

Annual evaluation plan of Poland's development cooperation in 2016

In 2016, the MFA will assess Polish development assistance activities in selected countries of East Africa and the Middle East. The objective will be to analyse the efficiency, utility, effectiveness, sustainability and relevance of assistance from the budgetary reserve for development cooperation.

It will be the last evaluation focusing on the initiatives stemming from the **Multiannual Development Cooperation Programme 2012-2015**, and the first exercise which will cover the entire programming period. Conclusions and recommendations will flow into the planning, implementing and managing of tasks in the 2016-20 period.

1. Schedule

- *October 2015*: 2016 Annual Evaluation Plan is approved
- *October-December 2015*: detailed evaluation concept is drafted
- *January 2016*: tender procedure begins (in cooperation with the Public Procurement Division of Director General's Office)
- *April-August 2016*: the evaluation process
- *September 2016*: results are summed up and preparations for implementing recommendations begin

2. Evaluation activities

Assessment of the implementation of Polish projects under the **Multiannual Development Cooperation Programme 2012-2015 conducted** by administration bodies, non-governmental organisations and scientific centres.

Scope of examination

The Department of Development Cooperation will submit for analysis **projects benefitting East Africa and the Middle East, carried out in Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania and Palestine.**

In 2012-13, support for sustainable development covered three priorities in every region. These were as follows for the respective regions: East Africa: 1) education, and vocational and social empowerment, 2) environmental protection, 3) health care; the Middle East: 1) education, 2) water and sanitation, 3) SMEs and job creation.

In all these countries, the Polish MFA is directly involved in development initiatives, as well as together with external partners. Diplomatic missions provided support through the small grants system.

As part of the **Polish Aid Volunteering Programme**, the MFA supports direct engagement of Polish citizens in assisting residents of developing countries, including

East Africa and Palestine, and raises Polish society's awareness of the problems these countries face.

The evaluation will cover initiatives carried out on the basis of annual plans for 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015; a total of 86 projects for Ethiopia, Kenya and Tanzania, and 40 projects for Palestine. Most of the projects have been implemented by Polish NGOs and diplomatic missions, in cooperation with local partners.

Justification of implementation

Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, and Palestine belong to a group of countries where Poland's development assistance has been present for many years. They were among priority countries of the Multiannual Development Cooperation Programme 2012-2015. This is also the case in the new multiannual scheme for 2016-20.

The analysis of projects carried out in the countries in question aims to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of Polish initiatives in East Africa and the Middle East. Planning bilateral aid more strategically and at the same time taking advantage of the multilateral mechanisms and opportunities offered by the participation in the joint EU programming for Africa, Poland could secure better cooperation with partners, become more visible in development activities, and better exploit the opportunities offered by development cooperation.

3. Implementation method

External evaluation

4. Total planned cost

PLN 400,000

5. Measures helping to build evaluation potential

Apart from evaluation surveys in 2016, further activities contributing to building evaluation capacity will also be undertaken in the field of development cooperation.

The Department of Development Cooperation will share knowledge and information on the evaluation of assistance, in particular by preparing and publishing materials on evaluation activities (results, progress, and planning), including information on the implementation the recommendations. The Department will also be expanding a dedicated evaluation tab at www.polskapomoc.gov.pl. Moreover, plans are afoot to draft a comprehensive summary of the conclusions from the evaluation of annual plans arising from the Multiannual Development Cooperation Programme 2012-2015.