

ASPIRE EVALUATION SUMMARY

The purpose of this document is to summarise the Evaluation function that Prevista is required to deliver as one of the partners in the ASPIRE project within the Quality and Evaluation Framework (QEF) for which it is responsible. The ASPIRE project does not contain an external evaluation or valorisation function¹.

As a partner, we are undertaking an 'internal' rather than an 'external' evaluation process, throughout the project. It is important therefore to stress that our approach to this evaluation is participative and formative: that is we see it as an integral part of the project that will feedback into the ongoing development and learning. It should we believe be essentially useful to the project and partners. In order for it do this it is important that partners understand what the evaluation is about, what it will be doing and how.

It is about capturing learning and starts from a position of valuing the work that is done. It is not about trying to audit it in a quantitative sense. It is less about the reports (although there is an interim and a final report to do) and more about facilitating the 'quality loop' through specific actions to support the project activities. We do however have a responsibility (along with partners) to consider whether objectives (through Key Performance Indicators - KPIs) are being met and to assess the value and quality of the work being undertaken. In doing this we will facilitate reflection on the work - *'holding up a mirror to the process'*, so that there is opportunity to, where necessary, adjust and improve.

Principles of Evaluation²:

- Enquiry (methods)
- Competence
- Integrity / Honesty
- Respect for People
- Responsibility (for general and public welfare incl. taking into account diversity of interests and values)

There are two interlinked strands to the evaluation role:

- ❖ Recording and reviewing progress with regard to project deliverables
- ❖ Evidencing the learning of the programme through capturing impacts, innovations, good practice, lessons, etc.

In carrying out these tasks we will both feedback into the work and to the partners, and produce first an interim and then final report at the end of the programme.

¹ This is in contrast to the STEP project in which many ASPIRE partners are currently working

² Summarised from the American Evaluation Association

We will ask:

- ❖ What has worked and why?
- ❖ What hasn't worked and why?
- ❖ How have any issues been tackled / overcome?
- ❖ How has the partnership worked?
- ❖ What are the key lessons that have been learnt?
- ❖ Have there been any unexpected outcomes?
- ❖ How might the achievements of the programme be taken forward?

How?

- ❖ Attending and recording partner meetings
- ❖ Gathering and analysing all relevant data from the project
- ❖ Following the project and reviewing the various stages of development (and related workpackages)
- ❖ Interviewing key people
- ❖ Identifying key themes and any issues / challenges
- ❖ Assessing the project impacts
- ❖ Writing up case studies that illustrate both good practice and any issues arising.

Through the Quality and Evaluation Framework, we will present the methods that we will employ to look at the different components of the programme and the timeframe for doing this.

Key Deliverables: Project

- ❖ Research Report
- ❖ Position Statement
- ❖ Methodologies for creative pathways
- ❖ Participants profile
- ❖ Creation of Action Learning Network
- ❖ Identification of validation methodologies
- ❖ Research dissemination
- ❖ Creation of 'test bed'
- ❖ Technical competency map
- ❖ Competency framework
- ❖ Piloting and testing competency framework
- ❖ Assessing the competency framework against national standards and the common European Framework
- ❖ Project website
- ❖ Project brochure
- ❖ Dissemination event/s.

Key Deliverables: Evaluation

- ❖ Interim evaluation report
- ❖ Final evaluation report
- ❖ Prevista Ltd

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