



Lead company



# Evaluation of the Common Implementing Regulation Draft Final Report

## Open Public Consultations

Brussels

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# Main findings

## EQ1

- ☐ CIR is relevant, as it succeeded in unifying basic implementation rules and provisions.
- ☐ Relevant aim of rule simplification has been met to a lesser extent.
- ☐ Substantive topics in the CIR were included on a selective basis.

## EQ2

- ❑ CIR had limited beneficial effect on mainstreaming climate change and promoting human rights.
- ❑ Attention for accessibility for persons with disabilities did not enhance effectiveness.
- ❑ Comitology related provisions allowed to speed up delivery of small size actions, but remained too restricted.
- ❑ CIR provisions on monitoring and evaluation have resulted comprehensive Results Framework in 2015 and gave impetus to strengthened evaluation functions.

## EQ3

- ☐ CIR requirement to produce a common Annual Report on all EFIs had positive effect on coherence.
- ☐ Link to the need to ensure coherent visibility of the EU is weak.
- ☐ CIR just endorsed existing guidelines to enhance external coherence, complementarity, synergies, added value and more coordinated forms of working.

## EQ4

- ❑ CIR rules on nationality and origin did not enhance timeliness and cost-efficiency in the delivery of EU actions.
- ❑ Introduction of more liberal eligibility criteria greatly increased the flexibility and responsiveness notably of the EIDHR.
- ❑ Significant increase in the relative share of volume of funds used for local contractors in DCI and EDF countries.

## EQ5

- ☐ CIR provisions significantly improved the implementation and impact of the innovative financial instruments.
- ☐ Combination of more or less consequential funding with political dialogue determines the leverage of the EU.
- ☐ Insistence on democracy and human rights does not always produce the necessary effects.

# Conclusions



# Conclusion 1: Fitness for purpose

C1

- ☐ CIR increased flexibility in certain domains.
- ☐ Accountability has been enhanced.
- ☐ Partly proven fit for purpose.
- ☐ Implementing rules as a whole played no significant role in enhancing the achievement of substantive goals in the EFIs and optimising the impact of EU external action.

# Conclusion 2: Harmonisation

C2

- ❑ Harmonisation has, to a large extent, been achieved.
- ❑ Level of ambition on harmonisation had to remain low.
- ❑ The commonality of rules that was sought after with the CIR was challenged by the fact that one size does not fit all.

# Conclusion 3: Simplification

C3

- ❑ The degree to which the CIR resulted in simplification of rules has also been limited.
- ❑ More stringent requirements for monitoring and evaluation pose challenges for compatibility between multiple indicators in different development contexts.

## C4

- ❑ CIR does not make a sufficiently convincing contribution to the fulfilment of the aspiration expressed in the preamble of the Regulation that *“the Union should seek the most efficient use of available resources in order to optimise the impact of external action”*.
- ❑ References to climate change and environment action and how to take into account criteria regarding accessibility for persons with disability remain at a very general level.
- ❑ CIR remains mute on major themes like gender mainstreaming, migration and security.

# Conclusion 5: Coherence

C5

- ❑ CIR does not contain any provision to overcome the fact that different EFIs operate in different compartments with distinct action programmes, individual and special measures.
- ❑ Absence of provisions for joint examination procedures or at least joint calls for proposals between at least two EFIs operating in the same country or region or on related themes could be seen as a missed opportunity.

# Recommendations

**R1**

Maintain the approach of a common transversal Regulation for financing, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of EFIs.

**R2**

Introduce examination procedures for joint action programmes, individual and special measures that involve financial assistance from more than one EFI.