

GUIDANCE FRAMEWORK – REUSE, REFINE AND REPURPOSE Evaluative Evidence

The purpose of this framework is to illustrate how evaluative evidence can be effectively utilised for different tasks. This framework was developed by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland to facilitate the use of an AI-assisted evidence tool.

After extracting and reviewing the evaluative evidence from public evaluation reports, you can

- **Reuse**, where appropriate¹, the knowledge outputs as are,
- **Refine** or amend the quality or the quantity of the information,
- **Repurpose** them for a new knowledge output.

Potential ways to reuse, refine and repurpose **evaluative evidence as raw material** with [OpenEval](#) (not exhaustive):

Task	Reuse (As is)	Refine (Improve quality/quantity)	Repurpose (Transform for new use)
Policy or programme planning	Justifying new policy directions; Informing programme planning; Validating policies or programmes	Feeding into programme planning; Compiling a track record or lessons learnt for a programme; Using past findings to inform a theory of change	Preparing a policy note or a programme proposal; Feeding lessons as refined outputs to policy discussions or consultations
Foresight & Scenario Planning	Using evaluation findings to inform future assumptions	Combining evaluation insights with external data to adjust foresight models	Translating evaluation insights into scenario planning, simulation or foresight exercises
Budgeting and Resource Allocation	Using findings to justify budget lines	Adjusting resource allocation models based on updated evidence	Developing investment cases using evaluation-derived arguments
M&E Planning	Identifying monitoring needs; Compiling lists of previous evaluations; Identifying capacity development needs on M&E	Developing evidence gap maps or knowledge matrices	Preparing an M&E plan or framework, defining “success”; Preparing M&E systems development or capacity building initiatives
Results analysis and reporting	Extracting and collecting results examples; Validating operative result reporting; Citing evaluation findings directly in annual reports or updates	Compiling and pooling results on a specific topic, country or cooperation instrument; Aggregating findings across evaluations to show trends or patterns; Discussing progress towards results	Conducting meta-analyses; Feeding into and validating broader results reports combined with other information (e.g. indicator data); Creating infographics or dashboards; Informing annual work plans or action plans
Evaluation	Compiling lists of previous evaluations; Using as raw data for evaluation and reviews; Using for evidence triangulation;	Preparing the ToR; Improving evaluation design based on past limitations or gaps; Using for inception or desk review phases;	Designing and implementing syntheses, meta-analyses and meta-evaluations; Preparing an evaluation plan or policy.

¹ The user must always assess and review the content and what usage is appropriate in each situation or context.

	Identifying gaps in evaluation and evidence coverage	Collating knowledge by evaluation criteria, e.g. effectiveness.	
Communication	Quoting stories of success and/or areas for improvement; Using for advocacy messaging	Refining as (policy or background) briefs, presentations, blog posts, social media posts or talking points	Informing communication strategy development (e.g. negative sentiments)
Stakeholder Engagement & Partnerships	Citing stakeholder feedback from evaluations to inform partnerships; Sharing results with stakeholders and partners	Analyzing stakeholder-related findings and discussing with partners and stakeholders	Preparing stakeholder engagement strategies
Risk management	Extracting information on context, challenges and/or risks into current risk registers	Feeding into a risk analysis combined with other information (e.g. audits); Reassessing risk likelihoods or impacts based on updated evaluation evidence	Preparing a risk management plan combined with other information; Developing risk mitigation trainings or simulations.
Learning and organisational development	Identifying lessons and learning and capacity development needs within the organisation; Sharing evaluation findings in internal learning sessions; Using as a chronicle of a topic of interest; Identifying organisational strengths and improvement opportunities	Using for the induction and orientation of new staff members on relevant topics; Sharing learning during key phases in the annual implementation calendar/policy cycle; Using as material for workshops; Feeding into internal organisational processes	Developing training curricula and/or materials that draw from the relevant topics; Feeding into change management plans of the organisation; Supporting reform proposals or change strategies
Follow-up and accountability	Using recommendations as-are to track implementation status; Compiling an overview of recommendations from evaluations	Informing the records of issues and action points monitored; Discussing progress	Reporting back on action on recommendations; Preparing accountability frameworks, scorecards or dashboards based on follow-up data
<i>Source: Development Evaluation Unit, Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland (2025)</i>			

Note: OpenEval serves to provide background information and raw material for many types of administrative and other tasks for different users such as administrators, decision-makers, evaluation experts, researchers, partner organisations and others. The responsibility and accountability of the use of the tool and its outputs always lies with the user. AI-generated content is subject to limitations and should be interpreted with caution. Always consult original reports and other sources of information when making critical decisions.

