



Maja Bučar
Centre of International Relations
Faculty of Social Sciences University of Ljubljana

RECENT EXPERIENCE IN EVALUATING R&D PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS IN SLOVENIA

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Experience

Different types of evaluations

1. Evaluation of S&T system and various instruments,
2. Evaluation of R&D projects, funded by Slovenian Research Agency
3. Evaluations, related to instruments, funded by the EU structural funds.

Each type has its own logic, methodology, problems and application!



Experience- II

- Practical example of type 1:
 - Evaluation at the level of S&T system: OECD and ERAC> priority setting and coordination! Government reaction: RIS3 priorities, coordination still open problem.
 - Evaluation of R&D instruments: Centres of excellence & centres of competences (2007-2013): positive evaluation, yet continuous financing was not envisaged.
 - Evaluation of S4 instrument: development of methodology for evaluation as the implementation is in progress> + and - ?



Experience -III

Example of type 2: Slovenian Research Agency

- „Entrance“ conditionality for programme/ project leader: scientific achievements, ability to generate funding.
- Selection of research programmes and projects (external evaluators): scientific excellence of the research team, scientific excellence of the proposal & quality and efficiency of the management.
- Evaluation of the results: external evaluators + Scientific Council members
- Elements: research excellence, socio-economic impact, relevance of research for Slovenia, meeting the objectives of the proposal.
- Problem: socio-economic impact?



Experience- IV

Type 3- programmes, funded by EU Cohesion Funds

- Prescribed evaluations: ex-ante, mid-term, final.
- Public procurement of evaluators- often key criteria has to be price!
- Dilemma with timing – often not early enough to have policy implications, or too early to see impact!
- Still sometimes understood as a source of (unwelcome) criticism or as an administratively imposed precondition to meet requirements of the funder and not as a learning process!



Thank you for your attention!