

# **Results Orientation for ERDF and Cohesion Fund, 2014- 2020**

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# What is the problem?

- **Current programmes are often just designed to spend:**
  - Objectives vague
  - How to recognise success or failure often not clear
  - Different roles of monitoring and evaluation are not clear
    - shortcomings in knowledge of evaluation methods
- **Consequently, it is difficult to demonstrate what has been achieved and the value of the policy**
- **And never has the need been greater for programmes to achieve maximum impact**

# What do we propose for 2014-2020?

- **More Concentration**
- **A stronger focus on results built into programme design – what they aim to change and how**
- **Better gathering of basic data on outputs**
- **Clearer roles for monitoring and evaluation**
- **Performance Reserve and Framework**

# Concentration

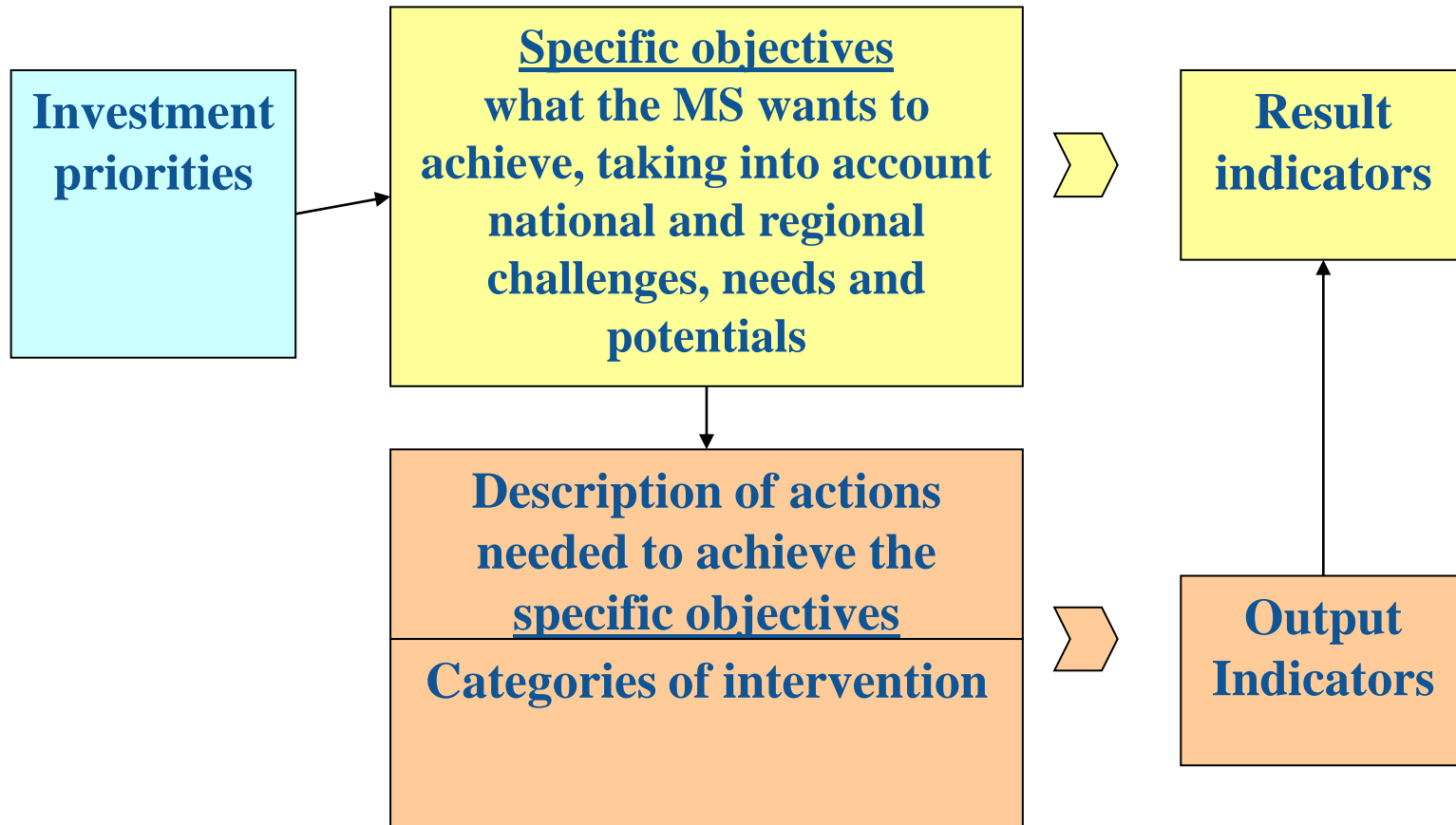
- **Evidence shows concentration needed to deliver measurable impact**
- **First step is minimum % proposed in draft regulation**
- **Concentration requires choices – on the needs to be addressed; on what to fund & what not to fund**
- **Political agreement needed on those choices**

# Stronger Result Focus in Programme Design

- **New Focus on Results:**
  - What do you want to change?
  - What indicator can capture this change? (baselines)
  - How will the outputs of the programme contribute to change?
- **Ex Ante Evaluation to help to assess logic of intervention**

# Piloting Result Indicators in current Programmes

- **14 regions in 9 Member States, exploring intervention logic in current programmes:**
  - New approach feasible, but not without significant change in mindsets & practice
  - Current indicators mostly do not reflect the intended effects of the priorities
  - Results focus must be part of programme design
  - Concentration a pre-condition
  - Decisions on what to fund and what not to fund – political choice
- **Planning a pilot in Portugal in September**



# Role of Different Types of Indicators

- **Result Indicators:**

- Capture what you want to change
- Should be close to policy – so that the policy will be reflected in the evolution of the result indicator
- Regular monitoring to prompt policy debate
- Selected by programmes – not imposed top down – recognising the different "journeys" to EU2020

- **Output Indicators:**

- Capture what the resources are spent on

- **Common Indicators:**

- Aggregate information for communication purposes



# Monitoring and Evaluation

*Change in the Result Indicator = Contribution of the Intervention + Contribution of Other Factors*

- Only the left hand side of this equation can be observed – Monitoring
- "Impact" is the change that can be credibly attributed to the intervention; other terms – "effect" or "contribution".
- Evaluation disentangles the effects of the intervention from the contribution of other factors, to understand does it work and why/how

# Evaluation Provisions 2014+

- **Role:**

- To improve the quality of the design and implementation of programmes, and
- To assess effectiveness efficiency and impact (new emphasis)

- **Evaluation Plan obligatory**

- **Evaluation at least once for each priority looking at effects & summary report in 2021**

- **To feed into an accumulation of evidence on what works, why & where**

# Performance Framework

- **Discussion in Council and with European Parliament**
- **Framework to fix "milestones" to be achieved by certain points in time**
- **Designed to provide opportunities to anticipate and deal with problems**
- **Clarification that milestones should be under the control of Managing Authorities (financial indicators & outputs)**

## Conclusions

- **Start planning now for 2014-2020 programmes**
- **But think of maximising the results orientation of current programmes**
- **Continue with evaluations of current programmes in order to learn what interventions and combinations of interventions can be most effective**
- **European Commission happy to support sharing of experiences with other MS**

# **Reference documents**

## **Concepts & Recommendations on Monitoring and Evaluation**

### **Report on Pilot Tests on Result Indicators**

### **Ex ante evaluation (ERDF, ESF, CF)**

[http://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/information/evaluations/guidance\\_en.cfm#1](http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/information/evaluations/guidance_en.cfm#1)