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EPATEE



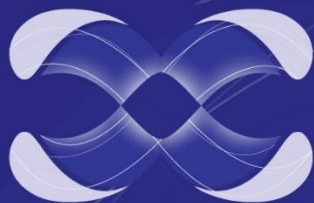
Is there still time for evaluation? A review of good practices to integrate evaluation into the policy cycle

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**ENERGY
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2021 Virtual Conference

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Formerly



Accelerating the energy transition for all: Evaluation's role in effective policy making





- EU-funded project (Hoziron 2020 programme), 10 partners from 8 countries
- 2017-2019 → website and resources still available!

OBJECTIVE: creating favourable conditions for improving the number, quality/performance and effective use of ex-post impact evaluations of energy efficiency policies.

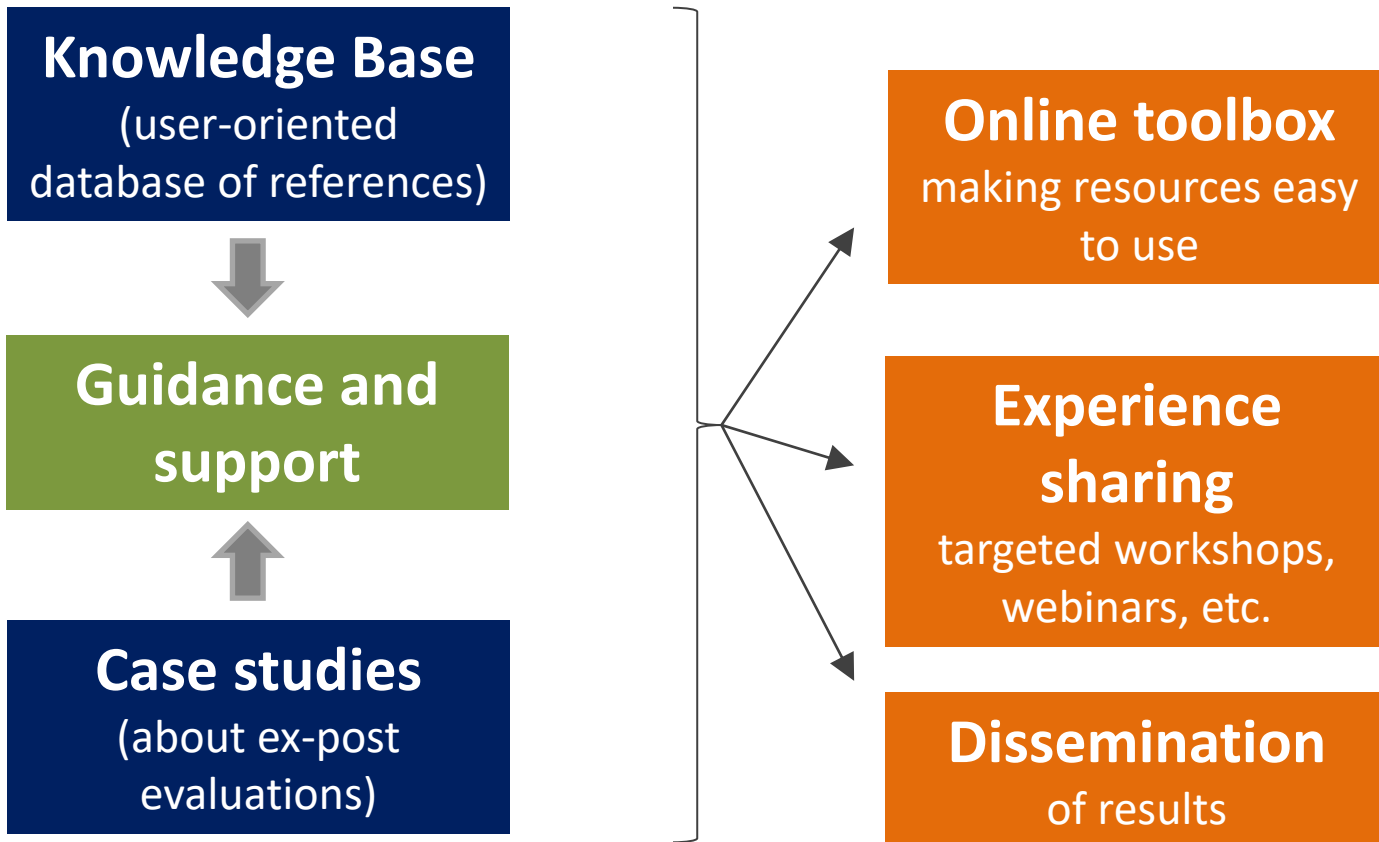
CONCEPT: improving key stakeholders' evaluation practices can lead to a better understanding/knowledge of impacts and how policies work, and thereby to increasing effectiveness of policies





Building resources based on up-to-date knowledge and concrete experience feedback

Creating the conditions for an effective use of these resources





REMEMBER M&E INFORMATION IS USEFUL
ONLY IF IT IS USED!

- 1) Doing evaluation is not all about data and methods: it's also about making that evaluation results are **useful** (e.g., timing) and **used**
- 2) Evaluation is more than the last step of the policy cycle



“Through evaluation we can address several issues in the policy cycle, such as how a policy has been implemented, who, how and why has it been affected, if savings have been achieved and determine where it needs to be adapted, continued or ended.”

“Evaluation should follow the whole policy cycle and be used in the planning as well as in the controlling (results) of the policy. Systems that incorporate this comprehensive approach seem to be more successful.”

“During the design of a policy, an evaluation advisor should be present to ensure a good ex-post evaluation (e.g. if the data collection is not well designed it is somewhat very difficult to evaluate the policy or at a large cost - which is somehow the reason for a lack of evaluation), the design should be ‘evaluation-friendly’ .”

[EPATEE 1st survey](#)

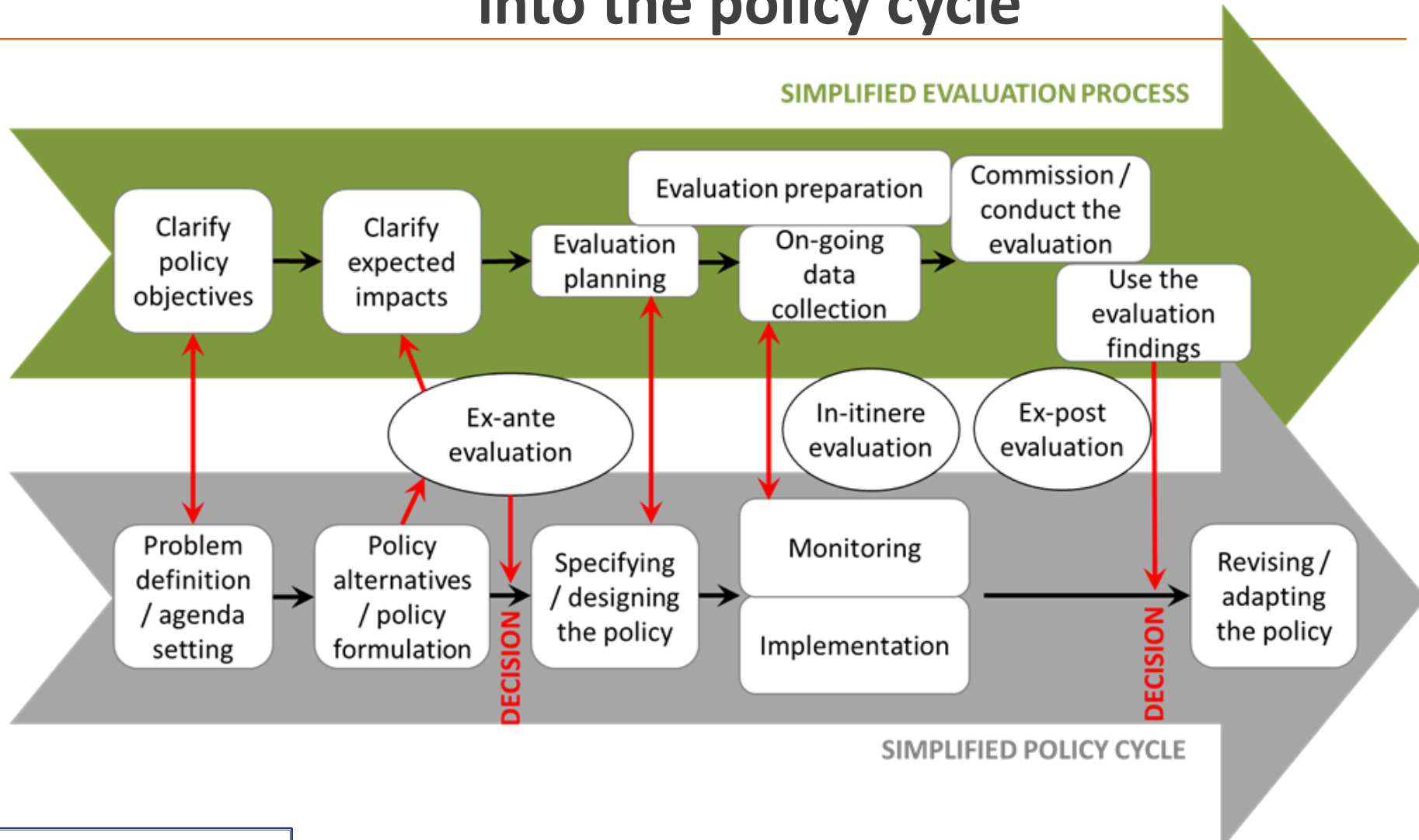


*What inputs should policy developments provide to evaluation?
(+ when and how?)*



*What inputs should evaluation provide to policy making?
(+ when and how?)*

Integrating evaluation into the policy cycle



[Dedicated report](#)

Political will (top-management commitment)

Examples of barriers:

Lack of interest, fear of the results, evaluation not always needed, turnover in the policymakers

Resource allocation (time, people, budget)

Examples of barriers:

Lack of dedicated budget, lack of time to be involved or involve people in the evaluation process

Evaluation planning and preparation

Examples of barriers:

Difficulties to match timeframe for evaluation and timeframe for decision processes

Communication and mutual understanding

Examples of barriers:

differences in the cultures or habits between decisional level and operational or technical level

Political will
(top-
management
commitment)

- ✓ **Clarify expectations:** what evaluation can bring and how it can be used
- ✓ Analyse **how evaluation can fit in** the current policy framework and processes
- ✓ **Mandatory provisions** for evaluation

Resource allocation (time,
people, budget)

- ✓ **Discuss evaluation means** when deciding the budget for the policy measure
- ✓ Define **criteria to assess the needs** in evaluation means

Examples about Communication and mutual understanding

SHORT-TERM ACTIONS	Purpose(s)
<p>Make sure the right contacts are identified for each party to be involved</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure an easy communication along the evaluation process
<p>Clarify the evaluation objectives, and organise a feedback loop (when relevant)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure a shared understanding of the evaluation objectives (and thereby realistic expectations)
<p>Facilitate exchanges between policymakers, practitioners/implementers and analysts/evaluators</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain regular contacts between the evaluation team and evaluation recipients • Ensure a mutual understanding • Take into account differences in viewpoints • Foster closer collaboration between policymakers & officers and analysts & evaluators)
MEDIUM-TERM ACTIONS	Purpose(s)
<p>Maintain an updated list of contacts from the different services and bodies involved in the different stages of the policy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain regular contacts • Facilitate an easy communication • Avoid missing or outdated links in the communication loops
<p>Facilitate capacity building and experience sharing about evaluation issues (e.g., targeted workshops or trainings; technical briefs; testimonies about past evaluations)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase awareness and knowledge about evaluation

Looking forward to the discussion !

The paper:

Broc, J.S., Oikonomou, V., Dragovic, M. (2021). [Is there still time for evaluation? A review of good practices to integrate evaluation into the policy cycle](#). Proceedings of Energy Evaluation Europe 2021.

The full report:

Broc, J.S., Oikonomou, V., Dragovic, M., 2019b. [Guidelines on how to integrate evaluation into the policy cycle](#). Deliverable D4.2 of the EPATEE project, February 2019.

Other references on this topic:

Broc, J., Bourges, B., Adnot, J., 2007. [Evaluation as a "Learning-by-Doing" Tool for the Implementation of Local Energy Efficiency Activities](#). Proceedings of IEPEC 2007.

Giorgi, S., 2017. [How to improve the evaluation of complex systems to better inform policymaking – Learning from evaluating Defra's Reward & Recognition Fund](#). Fellowship Report, July 2017.

Peters, J., Baggett, S., Gonzales, P., DeCotis, P., Bronfman, B., 2007. [How organizations implement evaluation results](#). Proceedings of IEPEC 2007.

Vine, E., 2008. [Strategies and policies for improving energy efficiency programs: Closing the loop between evaluation and implementation](#). *Energy Policy*, 36(10), 3872-3881.

Zoom on the evaluation planning/preparation stage

