

## ANNEX 7 EVALUATION CRITERIA FOR AID QUALITY

FROM: Annex 12. Evaluation Criteria in 2007 MFA <i>Evaluation Guidelines</i>	FROM: OECD/DAC 2002 (Glossary); <i>DAC Criteria for Evaluating Development Assistance</i>
Relevance	Relevance
<p>Relevance concerns whether the results, purpose and overall objectives of the intervention are in line with needs and aspirations of the beneficiaries, and with the policy environment of the intervention.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is the intervention consistent with the needs and priorities of its target groups and the policies of the partner country and donor agencies?</li> <li>Has the situation changed since the approval of the intervention (e.g., programme/project) document?</li> </ul>	<p>The extent to which the objectives of a development intervention are consistent with beneficiaries' requirements, country needs, global priorities and partners' and donors' policies.</p> <p>Note: retrospectively, the question of relevance often becomes a questions as to whether the objectives of an intervention or its design are still appropriate given changed circumstances</p> <p><i>The extent to which the aid activity is suited to the priorities and policies of the target group, recipient and donor.</i></p> <p><i>In evaluating the relevance of a programme or project, it is useful to consider the following questions:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>To what extent are the objectives of the programme still valid?</i></li> <li><i>Are the activities and outputs of the programme consistent with the overall goal and the attainment of its objectives?</i></li> <li><i>Are the activities and output of the programme consistent with the intended impacts and effects?</i></li> </ul>
Policy Coherence	
<p>Coherence / complementarity measures if and how the goals that are central to Finland's development cooperation policy or the partner country's development policy have been taken into account in the planning and implementation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How have they affected the intervention?</li> </ul> <p>Specific questions for Meta-analysis:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coherence to Finnish Development Policy</li> <li>Sector coherence to Finnish development interventions in country</li> <li>Paris Declaration</li> <li>Millennium Development Goals</li> <li>Poverty reduction</li> <li>Mainstreaming of cross-cutting issues</li> </ul>	
Effectiveness	Effectiveness
<p>Effectiveness describes how well the results achieved have furthered the attainment of the purpose of the intervention.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Has the intervention achieved its</li> </ul>	<p>The extent to which the development intervention's objectives were achieved, or are expected to be achieved, taking into account their relative importance.</p>

<p>objectives or will it do so in the future?</p> <p>Specific questions for Meta-analysis:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Are concrete results discernable (or in the case of an appraisal projected) at the output, outcome, result or impact levels?</li> </ul>	<p><i>A measure of the extent to which an aid activity attains its objectives.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>To what extent were the objectives achieved / are likely to be achieved?</i></li> <li><i>What were the major factors influencing the achievement or non-achievement of the objectives?</i></li> </ul>
<p>Efficiency</p> <p>The efficiency criterion concerns how well the various activities have transformed the available resources into the intended outputs (Sometimes referred to as a result), in terms of quantity, quality and time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can the costs of the intervention be justified by the results?</li> </ul> <p>Specific questions for Meta-analysis:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Have results been produced (or projected) in a reasonable time span?</li> </ul>	<p>Efficiency</p> <p>A measure of how economically resources / inputs (funds, expertise, time, etc.) are converted to results.</p> <p><i>Efficiency measures the outputs – qualitative and quantitative – in relation to the inputs. It is an economic term which signifies that the aid uses the least costly resources possible in order to achieve the desired results. This generally requires comparing alternative approaches to achieving the same outputs, to see whether the most efficient process has been adopted.</i></p> <p><i>When evaluating the efficiency of a programme or project, it is useful to consider the following questions:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Were activities cost-efficient?</i></li> <li><i>Were objectives achieved in time?</i></li> <li><i>Was the programme or project implemented in the most efficient way compared to alternatives?</i></li> </ul>
<p>Impact</p> <p>Impact concerns whether there has been a change towards the achievement of the overall objective(s) as a consequence of the attainment of the purpose of the intervention. Both intended and unintended impacts are reviewed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What are the overall effects of the intervention, intended and unintended, long term and short term, positive and negative?</li> </ul>	<p>Impact</p> <p>Positive and negative, primary and secondary long-term effects produced by a development intervention, directly or indirectly, intended or unintended.</p> <p><i>The positive and negative changes produced by a development intervention, directly or indirectly, intended or unintended. This involves the main impacts and effects resulting from the activity on the local social, economic, environmental and other development indicators. The examination should be concerned with both intended and unintended results and must also include the positive and negative impacts of external factors, such as changes in terms of trade and financial conditions.</i></p> <p><i>When evaluating the impact of a programme or project, it is useful to consider the following questions:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>What has happened as a result of the programme or project?</i></li> <li><i>What real difference has the activity made to the beneficiaries?</i></li> <li><i>How many people have been affected?</i></li> </ul>

Sustainability	Sustainability
<p>In terms of a single intervention, sustainability can be described as the degree to which the benefits produced by the intervention continue after the external support has come to an end.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will the benefits produced by the intervention be maintained after the termination of external support?</li> </ul> <p>Specific questions for Meta-analysis:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ecological Sustainability</li> <li>Economic sustainability</li> <li>Social sustainability</li> <li>Identification of any factors contributing to good sustainability</li> <li>Identification of obstacles to good sustainability</li> <li>Major risks to sustainability</li> <li>Major assumptions to sustainability</li> </ul>	<p>The continuation of benefits from a development intervention after major development assistance has been completed. The probability of continued long-term benefits. The resilience to risk of the next benefit flows over time.</p> <p><i>Sustainability is concerned with measuring whether the benefits of an activity are likely to continue after donor funding has been withdrawn. Projects need to be environmentally as well as financially sustainable.</i></p> <p><i>When evaluating the sustainability of a programme or project, it is useful to consider the following questions:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>To what extent did the benefits of a programme or project continue after donor funding ceased?</i></li> <li><i>What were the major factors which influenced the achievement or non-achievement of sustainability of the programme or project?</i></li> </ul>
Finnish added value	<b>EC added value</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What is the added value provided by the Finnish support?</li> </ul> <p>Specific questions for the Meta-analysis:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Finnish expertise areas</li> <li>Finnish personnel</li> </ul>	<p>The value added by European Community involvement above that of individual Member States ??</p>
The following is a criterion added for the Meta-analysis:	
Knowledge and Information Management: Baseline Data, Indicators and Monitoring	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Does the project or programme have proper baseline data established (or a plan to establish) ?</li> <li>Are indicators established for monitoring sustainability ?</li> <li>Is there a recording plan for monitoring and data on progress ?</li> <li>Is data gender disaggregated?</li> </ul>	