

Management Response to the Final Evaluation of the DA T10 Programme on Statistics and Data

Evaluation recommendation	Management response ¹	Planned actions	Responsible unit(s)	Target date for completion
<p>Recommendation 1 The DA should establish measures to ensure that programme/project documents (prodocs) are clear, internally consistent, realistic and concise.</p>	<p>Accepted. This recommendation is based on the review of one large project jointly implemented by multiple entities that was developed 10 years ago. For smaller projects, since the 10th tranche, a series of measures have been established for quality assurance of prodocs. These include enhanced prodoc guidelines and the utilization of the Quality Assurance Group (QAG) to review and comment on project documents. DA-PMT, in consultation with DA focal points, will continue to develop measures to enhance the quality of prodocs and have further quality assurance done at entity level. DA-PMT will work with entities to strengthen their review processes for prodocs.</p>	<p>1.1 Include guidance on designing larger joint projects, addressing recommendations 1, 2, 3 and 4 in the T16 prodoc guidelines and T17 concept note guidelines.</p>	<p>DA-PMT</p>	<p>April - May 2023 for T16 prodoc guidelines), May – July 2023 for T17 concept note guidelines</p>
		<p>1.2 Bring forward the timeline for the issuance of an updated prodoc template and guidelines for T16 prodocs to allow additional time for project design and collaboration, including consultations with potential target countries and all relevant stakeholders, and quality assurance.</p>	<p>DA-PMT</p>	<p>April - May 2023 (Issuance of T16 prodoc template and guidelines)</p>
		<p>1.3 Work with implementing entities to streamline quality assurance processes and to strengthen implementing entities' understanding of the quality assurance process and their quality assurance responsibilities throughout the project cycle,</p>	<p>DA-PMT, in consultation with DA focal points</p>	<p>May – July 2023</p>
		<p>1.4 Develop a prodoc review checklist for the quality assurance review of a draft prodoc to be completed by the entity's DA focal point for each draft prodoc.</p>	<p>DA-PMT, in consultation with DA focal points</p>	<p>April - May 2023</p>
		<p>1.5 Deliver virtual workshops for project design teams on prodoc requirements and on how to write prodocs for both single entity</p>	<p>DA-PMT</p>	<p>July - Aug 2023</p>

¹ Accepted, partially accepted, or rejected.

		and jointly implemented projects as part of T16 prodoc development.		
		1.6 Develop chapeau/overall guidance document on the DA programme cycle.	DA-PMT	May – July 2024
<p>Recommendation 2 With respect to the targeting of countries, the DA should put in place measures to ensure that prodocs are clear and consistent. Any modifications from the initial plans on targeting should be duly approved by the programme/project structures (e.g., TAG) and documented.</p>	<p>Accepted. As stated in the response to Recommendation 1, since the 10th tranche, a series of measures have been established for quality assurance of prodocs. Additional guidance has been provided on the requirements of the prodoc section on situational analysis and country selection. Also, the current progress report template explicitly asks to specify changes to the project, if any, including changes to its beneficiary countries, and the reasons for those changes. DA-PMT, in consultation with DA focal points, will continue to develop enhanced guidance to support the selection of target countries and measures to ensure that changes to target countries are duly discussed and, if appropriate, approved by the relevant parties and adequately documented.</p>	2.1 Include additional guidance on the selection of target countries in the updated prodoc guidelines for use in the 16 th tranche, and integrate this additional guidance in the prodoc review checklist and virtual workshops mentioned in planned actions 1.3 and 1.4.	DA-PMT, in consultation with DA focal points	April - May 2023
		2.2 Update the Progress Report guidelines to ensure that any modification to the target countries as compared to the prodoc are included with reasons for dropping, and, if applicable, the rationale for selecting an alternate country(ies) and the decision-making process used (e.g., stakeholders involved or consulted in the process).	DA-PMT, in consultation with DA focal points	Sept-Oct 2023

<p>Recommendation 3</p> <p>The DA should mandate, as part of the project design phase, an assessment to determine the degree to which Member States would benefit from the initiative. Those countries that would stand to benefit the most should be encouraged to request services from the DA initiative.</p>	<p>Accepted.</p> <p>This recommendation is building on the Programme and its complex structure. It is to a lesser extent applicable to smaller projects. As stated under the response to Recommendation 2, additional guidance has been provided on the requirements of the prodoc section on situational analysis and country selection since the 10th tranche. DA-PMT, in consultation with DA focal points, will continue to explore other measures to ensure that DA projects best meet the capacity development needs of Member States.</p>	<p>3.1 Update the T16 prodoc guidelines to further this angle of the country selection and demand, and integrate country selection and country demand expectations at different stages of the project development process into the chapeau/overall guidance document and virtual workshops mentioned in planned actions 1.2 and 1.4.</p>	<p>DA-PMT, in consultation with DA focal points and DA</p>	<p>April - May 2023 for T16 prodoc guidelines, May – July 2023 for chapeau/overall guidance</p>
<p>Recommendation 4</p> <p>The DA should require that a prodoc for all large-scale (budget in excess of USD 1 million) initiatives jointly implemented by multiple entities include a tentative monitoring and evaluation plan.</p> <p>a. The team creating the prodoc should include a representative of the lead entity’s evaluation unit (Evaluation Officer).</p> <p>b. The Evaluation Officer should develop, in consultation with the evaluation units of all participating entities, an appropriate evaluation plan that specifies who is responsible for managing the</p>	<p>Accepted.</p> <p>DA-PMT is currently developing, in consultation with the evaluation units of DA implementing entities, a draft guidelines on terminal evaluation of projects jointly implemented by multiple entities with a budget of USD 1 million or more, which incorporates the lessons learned from the evaluation of the T10 Programme on Statistics and Data, while also considering the limited capacity of the evaluation units of some of DA implementing entities. This initiative will be expanded into the development of guidelines on planning, monitoring</p>	<p>4.1 Include guidelines on planning, monitoring and evaluation of projects jointly implemented by multiple entities with a budget of USD 1 million or more, which will reflect the provisions of recommendation 4, in the T16 prodoc guidelines and the T12 evaluation guidance note.</p>	<p>DA-PMT, in consultation with DA focal points and DA evaluation focal points</p>	<p>April - May 2023</p>

<p>evaluation, the roles and responsibilities of other participating entities in supporting the evaluation and its follow-up, a data collection and analysis plan, the audience for the evaluation report, and how the implementation of recommendations will be tracked.</p> <p>c. Evaluation units of all implementing entities must commit to the prodoc's evaluation plan prior to the start of a programme/project.</p> <p>d. The lead implementer/manager of a programme/project (e.g., programme coordination team) should develop, in consultation with the representative of the lead entity's evaluation unit and other implementers (e.g., focal points), a detailed tentative monitoring plan, which specifies the indicators of achievement to monitor during the course of project implementation, who will be responsible for collecting the monitoring data, and the frequency of data collection.</p> <p>e. At the start of the programme/project, the lead implementer/manager of a programme/project (e.g., programme coordination team) should make other implementers</p>	<p>and evaluation of projects jointly implemented by multiple entities with a budget of USD 1 million or more, which will be integrated into the concept note guidelines, prodoc guidelines and evaluation guidance note.</p>			
--	---	--	--	--

<p>(e.g., focal points) aware of the programme/project's monitoring and evaluation plan and ensure that there is cooperation from the implementers in producing and collecting monitoring and evaluation-relevant data. Implementing entities should ensure that the monitoring arrangements and criteria allow for high quality data to be collected and shared on a timely and ongoing basis. The lead entity must have the role and authority to ensure that high-quality data is produced by and collected from all participating entities.</p>				
---	--	--	--	--