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Experiences of the Member States performing evaluations in projects and activities aimed at crime prevention



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Project IBZ/AD&VP/EUCPN/2018/ErvaEvaCP

March 2019 – February 2020

Why do we need to evaluate interventions?

Scientists race to develop vaccine for new coronavirus

PUBLISHED: 9 FEB 2020 AT 11:45

WRITE FOR APP



Scientists around the world are racing to develop a vaccine for the new coronavirus that emerged in China late last year.

'Designed by clowns': Boeing releases flood of troubling internal documents related to 737 Max

By [Chris Seibold](#) and Ross Levitt, CNN Business
Updated 2017 GMT (0417 HKT) January 10, 2020



More popular heartburn medications recalled due to impurity

By [Jen Christensen](#), CNN
Updated 2334 GMT (0734 HKT) January 10, 2020



CRIMINOLOGY

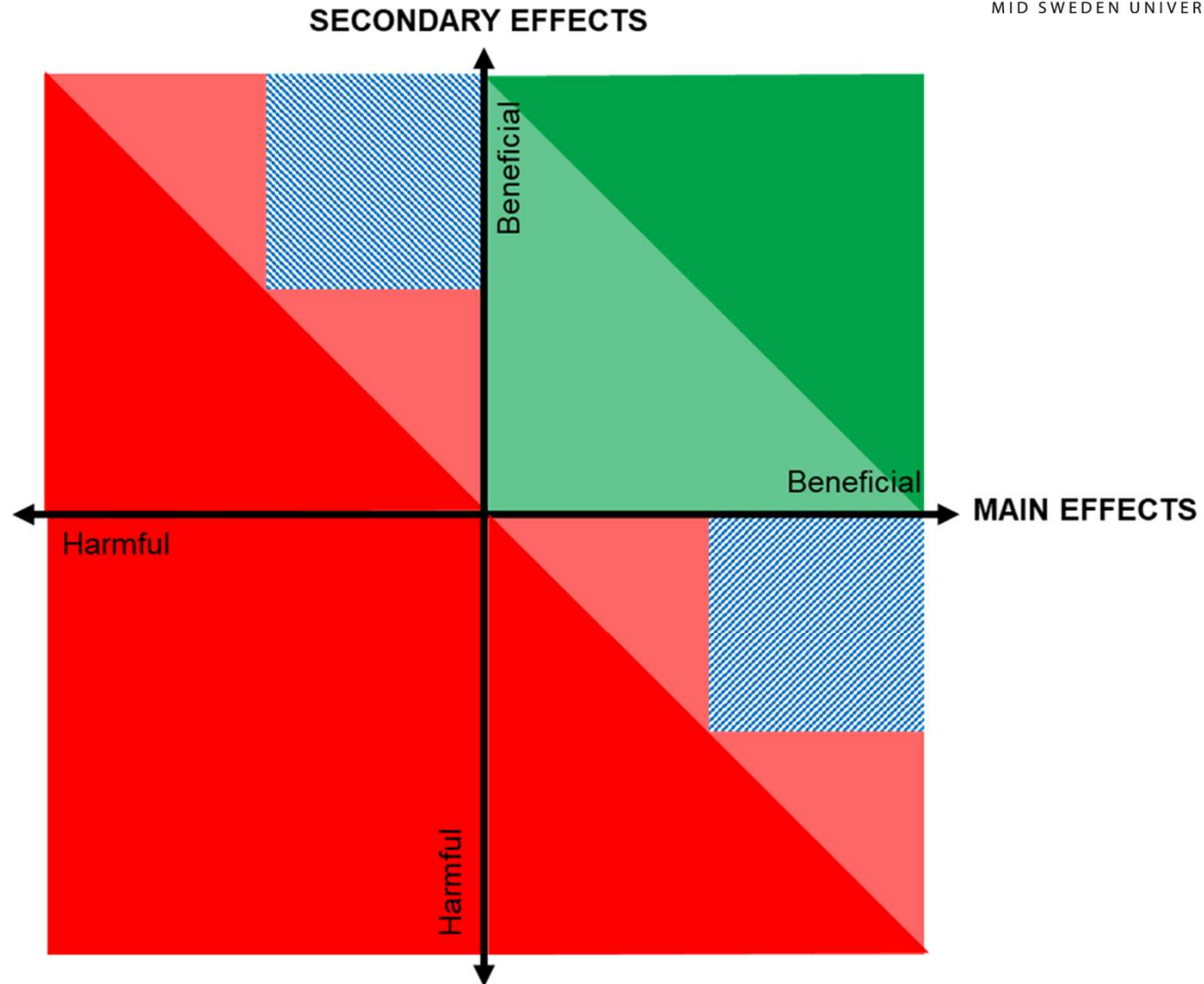
 Full Access

ASSESSING THE EXTENT OF CRIME DISPLACEMENT AND DIFFUSION OF BENEFITS: A REVIEW OF SITUATIONAL CRIME PREVENTION EVALUATIONS*

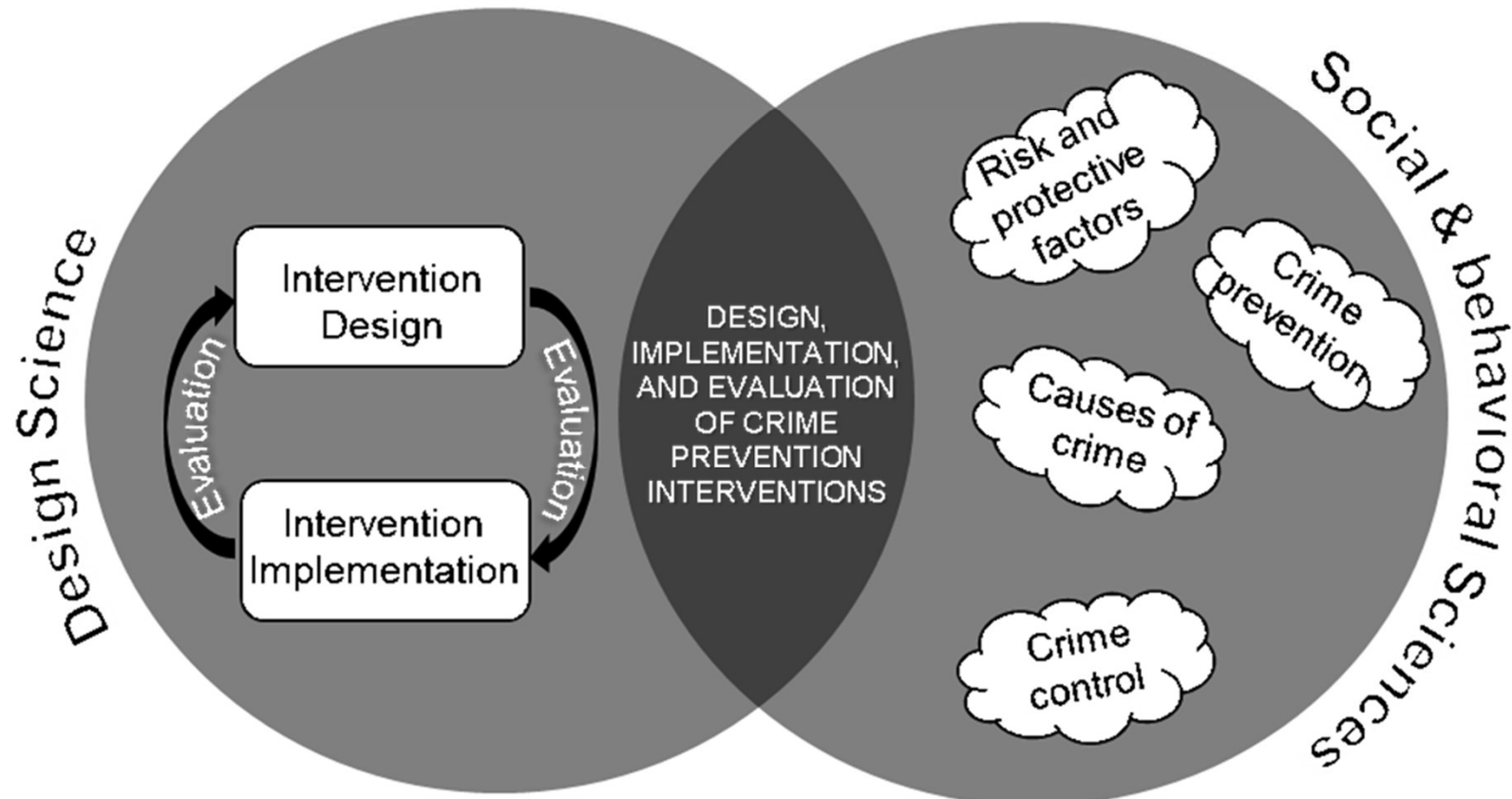
ROB T. GUERETTE, KATE J. BOWERS

First published: 08 December 2009 | <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1745-9125.2009.00177.x> | Citations: 211

Why do we need to evaluate interventions?



EVALUATION (of crime prevention programs)



EUCPN and evaluation of CP interventions



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EUROPEAN CRIME PREVENTION NETWORK

EUCPN Toolbox Series
No. 3

Evaluation of crime prevention initiatives

In the framework of the project 'Towards a European Centre of Expertise on Crime Prevention'
EUCPN Secretariat, December 2012, Brussels



With the financial support of the Prevention of and Fight against Crime Programme of the European Union
European Commission – Directorate-General Home Affairs

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OBJECTIVES AND RESEARCH QUESTIONS

Objective 1: Gain insight into existing practices when it comes to the evaluation of projects and activities aimed at crime prevention



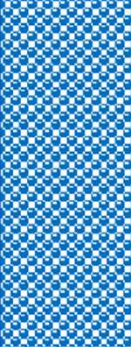
Objective 2: Make recommendations to the evaluation of projects and activities aimed at crime prevention based on the experiences in the MS

Questions:

- How are projects and activities evaluated in the MS?
- What are the best practices when it comes to evaluation?
- Are there specific shortcomings in the performance of evaluations in the MS?
- How can these shortcomings be remedied?
- How can EUCPN support the MS further in their evaluation activities?

Using a bottom-up approach

METHODS

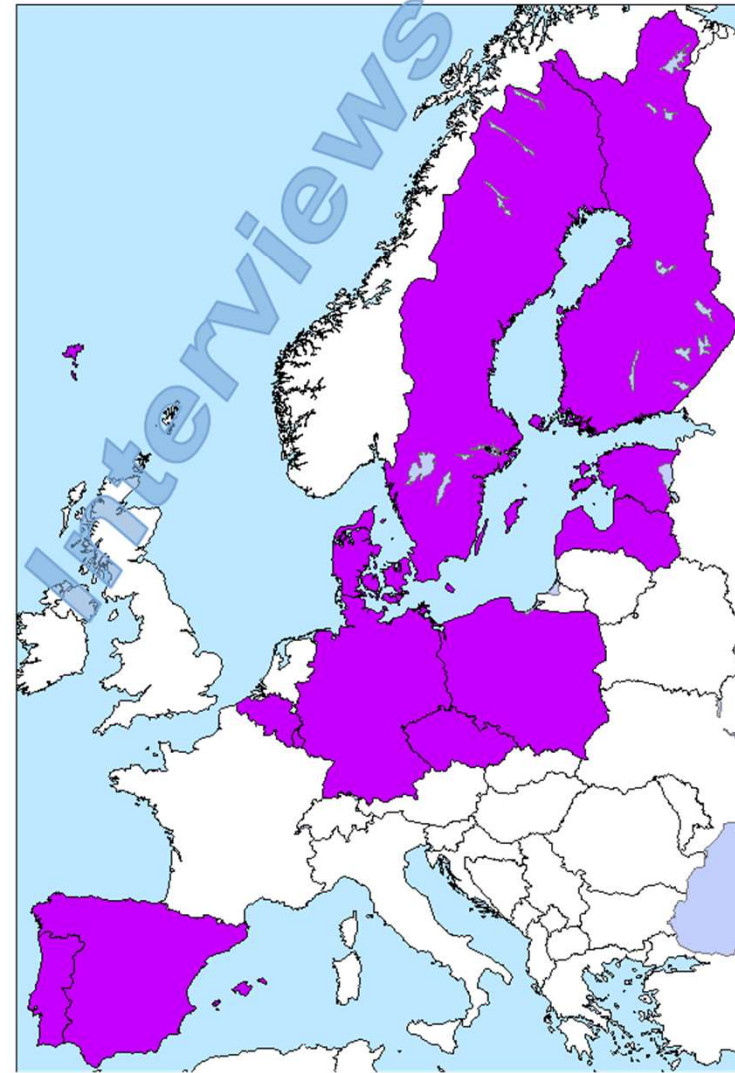
<p>Quantitative</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Online questionnaire - translated to 22 languages - Target group: CP managers and practitioners - Validation in Swedish sample - Convenience sampling - Analysis: descriptive and bivariate - Participants (n = 182) 		<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Data collection July-November 2019</p>																			
<p>Qualitative</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Skype interviews recorded and transcribed - Objective: Go deep on shortcomings of evaluation procedures - Target group: Same as the questionnaire - Average length: 20 minutes - Analysis: Inductive thematic analysis - Participants (n = 19) 																					
<p>Literature review</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Best practices on evaluation of programs - Snowball selection of literature through references and most cited authors <table border="1" data-bbox="801 1209 1406 1390"> <thead> <tr> <th>Database</th> <th>Number of hits</th> <th>Included after reading title</th> <th>Included after reading abstract</th> <th>Included after reading the whole source</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Psycinfo 2019-08-08</td> <td>197</td> <td>31</td> <td>14</td> <td>11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sociological abstracts 2019-08-09</td> <td>19</td> <td>2</td> <td>1</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Social service abstracts 2019-08-09</td> <td>14</td> <td>4</td> <td>1</td> <td>1</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Database	Number of hits	Included after reading title	Included after reading abstract	Included after reading the whole source	Psycinfo 2019-08-08	197	31	14	11	Sociological abstracts 2019-08-09	19	2	1	1	Social service abstracts 2019-08-09	14	4	1	1	
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RESULTS

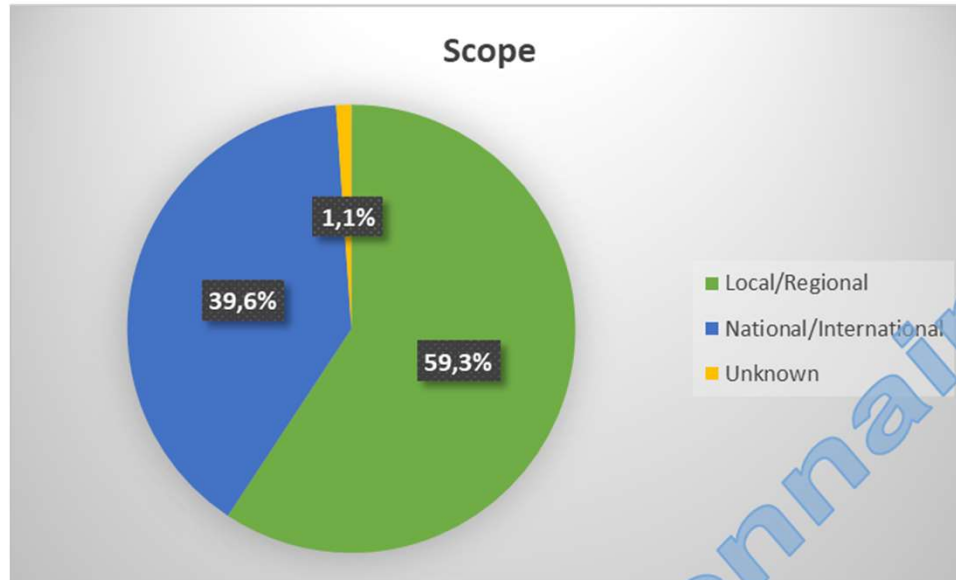


	n (%)
Austria	3 (1.6)
Belgium	6 (3.3)
Bulgaria	1 (0.5)
Croatia	1 (0.5)
Cyprus	5 (2.7)
Czechia	3 (1.6)
Denmark	16 (8.6)
Estonia	6 (3.3)
Finland	10 (5.5)
France	1 (0.5)
Germany	8 (4.4)
Greece	3 (1.6)
Hungary	37 (20.3)
Ireland	0 -
Italy	1 (0.5)
Latvia	3 (1.6)
Lithuania	30 (16.5)
Luxembourg	3 (1.6)
Malta	3 (1.6)
Netherlands	8 (4.4)
Poland	3 (1.6)
Portugal	6 (3.3)
Romania	4 (2.2)
Slovakia	2 (1.1)
Slovenia	0 -
Spain	5 (2.7)
Sweden	14 (7.7)

Participant countries



RESULTS



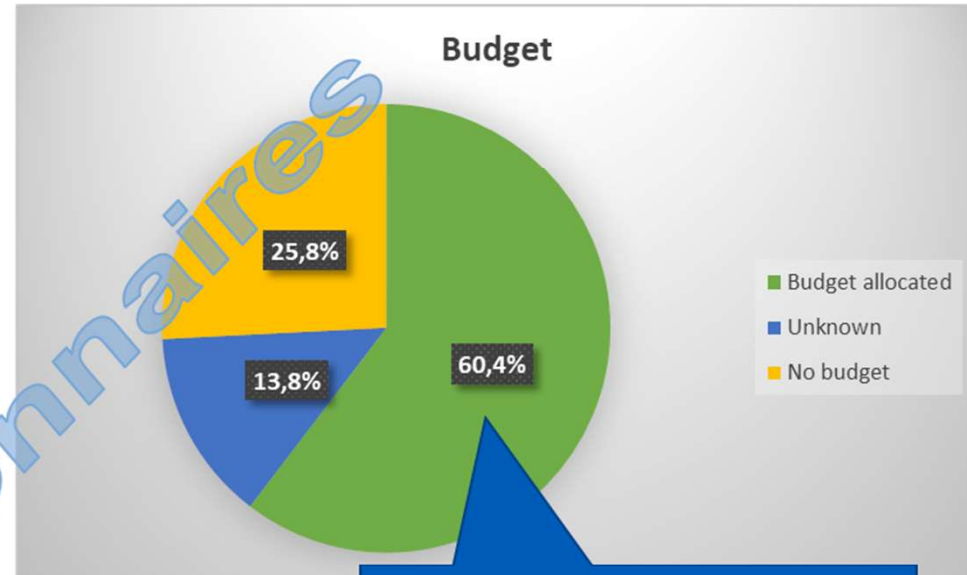
Institution(s) responsible for the CP activity (multiples option)

	N (%)
→ Police	107 (58.8)
Social services	31 (17.0)
→ Department within the local, regional or central government	56 (30.8)
Prison authorities/justice department	13 (7.1)
Higher education institution	18 (9.9)
Other public institution	50 (27.5)
Other private institution	42 (23.1)
Unknown	4 (2.2)

RESULTS

Type(s) of crime targeted by the CP activity (multiple option)

	N	(%)
→ General crime	87	(47.8)
→ Juvenile delinquency	91	(50.0)
→ Gang-related crime/violence	32	(17.6)
→ Drug-related crime	54	(29.7)
Fraud	29	(15.9)
Organized crime	18	(9.9)
Cybercrime	30	(16.5)
Sex offending	35	(19.2)
Domestic violence	43	(23.6)
Burglary	38	(20.9)
Terrorism/violent extremism	12	(6.6)
Honor related violence	10	(5.5)
Other type of crime	35	(19.2)

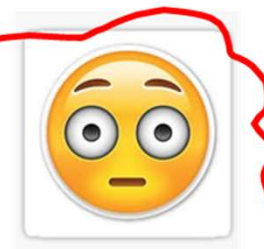
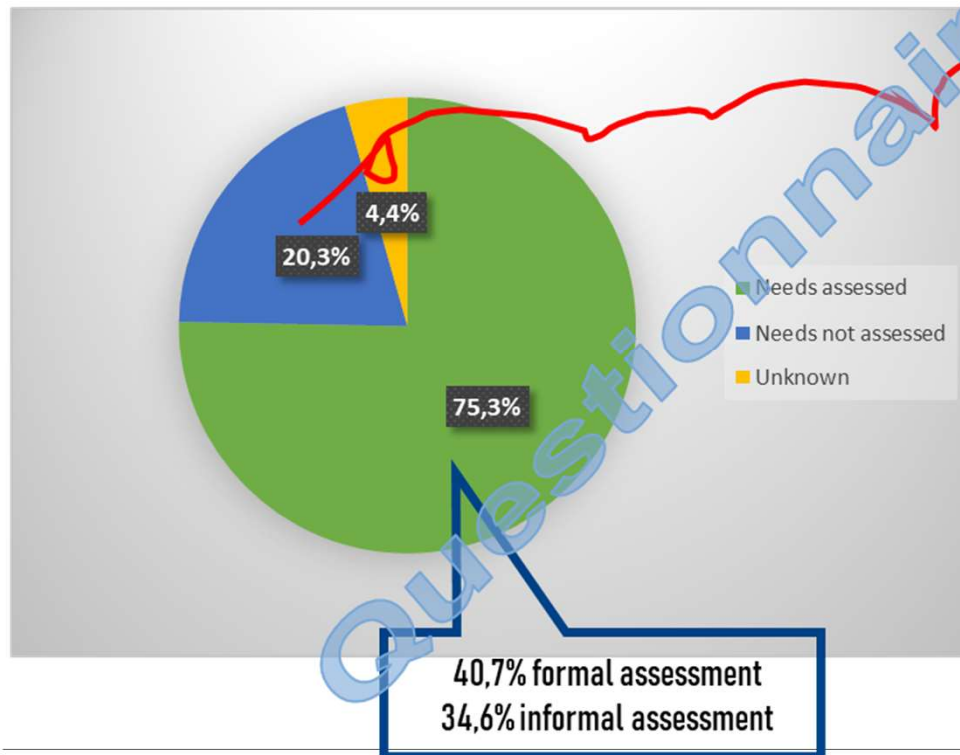


	%
<5,000 €	13,2
5,000 to 19,999 €	18,1
20,000 to 99,999 €	14,8
≥100,000 €	14,3

RESULTS

ASSESSMENT OF NEEDS

Question: How were the needs of the CP activity assessed (i.e., how did someone come to the conclusion that such CP activity was necessary) ?



	%
The needs were not assessed at all, but a CP such as this one is always needed	8.2
The needs of a CP activity like this one have for some time been in the agenda of managers or policy makers	8.8
The necessity of such CP activity was rather dictated by pressure to execute policies, objectives of management or public opinion	3.3

RESULTS

PROCESS EVALUATION

Question: Please indicate whether each one of these aspects was formally monitored, informally monitored, or not monitored at all during the execution of the CP activity

Not
monitored
at all



Formally
monitored

Whether the CP activity was executed as planned



Whether the intended target group/population was reached



Whether the staff members was sufficient to execute the CP activity



Whether the staff members were appropriately trained to execute the CP activity



Whether the staff members were pleased with the way the CP activity was executed



RESULTS



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PROCESS EVALUATION

Question: Please indicate whether each one of these aspects was formally monitored, informally monitored, or not monitored at all during the execution of the CP activity

Not
monitored
at all



Formally
monitored

The obstacles the CP activity was encountering during its execution



Whether relevant stakeholders were involved in the execution of the CP activity



Whether persons of the target group were engaged with the CP activity



Whether persons of the target group were satisfied with the duration of the CP activity



Whether persons of the target group were satisfied with the intensity of the CP activity



RESULTS

OUTCOME EVALUATION

	No formal evaluation	Formal evaluation
	n (%)	n (%)
	83 (100.0)	80 (100.0)
Austria	1 (50.0)	1 (50.0)
Belgium	3 (60.0)	2 (40.0)
Bulgaria	0	1 (100.0)
Croatia	1 (100.0)	0
Cyprus	3 (75.0)	1 (25.0)
Czechia	0	3 (100.0)
Denmark	5 (38.5)	8 (61.5)
Estonia	2 (33.3)	4 (66.7)
Finland	5 (55.6)	4 (44.4)
France	0	1 (100.0)
Germany	1 (14.3)	6 (85.7)
Greece	1 (50.0)	1 (50.0)
Hungary	22 (62.9)	13 (37.1)
Ireland	0	0
Italy	1 (100.0)	0
Latvia	1 (50.0)	1 (50.0)
Lithuania	17 (65.4)	9 (34.6)
Luxembourg	2 (66.7)	1 (33.3)
Malta	2 (66.7)	1 (33.3)
Netherlands	3 (42.9)	4 (57.1)
Poland	1 (33.3)	2 (66.7)
Portugal	3 (50.0)	3 (50.0)
Romania	0	4 (100.0)
Slovakia	1 (50.0)	1 (50.0)
Slovenia	0	0
Spain	1 (20.0)	4 (80.0)
Sweden	7 (58.3)	5 (41.7)

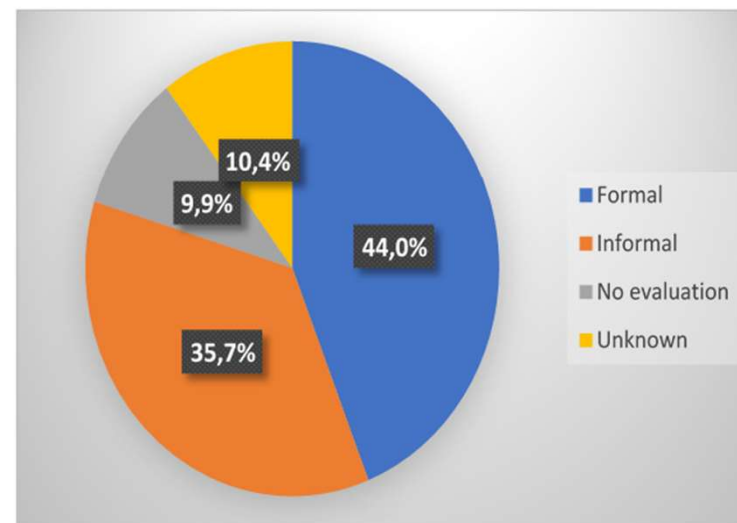
OUTCOME EVALUATION

Yes, a formal outcome evaluation took place = 80

Yes, the outcomes were evaluated but in an informal way (i.e., evaluated by staff members or other persons, but not systematically measured or registered in an official report) = 65

No attempt of evaluation was made = 18

Unknown = 19



RESULTS

OUTCOME EVALUATION

Initial budget of the CP activity (n = 182) (one option)

	n	(%)
< 5,000 Euros	24	(13.2)
5,000 to 19,999 Euros	33	(18.1)
20,000 to 99,999 Euros	27	(14.8)
> 100,000 Euros	26	(14.3)
No specific budget was allocated	47	(25.8)
Unknown	25	(13.7)

Those CP activities that had allocated a specific budget, even if it was a small budget, were **2.5 times more likely** of having been formally evaluated than those CP activities that had not a specific budget allocated (OR = 2.57 (CI 95% 1.21 – 5.38))

RESULTS

OUTCOME EVALUATION

1- For those activities that were formally evaluated (n = 80)

Was the outcome evaluation planned before the CP activity began to be executed?

	n = 80 (%)
No not at all	2 (2.5)
Yes, partially	23 (28.8)
Yes, totally	54 (67.5)
Unknown	1 (1.3)

Were the costs of the outcome evaluation taken into account in the initial budget of the CP activity?

	n = 80 (%)
No not at all	26 (36.3)
Yes, partially	20 (25.0)
Yes, totally	27 (33.8)
Unknown	4 (5.0)

To all those activities that had been formally evaluated (n = 80) we asked **Did the evaluation contributed to improving the CP activity?**

	n (%)
Yes, definitely	31 (28.8)
Yes, in some way	27 (33.8)
No, the CP activity didn't require improvements	9 (11.2)
No, the evaluations was of poor quality and therefore we didn't took it into account	0
None of the above	4 (5.0)
Unkown	9 (11.2)

RESULTS

OUTCOME EVALUATION

1- For those activities that were not at all evaluated

Do you think that any of the following factors was a motive in preventing the outcome evaluation take place?

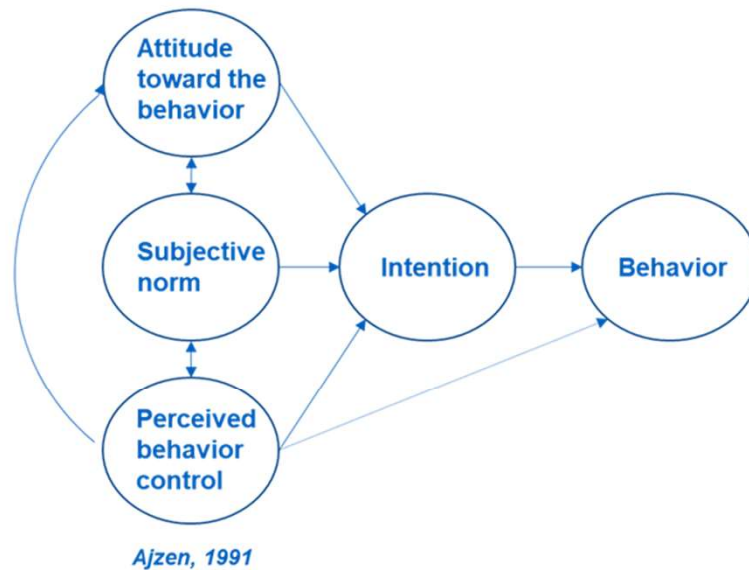


	Yes, definitely n (%)	Yes, in some way n (%)	No, not at all n (%)	Unknown n (%)
Lack of expertise of the person(s) who were supposedly in charge of the evaluation	0	3 (16.7)	10 (55.6)	5 (27.7)
Negative attitudes of staff members that executed the CP activity	0	4 (22.2)	10 (55.6)	4 (22.2)
Lack of involvement of the parties (e.g., stakeholders, persons of the target group/population, etc.)	1 (5.6)	5 (27.7)	8 (44.4)	4 (22.2)
Difficulty in having access to the necessary data	7 (38.9)	2 (11.1)	6 (33.3)	3 (16.7)
The large amount of time necessary to do the evaluation	6 (33.3)	2 (11.1)	5 (27.7)	5 (27.7)
The high cost of the evaluation	4 (22.2)	5 (27.7)	5 (27.7)	4 (22.2)

RESULTS

EVALUATION CULTURE

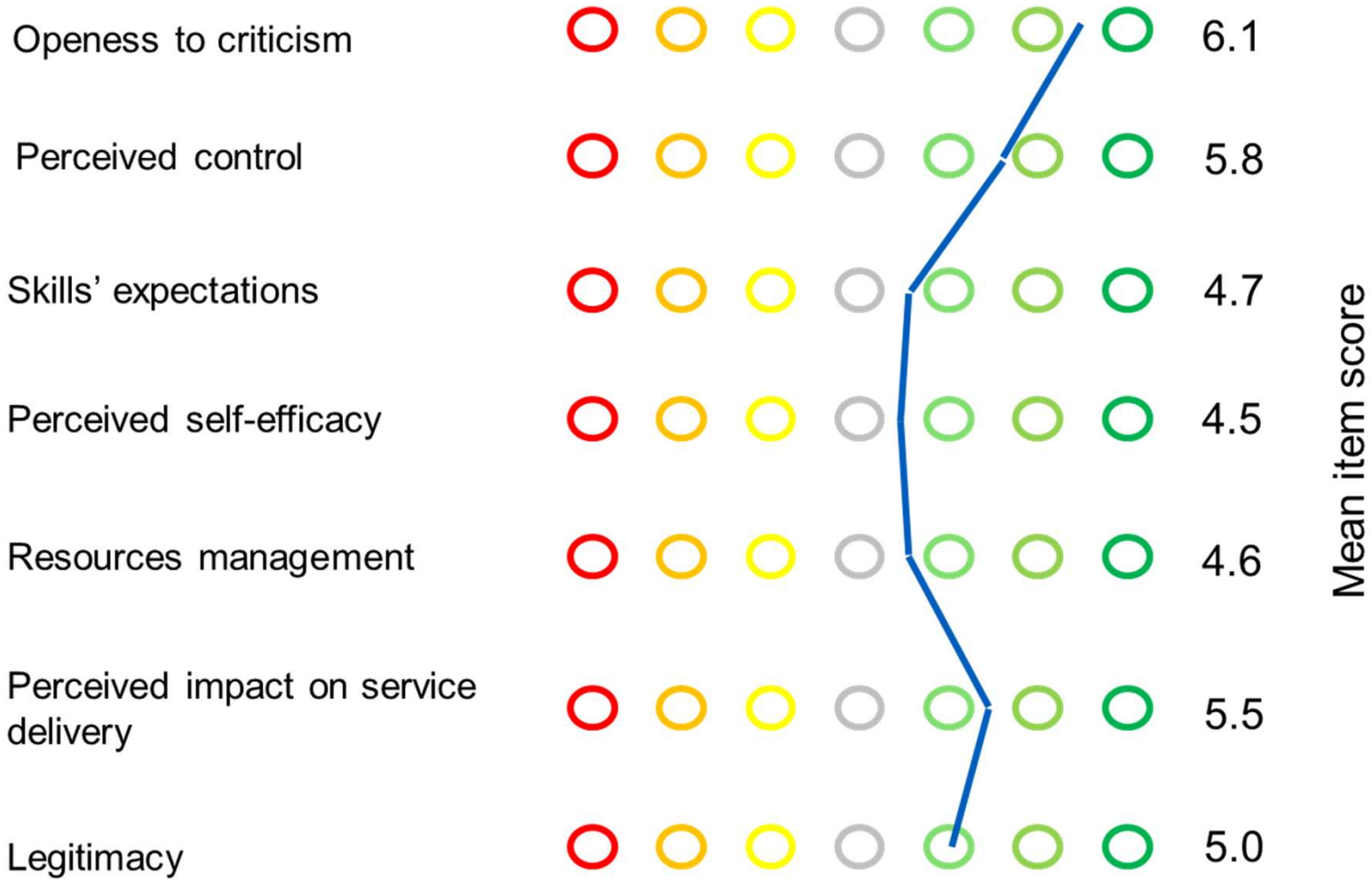
Seven dimensions to assess "evaluation culture"



- 1- Openness to criticism
- 2- Perceived control
- 3- Skills' expectations
- 4- Perceived self-efficacy
- 5- Resources management
- 6- Perceived impact on service delivery
- 7- Legitimacy



PRELIMINARY RESULTS



RESULTS

Evaluation is done when is a requirment for project funding

Different levels of process evaluation. "Small" activities are perceived as not requiring monitoring

No consistency on the methods used for process evaluation

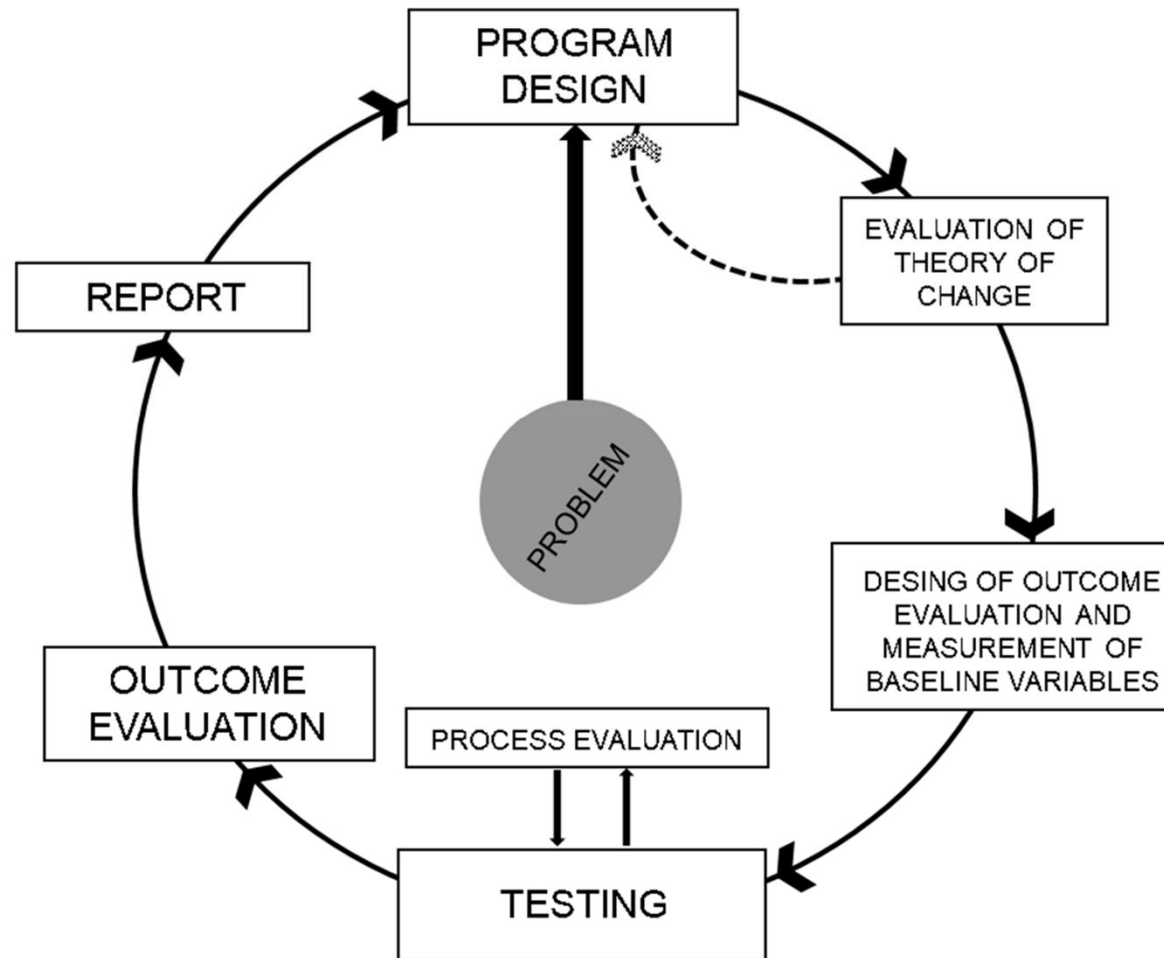
Outcome evaluation is sometimes obviated because of lack of time for planning

Outcome evaluation is sometimes obviated because of professionals don't know how to do it

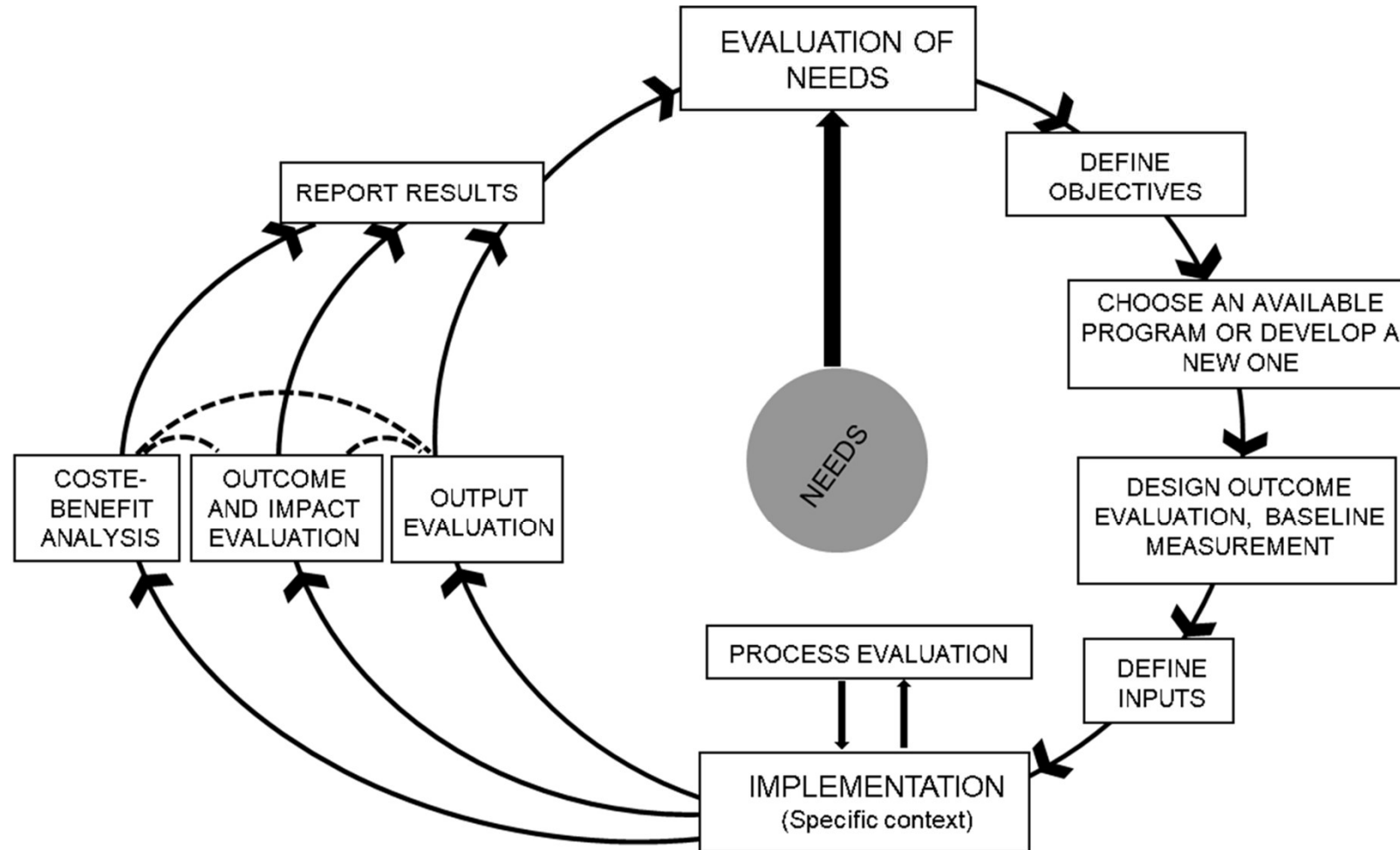
Outcome evaluation is not planned when it should

Sometimes outcome evaluation is done internally because is faster but is of bad quality because of lack of knowledge of methodology

Best practices – program development

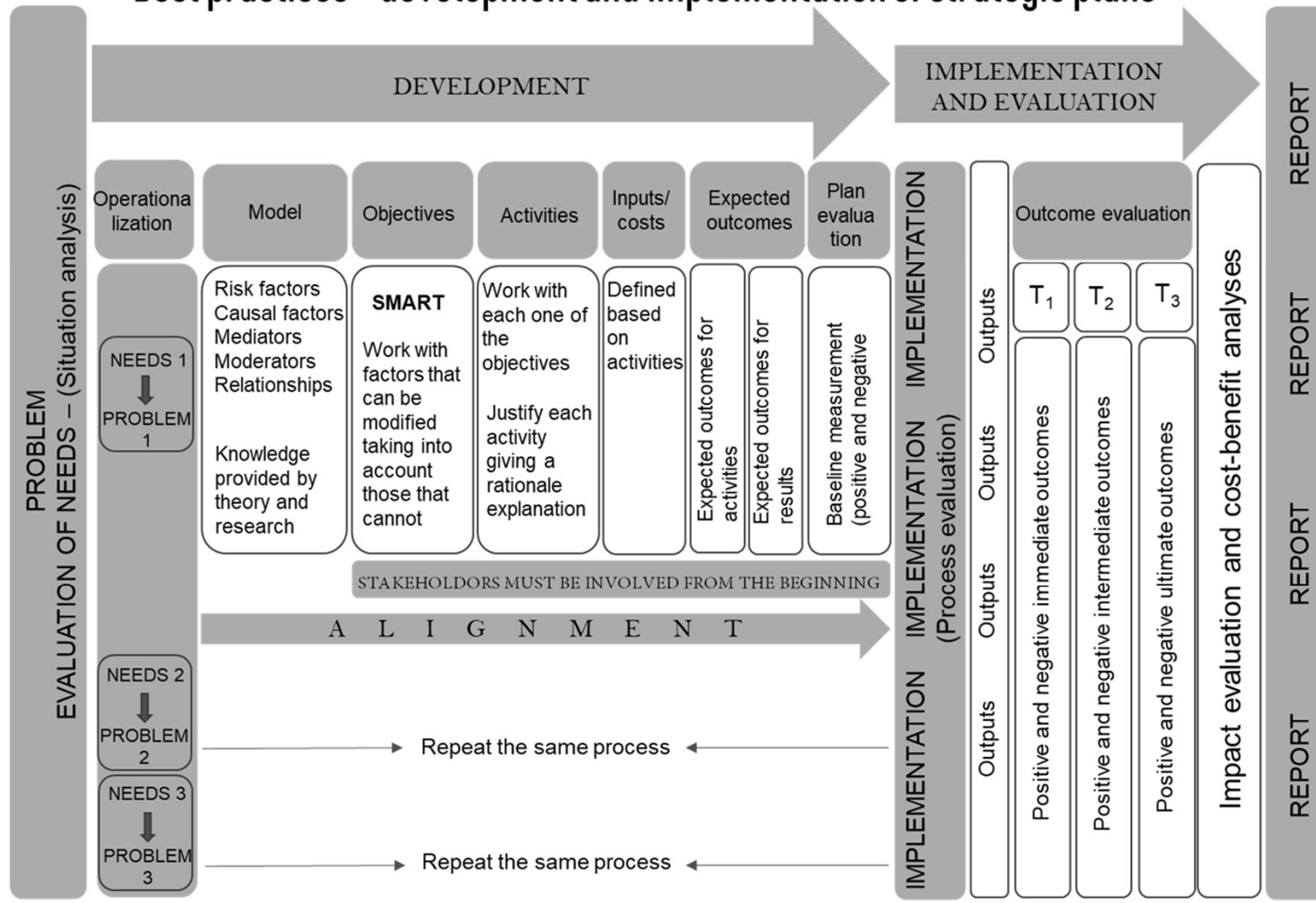


Best practices – program implementation





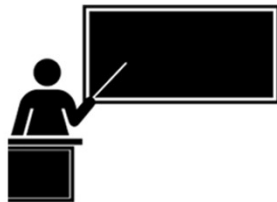
Best practices – development and implementation of strategic plans



RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE MS



Require evaluation - Rethink budgets



Promote the education of managers and practitioners – Develop evaluation culture



Identify groups of expert evaluators and promote collaboration with CP services



Eventually, hire experts in key organizations

THANK YOU

