

Quality Assessment for Evaluation Final Report

DG/Unit	AGRI C.4
Official(s) managing the evaluation:	Stefano Cinti
Evaluator:	Alliance Environnement
Assessment carried out by(*):	
Steering group	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> [x]
Evaluation Function	<input type="checkbox"/> []
Other (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/> []
(*) Multiple crosses possible	
Date of assessment	2.12.2020

CHECKLIST – Quality Assessment for Final Evaluation Reports

Objective of the assessment	Aspects to be assessed	Fulfilled? Y, N, N/A	Comments
1. Scope of evaluation	Confirm with the Terms of Reference and the work plan that the contractor :		
	a. Has addressed the evaluation issues and specific questions	Y	
	b. Has undertaken the tasks described in the work plan	Y	
	c. Has covered the requested scope for time period, geographical areas, target groups, aspects of the intervention, etc.	Y	The evaluation covers the requested scope
2. Overall contents of report	Check that the report includes:		
	a. Executive Summary according to an agreed format, in the three required languages (minimum EN and FR)	Y	Executive summary in EN and FR
	b. Main report with required components <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Title and Content Page ▪ A description of the policy being evaluated, its context, the purpose of the evaluation, contextual limitations, methodology, etc. ▪ Findings, conclusions, and judgments for all evaluation issues and specific questions ▪ The required outputs and deliverables ▪ Recommendations as appropriate 	Y	
	c. All required annexes	Y	
3. Data collection	Check that data is accurate and complete		
	a. Data is accurate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Data is free from factual and logical errors ▪ The report is consistent, i.e. no contradictions ▪ Calculations are correct 	Y	
	b. Data is complete <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Relevant literature and previous studies have been sufficiently reviewed ▪ Existing monitoring data has been appropriately used ▪ Limitations to the data retrieved are pointed out and explained. ▪ Correcting measures have been taken to address any problems encountered in the process of data gathering 	Y	The data collected are fit for the purpose of this evaluation and the relevant limitations are well explained. Data on the adoption of soil-relevant practices and innovations were limited. A questionnaire survey on innovations was sent to farm advisors but the number of responses received did not provide robust and representative results reflecting the situation in the case-study areas. Literature sources are comprehensive.

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4. Analysis and judgments	Check that analysis is sound and relevant		
	a. Analytical framework is sound	Y	<p>The analytical framework is sound.</p> <p>The methodology used and the contribution of the different methods to each ESQ is clearly explained.</p> <p>The methodology used is mostly qualitative with some quantitative analysis carried out. Counterfactual is used in a few specific cases to analyse effects by comparing situations between beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The methodology used for each area of analysis is clearly explained, and has been applied consistently and as planned ▪ Judgements are based on transparent criteria ▪ The analysis relies on two or more independent lines of evidence ▪ Inputs from different stakeholders are used in a balanced way ▪ Findings are reliable enough to be replicable 		
	b. Conclusions are sound	Y	<p>Conclusions are sound and complete, the relevant limitations are pointed out.</p>
5. Usefulness of recommendations	a. Recommendations are useful	Y	<p>Despite the limitations including those concerning data, this study and the relevant recommendations are useful and represent a good basis for possible future actions on this topic.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Recommendations flow logically from the conclusions, are practical, realistic, and addressed to the relevant Commission Service(s) or other stakeholders 		
	b. Recommendations are complete	Y	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Recommendations cover all relevant main conclusions 		

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6. Clarity of the report	a. Report is easy to read	Y	<p>Readability is enhanced by figures, tables and maps which are clearly linked to the texts.</p> <p>The definitions used are explained.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Written style and presentation is adapted for the various relevant target readers ▪ The quality of language is sufficient for publishing ▪ Specific terminology is clearly defined ▪ Tables, graphs, and similar presentation tools are used to facilitate understanding; they are well commented with narrative text 		
	b. Report is logical and focused	Y	<p>The report illustrates in a clear way the effects of several agricultural activities on soil-quality components and their links with CAP instruments and measures.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The structure of the report is logical and consistent, information is not unjustifiably duplicated, and it is easy to get an overview of the report and its key results. ▪ The report provides a proper focus on main issues and key messages are summarised and highlighted ▪ The length of the report (excluded appendices) is proportionate (good balance of descriptive and analytical information) ▪ Detailed information and technical analysis are left for the appendix; thus information overload is avoided in the main report 		

Overall conclusion		
The report could be approved in its current state, as it overall complies with the contractual conditions and relevant professional evaluation standards	Y	