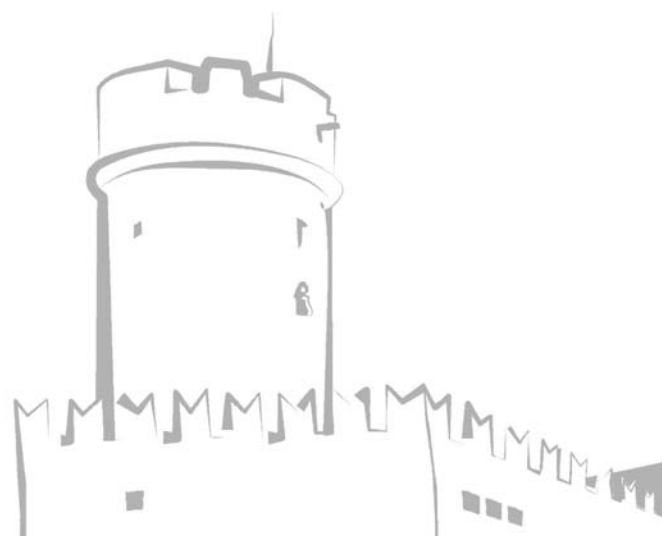


**EVALUATION AS A TOOL FOR LOCAL DEVELOPMENT
STRATEGY BUILDING**
A capacity building seminar
Trento, Italy 10-12 July 2006

Programme and Background Information





Rationale

As a response to the demand for support for local development evaluations from local development professionals in Central, East and South East European countries, the LEED Programme of the OECD and its Trento Centre will be holding a two-day capacity building seminar on evaluation. The seminar will focus on how policy makers and practitioners can use evaluation to better design and deliver local development strategies. The event will take place on 10-12 July, 2006 in Trento, Italy.

The seminar will bring together policy makers, practitioners and evaluation experts to discuss i) how to best introduce and implement prior assessment evaluation so that it serves as a tool for local strategy design and delivery, and ii) how to best support the actors at the local level so that evaluation becomes an opportunity for learning and stops being perceived as a threat.

Objectives of the seminar

1. Improve understanding of the objectives and benefits of evaluations of local development strategies, leading to strengthening of the evaluation culture.
2. Increase the use of the prior assessment in the process of local development strategy building, leading to better strategies, more effective spending of available resources and improved success.
3. Identify the specific obstacles faced in the Central, East and South East European countries when introducing more and better local development evaluations and recommend how to overcome them.

The learning outcomes

The seminar participants will learn the benefits of prior assessments:

1. How to best undertake prior assessments. Core principles of good prior assessments.
2. How to assess the expected impacts. How to establish the baseline in a feasible way.
3. How to effectively use the prior assessment results.
4. How to decide who should undertake the evaluation and how evaluation should be best managed.
5. How to involve partners and stakeholders so that evaluation is not seen as a threat for the strategy owners and developers.
6. How to introduce and implement prior assessment as an opportunity for wider communication on the strategy's objectives.
7. How to involve all relevant stakeholders and introduce the prior assessment as an opportunity for assuming wide strategy ownership as one of the crucial factors for the strategy delivery and success.



DAY ONE, Monday 10 July 2006

- 14.30-15.00** **Welcome and Opening remarks**
- Objectives of the seminar
- OECD*
- 15.00-15.15** **What is prior assessment and why is it important?**
- Short introduction*
- Mike Geddes, University of Warwick, Warwick Business School, UK*
- 15.15-16.00** **Needs Assessment**
- Lecture*
- Paul Lawless, Sheffield Hallam University, Centre for Regional Economic and Social Research, UK*
- 16.00-16.30** *Coffee break*
- 16.30-18.00** **Working session 1**
- Benefits of prior assessment*
- Work in small working groups facilitated by speakers and OECD experts
- “You and prior assessment –Why to do prior assessment”*
- a) Discussion on how the participants view the benefits of prior assessment. Is there a practice of prior assessment? Where is most support needed? What are the weaknesses and strengths in the current practice of prior assessment?
- b) Second part of the working session will be devoted to work on establishing needs, setting baseline, SWOT, i.e., the first stage of a prior assessment.
- 18.00 - 18.30** **Presentations by the rapporteurs**
- Plenary Discussion*
- 18.30** **Conclusions of the day**
- 18.45** **Reception at the Trento Centre**



DAY TWO, Tuesday 11 July 2006

- 9.30-10.15** **Setting objectives of the LD strategy**
- Lecture*
- Ville Valovirta, Net Effect Ltd, Helsinki, Finland*
- 10.15-10.45** **Devising and selecting policy options**
- Lecture*
- Paul Lawless, Sheffield Hallam University, Centre for Regional Economic and Social Research, UK*
- 10.45-11.15** *Coffee break*
- 11.15-12.45** **Working session no. 2**
- Key elements of prior assessment*
- Work in small working groups facilitated by speakers and OECD experts
- “What is a good prior assessment”*
- Key elements of prior assessment: a) Setting objectives; b) Selecting options; c) Assessing impact.
- 12.45-14.15** *Lunch at Chiesa Restaurant*
- 14.15-15.00** **Assessing the impact of selected interventions**
- Lecture*
- Neil MacCallum, OffPAT London, Project Advice and Training, UK*
- 15.00-16.00** **Case studies**
- 16.00-16.30** *Coffee break*
- 16.30-17.30** **Presentations of the morning workshops’ results**
- Plenary discussion on the case studies and assignment work*
- 17.30-18.00** **Conclusions of the day**
- 19.00** **Dinner at the Pergine Castle Restaurant**



DAY THREE, Wednesday 12 July 2006

9.00-9.45 Managing evaluations

Setting up an Evaluation Framework: using pre-assessment results, establishing an implementation plan

Lecture

Mike Geddes, University of Warwick, Warwick Business School, UK

9.45-10.30 Working session no 3

Devising an evaluation specification

Work in 3 working groups facilitated by speakers and OECD experts

“What to do to achieve effective prior assessment”

How to prepare an evaluation specification for defined project (provided in the training materials).

10.30-11.00 Coffee break

11.00-12.00 Working session no 4

Drafting an evaluation plan

Work in 3 working groups facilitated by speakers and OECD experts

“How to do a prior assessment”

Setting out an evaluation plan and evaluation framework (methods, tools, resources, systems, information collection). How to draft an evaluation plan based on evaluation specification from Working session 3.

12.00-13.00 Presentations by the rapporteurs

Plenary Discussions

Closing Remarks

Lunch at the Trento Centre



Practical information

Working Language

The working language of the seminar will be English.

Seminar location

The seminar will take place at the premises of the
OECD LEED Trento Centre
Vicolo San Marco,1
38100 Trento – ITALY

Cost of Participation

The following costs of participation are covered by the OECD LEED Trento Centre:

- Tuition fee and training materials.
- Meals and social events

Please note that, unfortunately, the OECD is not in a position to cover participants' travel and accommodation costs or medical care and insurance during their stay in Italy.

Hotel Accommodation

Participants are responsible for their hotel booking.

Bookings should be made directly with the hotel and a credit card is required to hold your room. The selected participants will be asked to confirm their participation by providing us with their confirmed travel and accommodation arrangements by 22 June 2006.

In the here listed hotels you will find pre-booked rooms when referring to the OECD Evaluation Seminar.

Kindly note that the rates indicated are not guaranteed and are subject to change without notice. These rates are estimates for bookings made within June 2006.

Further information on breakfast and taxes should be obtained directly from the hotel.

Hotel Accademia Vicolo Colico, 4/6, 38100 Trento Tel.: +39 0461 233600 Fax: +39 0461 230174 E-mail: info@accademiahotel.it http://www.accademiahotel.it	Single room: 77 EUR Double room, single use: 110 EUR Double room:
Hotel Albermonaco Via Torre d' Augusto 25, 38100 Trento Tel.: +39 0461 983060 Fax: +39 0461 983681 E-mail: info@albermonaco.it http://www.info@albermonaco.it	Single room: 58 EUR Double room, single use: 90 EUR Double room:
Hotel America Via Torre Verde 52, 38100 Trento Tel: +39 0461 983010 Fax: +39 0461 230603 E-mail: info@hotellamerica.it http://www.hotellamerica.it	Single room: 60 EUR Double room, single use: 96 EUR Double room:
Hotel Aquila D'Oro Via Belenzani, 76, 38100 Trento Tel: +39 0461/986282 Fax: +39 0461986292 E-mail: info@aquiladoro.it http://www.aquiladoro.it	Single room: 65 EUR Double room, single use: 98 EUR Double room:
Hotel Everest Corso Alpini, 14, 38100 Trento Tel.: +39 0461 825300 Fax: +39 0461 824527 E-Mail: info@hoteleverest.it http://www.hoteleverest.it	Single room: NA Double room, single use: 94 EUR Double room:
Hotel Venezia Piazza Duomo, 45, 38100 Trento Tel.: +39 0461 234559 Fax: +39 0461 234114 E-mail: info@hotelveneziatn.it	Single room: 45 EUR Double room, single use: 65 EUR Double room:



Social Event

For each day of the seminar some social events have been planned:

On Monday 10, at 19.00. Welcoming Cocktail in the courtyard of our spacious antique Augustinian Monastery from the XIII century (Trento Centre premises).

On Tuesday 11, at 12.45. Lunch at the Chiesa Restaurant, a typical Trentino restaurant situated in the natural park bordering the Trento Centre.

Address: Chiesa Restaurant
Trento - Parco S. Marco
Tel 0461 23 87 66
Fax 0461 98 61 69

On Tuesday 11, at 19.00. Dinner at the Pergine Castle, a medieval edifice of the XIII century located in one of the richest valleys of Trentino. The Trento Centre will be pleased to provide the participants with a transportation service to the location. The meeting point will be communicated during the seminar.

Address: Castel Pergine
Via al castello 10
I-38057 Pergine Valsugana
Tel: 0039 / 0461 53 11 58
Fax: 0039 / 0461 53 13 29

On Wednesday 12, at 13.00. Farewell buffet at the Trento Centre.

Contact Details:

For further information, please contact:

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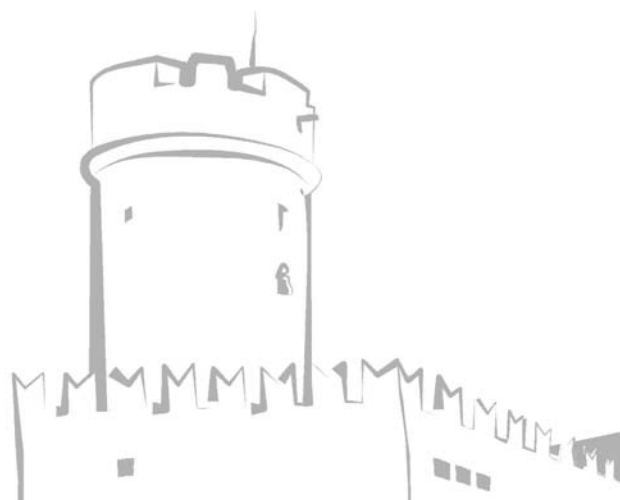
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