



The Spanish Agency
for the Evaluation of Public Policies
and Quality of Services

**EVALUATING PUBLIC POLICIES
PERFORMED UNDER PUBLIC-PRIVATE COLLABORATION
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Evaluating public policies performed under public-private collaboration

- The expansion of public-private collaborations recalls two questions:
 - The role of the public sector
 - The rationale for the collaboration with the private sector for carrying out public policies and delivering public services
 - Evaluation is relevant in this area:
 - Market type mechanisms can improve efficiency, but this cannot be taken for granted
 - Citizens make the government responsible for public services and regulated activities
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- An instrument of good governance, in tune with the principles of effectiveness, accountability, openness, participation and coherence
 - Provides useful information and encourages action to improve performance
 - Covers from the evaluation of public services to the evaluation of public policies
 - Follows three lines of action:
 - Carrying out evaluations, including those commissioned annually by the Council of Ministers
 - Elaboration, promotion and dissemination of methodological guidelines
 - Impulse and promotion of the evaluation culture, issuing quality certifications and spreading good practices
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Aspects to pay special attention in the evaluation of public-private collaborations

- Understanding the intervention logic of public-private collaborations: Specific objectives (costs, time, risk transfer, spill-overs, building networks...), strengths versus alternatives, and selection of private partners (economic, social and sustainability aspects)
 - Key issues to address in the evaluation questions: Value for money, contract design (transaction costs, incentives in a context of asymmetric information)
 - Quality and satisfaction aspects: perceived quality, standards, indicators and incentives
 - Collection and comparison of performance monitoring information
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Further considerations in the evaluation of public-private collaborations in Spain

Within the general approach to the institutionalisation of evaluation

- Specific features in different sectors and different types of collaborations
 - Diverse institutional arrangements in a decentralised model. Co-operation is essential
 - Going forward (with some leaders) from monitoring to evaluation, focusing on learning and accountability
 - Challenges regarding the use of the evaluation results, cultural change and budgetary aspects in a long-term vision
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