

The 2020 – 2022 Evaluation Programme of the German Institute for Development Evaluation (DEval)

Thematic focuses, ongoing and scheduled evaluation projects

January 2020

The evaluations conducted by the German Institute for Development Evaluation are formalised by the multiannual and rolling evaluation programme, which is up-dated on a yearly basis. The information in the attached tables provides an overview of the ongoing evaluations and the evaluations scheduled to begin in 2020. The first table shows all ongoing evaluations from previous evaluation programmes, the second table outlines evaluations which (have already begun or will) begin in 2020 and the third part lists potential evaluation projects scheduled to begin in 2021 from previous consultation processes.

The consultation and planning process under the DEval Evaluation Programme:

The multiannual Evaluation Programme (German abbreviation MEP) serves as a medium-term strategic framework for DEval's core activity. In order to strengthen the relevance, legitimacy and process reliability of evaluations conducted by DEval, the institute engages in a systematic consultation process on programme content and thematic focuses over two or three years. In this consultation exercise, which is conducted each year before submission of the annual programme update for ministerial approval, representatives of the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) as well as members of the DEval Advisory Board are asked for their proposals. All proposals, along with inhouse ideas, are then assessed on the basis of the established evaluation criteria and examined for consistency with the agreed thematic focuses. There must also be an appropriate balance of different evaluation types. The planning process results in a DEval programme proposal, which is presented to the institute's Advisory Board and requires final ministerial approval.

The Advisory Board of the German Institute for Development Evaluation comprises members of the German parliament, academic scholars and representatives of civil-society organisations.

The 2020-2022 Evaluation Programme embraces three thematic focus areas with the aim of generating cross-cutting evaluation findings in highly relevant fields. The thematic focus on sustainability as a cross-cutting topic of development cooperation from the 2018-2020 Evaluation Programme was completed in 2019 after the publication of the corresponding focus report "Shaping sustainability. The 2030 Agenda in German development cooperation."

The current thematic focus areas are:

- 1) Instruments and structures of German development cooperation
- 2) Fragile states, peacebuilding and conflict prevention
- 3) Private sector engagement in development cooperation

Ongoing evaluations and evaluations scheduled for the period 2020 - 2022

PART I: Ongoing evaluations from previous Evaluation Programmes

PART II: Evaluations from the 2020-2022 Evaluation Programme to begin in 2020.

PART III: Potential evaluations from previous consultation processes to begin in 2021

PART I: Ongoing evaluations from previous Evaluation Programmes

Topic	Background and relevance of the evaluation according to DEval criteria (see annex)	Subject of the evaluation and current status	Thematic focus
Climate change adaptation	<p>Background: Germany has long been committed to supporting the climate protection and climate adaptation measures. In the context of German development cooperation, the promotion of climate adaptation measures are thus of utmost importance. The strategic relevance is supplemented by an evaluation gap, due to the fact that the climate adaptation measures have not yet been evaluated neither at a strategic nor at a cross-organisational level.</p> <p>Criteria: no. 1, no. 2, no. 4</p>	<p>Subject: portfolio analysis, analysis of strategic coherence and the effectiveness of instruments and measures which promote the adaptation to the climate change.</p> <p>Status (modular structure):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Portfolio and allocation analysis (reporting phase) 2) Instruments for dealing with residual climate risks (in progress) 3) Instruments and structures in key sectors of German development cooperation (in progress) 	Instruments and structures of German development cooperation
Synthesis study on the REDD+ forest and climate protection programme	<p>Background: The REDD+ (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation) forest and climate protection programme is the most important international programme designed to provide financial incentives to developing and newly industrialising countries to refrain from deforestation or to engage in reforestation and sustainable forest use. Germany has long been involved in</p>	<p>Subject: The impacts of the REDD+ programme, which is supported by German Development Cooperation, are controversial. As an increasing number of scientifically based evaluations and studies on REDD+ are available, DEval will evaluate the existing findings on important</p>	

	<p>REDD+ interventions, which are an essential instrument of climate protection. Against the background of this strategic relevance, the question of the significance and effectiveness of this instrument arises. The quite large number of existing studies and reports on REDD+ interventions has not yet provided an overall evaluation of Germany's contribution.</p> <p>Criteria: no. 1, no. 4</p>	<p>effectiveness issues of the German REDD+ activities in a summary synthesis evaluation.</p> <p>Status: reporting phase</p>	
Structured funds	<p>Background: high political relevance to assess instruments for mobilising additional private capital to finance the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), employment support, the development of local financial systems and capital markets.</p> <p>Criteria: no. 2, no. 3, no. 4</p>	<p>Subject: effectiveness of structured funds as an instrument of financial cooperation. Analysis of the function of risk sharing regarding the financial and developmental additionality and respective risks.</p> <p>Status: reporting phase</p>	Instruments and structures of German development cooperation; sustainability
German development cooperation from a partner perspective (Phase II)	<p>Background: high political and strategic relevance in the context of current and future performance of the German development cooperation system; by using a mixed-methods approach, perceptions by decision makers in developing countries concerning the performance of German development actors will be assessed systematically.</p> <p>Criteria: no. 1, no. 2, no. 4</p>	<p>Subject: This joint study between DEval and AidData is based on an international survey on experience-based perceptions of decision-makers in partner countries regarding the performance of German official development cooperation compared with other developing partners. The quantitative findings are complemented by case studies in selected developing countries.</p> <p>Status: reporting phase</p>	Instruments and structures of German development cooperation
Allocation Patterns of German Development Cooperation	<p>Background: Allocation patterns of German and international ODA are subject of the political, academic, and public debate. The debate revolves around the strategic question of how to focus ODA funds, the characteristics of developing and emerging countries that</p>	<p>Subject: The study examines the allocation of German ODA funds. It aims at identifying patterns and trends of aid allocation in the last two to three decades. More specifically, the study investigates the extent to which good political institutions, socio-economic needs, and other geo-strategic and economic characteristics of</p>	Structures and instruments of German development cooperation

	<p>influence allocation patterns, and the choice of funding channels and instruments.</p> <p>Criteria: no. 2; no. 4</p>	<p>developing and emerging countries influence German aid allocation. This includes an analysis of funding channels and instruments as well as spatial patterns of German development cooperation.</p> <p>Status: preparatory phase</p>	
<p>Effectiveness of German development cooperation in dealing with conflict-driven migration crises</p>	<p>Background: politically highly relevant topic for BMZ and the federal government as a whole. The transformation of short-term effective DC into structural DC as a central challenge for development policy in the coming years.</p> <p>Criteria: no. 1, no. 2, no. 3, no. 4</p>	<p>Subject: evaluation of German development interventions dealing with conflict-driven migration crises with a focus on the Partnership for Prospect (Employment) Initiative in the Middle East, success factors.</p> <p>Phase I: analysis of international evaluation literature on the linkage between humanitarian aid and long-term support in conflict-driven migration crises; BMZ / German development cooperation portfolio analysis and initial explorative field research</p> <p>Status: evaluation report published in 2018 (phase I)</p> <p>Phase II: in-depth analysis of the effectiveness of German development cooperation regarding conflict-driven migration crises by focusing on the government's Partnership for Prospect (Employment) initiative in the neighbouring countries of Syria, featuring two country case studies.</p> <p>Status: in progress (phase II)</p>	<p>Fragile states, peace building and conflict prevention as well as instruments and structures of German development cooperation</p>
<p>Trilateral cooperation in German development cooperation</p>	<p>Background: high political relevance to assess the strategic direction, efficiency, potentials and risks of this specific form of development cooperation with emerging countries for the benefit of third beneficiary countries.</p>	<p>Subject: increasing participation of emerging countries in development cooperation facilitates a new form of development cooperation by which the comparative advantages of emerging and industrial nations are combined to achieve better results. Apart from the</p>	<p>Instruments and structures of German development cooperation</p>

	Criteria: no. 2; no. 4	objective to improve the efficiency of programme activities, German development cooperation is also aiming at creating a common understanding of development policy with emerging countries and to open the dialogue about standard processes, criteria and values. Status: reporting phase	
Synthesis study on exit processes in development cooperation	Background: Germany is in the process of strategically re-positioning its development policy. One emphasis of this process is to make Germany's development cooperation more effective and create stronger incentives for partner countries by means of concentration and a more selective allocation of resources. Against the backdrop of the diverse landscape of Germany's development cooperation, this strategic re-orientation will necessitate concentration processes in terms of geography, instruments, and topics. This process will provide opportunities for increased effectiveness as well as substantial risks and therefore must be designed in a strategic and evidence-based manner. Criteria: no. 2, no. 4	Subject: systematic analysis of existing experience and evidence on how to organise the exit from areas of activity of development cooperation. This serves to identify lessons learned and to formulate recommendations on how concentration processes of Germany's development cooperation are to be selected, prepared, and organised in order to achieve their objectives while at the same time avoiding negative (side-)effects. Status: in progress	Structures and instruments of German development cooperation
Reform partnerships in German development cooperation - Final report, allocation study	Background: Reform partnerships are exemplary for the reorientation of German development policy. With reform partnerships, the BMZ aims to implement the Marshall Plan and Compact with Africa; thus of high political relevance (criterion 4). Implementation of the initial partnerships has only just begun. In view of the high relevance for overarching development policy strategies of BMZ, it is likely that this partnership approach will be applied in other partner countries in the near	Subject: Reform partnerships focus on enhanced cooperation with selected partner countries in Africa. Their aim is to improve the framework conditions for private investment thus increasing economic growth and employment. The prerequisite for stronger support from the BMZ is that partner countries adhere to principles of good governance and foster favourable framework conditions for the private sector. Since reform partnerships are a new approach of German development cooperation, the evaluation follows a	Structures and instruments of German development cooperation with reference to private sector engagement in development cooperation

	<p>future. Hence, the learning potential is very high (criterion 2).</p> <p>Criteria: No. 1, No. 2, No. 4</p>	<p>formative approach and focuses on learning aspects. The evaluation will generate findings and recommendations for future partnerships, both with regard to selection criteria and the design of reform partnerships. Furthermore, the evaluation findings will be fed, wherever possible, into the ongoing implementation processes of already existing partnerships in order to increase the probability of achieving the partnerships' objectives.</p> <p>Status: preparatory phase</p>	
<p>Evaluation Synthesis and Meta evaluation of the cooperation between development cooperation and private sector engagement</p>	<p>Background: The cooperation between development cooperation and actors of the private sector to achieve developmental objectives manifests itself in various forms. Instruments and programmes are applied in both, financial and technical cooperation and the development of new approaches in this thematic area has become an issue of strategic relevance. As a result, the increasing importance of this topic, the diversity of methods and instruments as well as the new forms of cooperation require a quality analysis of existing evaluations and further development of evaluation methods and standards in this field of development cooperation. Given the increasing importance of the topic, the existing evaluation evidence should be synthesised for strategic purposes.</p> <p>Criteria: no. 1, no. 2, no. 4</p>	<p>Subject: The main objective of this meta evaluation and evaluation synthesis is to assess the existing evaluations about the cooperation between German/international development cooperation and the private sector. To do so, German – and potentially also international – evaluations as well as rigorous impact studies about the cooperation with the private sector, will be considered. There are three main evaluation purposes: 1) to contribute to the quality assurance of German evaluations in this increasingly important area, 2) to further develop evaluation methods and standards in this field of development cooperation and 3) to create strategic evidence regarding the effectiveness of these approaches at the more aggregate level via an evaluation synthesis.</p> <p>Status: preparatory phase</p>	<p>Private sector engagement in development cooperation with reference to structures and instruments of German development cooperation</p>
<p>Sustainable economic development Myanmar</p>	<p>Background: Background: the objective of the first phase of the project (carried out in 2014-2015) was to create better preconditions for measuring impact on programme level within the context of the first bilateral programme after re-establishing the cooperation with Myanmar in the</p>	<p>Subject: Apart from the evaluation of the specific programme "sustainable economic development" in Myanmar, the evaluation addresses the issues of how to (a) improve the conditions for measuring impact of programmes of German development cooperation in the</p>	<p>Structures and instruments of German development cooperation; private</p>

	<p>area of sustainable economic development. On the basis of phase I and the exchange with the stakeholders involved, an evaluation of the programme will be carried out.</p> <p>Criteria: no. 2, no. 4</p>	<p>context of Agenda 2030 and (b) how to achieve a better integration of technical and financial cooperation.</p> <p>Status: preparatory phase</p>	<p>sector engagement in German development cooperation; fragile States, peace building and conflict prevention</p>
<p>Strategy evaluation "Human rights in German development cooperation"; final report, allocation study</p>	<p>Background: Human rights are a central guiding principle of German development cooperation. Within its human rights strategy, BMZ has formulated ambitious goals with regard to both respecting human rights when cooperating with state, civil-society, and private sector actors and regarding the active promotion of an improved human rights situation in partner countries. This encompasses using human rights as conditionalities for German development cooperation. At the same time, development cooperation increasingly faces context conditions that require adapting its human rights approach. These context conditions include (a) protracted crises often resulting in flight and migration, (b) stagnation or erosion of liberal democratic structures, (c) competition by new donors (esp. China) and (d) specific human rights challenges when cooperating with the private sector.</p> <p>Criteria: no. 1, no. 2, no. 3, no. 4</p>	<p>Subject: current state of the implementation of the human rights strategy in German development cooperation. This includes the analysis of the implementation of human rights-based conditionalities in ODA allocation. The analyses aim at supporting the constructive adaptation of the human rights approach. Apart from official state-level development cooperation, civil society and cooperations with the private sector will also be included in this strategy evaluation.</p> <p>Status: in progress (evaluation part I)</p>	<p>Instruments and structures of German development cooperation with reference to private-sector engagement in development cooperation</p>
<p>Attitudes of the general public towards development cooperation and sustainable development</p>	<p>Background: Issue of strategic relevance as the challenges based on global sustainable development as well as on public and media criticism of development cooperation, constantly require up-to-date empirical insights regarding relevant attitudes of the German population towards developmental issues. The two-year term study should contribute to strengthen the feedback loop between the German population and development policy makers and</p>	<p>Subject: The first edition of DEval's opinion monitor for development policy (phase I until 2018) provided German development policy makers with central findings about the attitudes and public opinion of the German population towards development policy, development cooperation, and sustainable development. During phase II the descriptive analysis of key indicators (support for development cooperation,</p>	<p>Stand alone with reference to several thematic focuses</p>

(phase II)	<p>provide orientational knowledge to improve both the drafting and communication of policies.</p> <p>Criteria: no. 1, no. 2, no. 4</p>	<p>efficiency assessment, civic engagement, etc.) will be continued. In addition, an in-depth analysis of some particular aspects will be conducted by focusing, inter alia, on development cooperation-related media consumption and content, the effects of (media) information on attitudes, citizens' expectations regarding development cooperation's sectoral focuses and impacts; as well as the question on how people assess effectiveness of development cooperation.</p> <p>Status: reporting phase</p>	
Institutional evaluation of Engagement Global	<p>Background: high political relevance of the engagement of civil society in development cooperation; assessment of the set-up and positioning of Engagement Global as a service provider supporting engagement of civil society in development cooperation.</p> <p>Criteria: no. 1, no. 2, no. 3, no. 4</p>	<p>Subject: benefits for target groups; set-up and effectiveness of Engagement Global; positioning of Engagement Global as a service provider supporting engagement of civil society in development cooperation; steering and governance.</p> <p>Status: reporting phase</p>	Instruments and structures of German development cooperation
Contribution of German development cooperation to gender equality in post-conflict contexts	<p>Background: high political relevance due to interlinkage between two particularly important cross-sectoral topics of German development cooperation; of high strategic interest, particularly in the context of the forthcoming revision of the Gender Action Plan and the National Action Plans to implement Resolution 1325.</p> <p>Criteria: no. 1, no. 4</p>	<p>Subject: gender mainstreaming in German development cooperation in contexts characterised by earlier violent conflicts.</p> <p>Status: in progress</p>	Fragile states, peace building and conflict prevention

Part II: Evaluations from the 2020-2022 Evaluation Programme to begin in 2020

Topic	Background and relevance of the evaluation according to DEval criteria (see annex)	Subject of the evaluation and current status	Thematic focus
Strategic evaluation of Germany's civil engagement in Iraq	<p>Background: As part of its crisis engagement in Iraq, the German federal government intends to further establish monitoring and evaluation as an important tool for learning and quality assurance, accountability and strategic steering. In this context, an interministerial evaluation of the engagement of the Federal Foreign Office (AA) and the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) in Iraq will be carried out.</p> <p>Criteria: No. 2, No. 3, No. 4</p>	<p>Subject: Comprehensive analysis and evaluation of the German civil engagement in Iraq. The evaluation focuses on the bi and multilateral programmes funded by both institutions in the areas of humanitarian aid, stabilisation, reconstruction and development cooperation in the period 2014-2019. In addition, intersections between the areas of engagement are examined. The evaluation will be conducted jointly with a consortium led by GFA.</p> <p>Status: preparatory phase</p>	Structures and instruments of German development cooperation
Evaluation of the promotion of protected areas by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)	<p>Background: The promotion of protected areas in developing countries by German development cooperation includes ecological, social and economic aspects. The evaluation of BMZ's promotion of protected areas is of high political relevance, especially in view of the discussions on the risks of this kind of intervention.</p> <p>Criteria: no. 2, no. 4</p>	<p>Subject: In accordance with a modern understanding of sustainability, this evaluation will focus on both intended and unintended effects, or their interlinkages regarding the promotion of protected areas in selected partner countries of German development cooperation. In addition to ecological aspects, a special focus will thus be placed on participation and development opportunities for the local population as well as on the observance of human rights.</p> <p>Status: expected to begin in the second half of 2020</p>	Fragile States, peace building and conflict prevention
The Promotion of Sustainable Supply Chains in German Development Cooperation	<p>Background: German development cooperation promotes sustainable supply chains through a broad mix of instruments on various levels (nationally, internationally and on the level of partner countries). Thus the cooperation</p>	<p>Subject: description and analysis of the portfolio for promoting sustainable supply chains in German development cooperation; evaluation of a) impacts (also unintended) of the promotion of supply chains in the most important sectors (textiles, agriculture, forest); b)</p>	Private sector engagement in development cooperation

	<p>with the private sector as part of this mix becomes increasingly important while at the same time the significance of sustainability aspects (socially, economically, ecologically) and the compliance with human rights-based due diligence by companies is also increasing. In addition to the economic objectives, the evaluation will provide information on how and to what extent this mix of instruments is suitable for generating benefits for the target groups of German development cooperation. It will also be analysed if the mix can ensure and promote the compliance with environmental and social standards by development cooperation and companies.</p> <p>Criteria: no. 2,3, and 4</p>	<p>compliance and promotion of human rights-based due diligence by development cooperation and companies; c) sensitisation of companies regarding development-related aspects. The evaluation will also include case studies in partner countries with a focus on promoting supply chains. Analysis of relevance, effectivity and sustainability of the mix of instruments.</p> <p>Status: preparatory phase</p>	
Meta-evaluation and synthesis evaluation of the quality of project evaluations	<p>Background: The high importance of project evaluations in German development cooperation requires regular and cross-organisational quality assurance in order to guarantee learning as well as accountability from evaluation and to ensure methods and to develop standards of project evaluation. In addition, cross-organisational evaluation syntheses serve as an important tool for generating aggregated findings on the effectiveness of German development cooperation.</p> <p>Criteria: no. 1, no. 2, no. 3, no. 4</p>	<p>Subject: The subject of the meta-evaluation is a cross-organisational analysis of the quality of project evaluations in Germany's development cooperation systems as well as the synthesis of evaluation results in selected areas. The analysis includes both findings from project evaluations of implementing organisations as well as civil society organisations.</p> <p>Status: expected to begin in the second half of 2020</p>	Structures and instruments of German development cooperation
Attitudes of the general public towards development	<p>Background: issue of strategic relevance as the challenges of global sustainable development as well as public and media criticism of development cooperation continuously require up-to-date empirical insights on relevant attitudes</p>	<p>Subject: With the first edition of the DEval development policy opinion monitor (phase I until 2018), German development policy makers were provided with basic data on the attitudes and public opinion of the</p>	Stand-alone with reference to several thematic focuses

<p>cooperation and sustainable development (phase III)</p>	<p>of the German population towards development policy issues; the study is intended to strengthen the feedback loop between the German population and development policy makers in a two-year cycle and aims at providing orientation knowledge for more effective policy design and communication.</p> <p>Criteria: No. 1, No. 2, No. 4</p>	<p>population of Germany regarding development policy, development cooperation and sustainable development. In phase II, the descriptive analysis of key indicators (support for development cooperation, effectiveness assessment) was updated and the topics of media reporting, expectations of the population on development policy, effectiveness of development cooperation from the perspective of the German population, and the effects of moral appeals on the attitudes of the population were examined in depth. In phase III, key indicators will be again updated. In addition, current key issues that are yet to be determined are dealt with (e.g., the link between consumption and sustainable development; attitudes towards development cooperation as a means to combat climate change).</p> <p>Status: preparatory phase (expected to begin in 1st quarter of 2021)</p>	
<p>Local development cooperation: Evaluation of the "Service Agency Communities in One World"</p>	<p>Background: The relevance of cities and municipalities for German development cooperation and the implementation of Agenda 2030 has steadily increased in recent years. This is also reflected in the newly-established title on the "Support of local development engagement" in the German federal budget. An overarching evaluation of local development policy is still lacking</p> <p>Criteria: no. 1, no. 2, no. 4</p>	<p>Subject: The evaluation will focus on the "Service Agency Communities in One World" (SKEW), which is part of Engagement Global. It will examine its support and assistance activities for local municipalities in Germany engaged in development policy and their partner municipalities in the Global South. Questions concerning the relevance and coherence of the portfolio of SKEW as well as selected assumptions concerning the effectiveness of local development policy are at the centre of the evaluation.</p> <p>Status: expected to begin in the second half of 2020</p>	<p>Structures and instruments of German development cooperation</p>

<p>Focus report "Fragility, Crisis Prevention, and Peacebuilding".</p>	<p>Background: Fragility, crisis prevention, and peace building are of high relevance for development cooperation as state fragility and violent conflicts are central barriers to sustainable development. Consequently, crisis prevention and peace building are priorities of German development cooperation. Fragile contexts place high demands on the planning, implementation, and evaluation of development cooperation. The focus report contributes to reflecting and further developing the evaluation of development cooperation in fragile contexts.</p> <p>Criteria: no 2, 3, and 4</p>	<p>Subject: This report synthesises evidence from DEval evaluations and other sources of evidence regarding the current thematic focus. External contributions from leading experts in the area will be added. The report focuses on the implementation of development cooperation in fragile contexts and underlying strategies. Furthermore, challenges for evaluations in fragile contexts will be identified.</p> <p>Status: preparatory phase</p>	<p>Fragile states, peace-building and conflict prevention</p>
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Part III: Potential evaluation projects from previous consultation processes scheduled to begin in 2021

(to be re-examined in the 2021-2023 consultation process)

- Evaluation of financial cooperation instruments
- Evaluation of the "Perspektive Heimat" programme for returnees
- Evaluation of the implementation of anti-corruption measures as a cross-sectoral issue of development cooperation (if required, including the promotion of courts of auditors)
- Evaluability of the effectiveness of regional projects compared to bilateral projects
- Evaluation of the effectiveness of decentralisation projects in Africa
- Evaluation of the effectiveness of poverty reduction in fragile contexts

Annex: Explanation of the evaluation criteria

There is a two-step assessment process to identify an evaluation project for inclusion in the multiannual Evaluation Programme.

First, the project content is considered against the following inclusion criteria to determine acceptance for the Evaluation Programme:

1. Coverage: evaluation density in relation to the overall scope of the German development cooperation portfolio.
2. Innovation and learning potential: availability of empirically sound knowledge of effectiveness, especially with a view to future engagement
3. Risk: probability or existence of concrete risks of any sort
4. Strategic and political relevance: advisory or decision-making requirements (on the part) of BMZ and/or political importance: high policy visibility of the field to be evaluated.

Further selection criteria are evaluability, efficiency and coherence of the potential evaluation projects:

- Evaluability refers to the logistical, methodological and financial feasibility of the evaluation project (mainly with DEval's own human resources).
- Efficiency refers to the question whether an evaluation is the best and most cost-effective way of meeting the respective information and knowledge needs.
- Coherence refers to the coherence of the evaluation programme by taking into account the current thematic focus.