evaluate how successful the cooperation with the multilateral organizations has been as well as how the so-called influencing plans have worked as tools for influencing and reporting. Evaluation data will support the processes and methodological development of advocacy work as well as strengthen the theory of change in policy influence. The management of the Ministry will make use of the evaluation results to strengthen the influence and consider drafting a strategy for multilateral cooperation.

1.3 Preliminary themes for 2020 and 2021

The evaluation plan and its implementation will be reviewed by end of 2019.

- Transboundary water cooperation (2020)
- Transition strategy of Vietnam (2020)
- Supporting the economy of developing countries in Finnish development cooperation (2020-2021)
- The cost-effectiveness of bilateral and multi-bilateral cooperation and cooperation between authorities (2021)
- Climate funding and policy (2021)
- Finland's influence on EU development policy (2021)
- Meta-evaluation on project and programme evaluations (decentralised evaluations) (2021)
- Meta-evaluation on centralized evaluations (2021)
- Human Rights and Human Rights-based Approach (HRBA) in development policy (2021)