

ERAC 1214/16

NOTE

From:	ERAC Secretariat
To:	ERAC delegations
Subject:	Revised Mandate of the Ad-hoc Working Group on Measuring the Impact of EU Framework Programmes for Research and Innovation at National Level of the European Research Area and Innovation Committee (ERAC)

Delegations will find annexed to this Note the revised Mandate of the Ad-hoc Working Group on Measuring the Impact of EU Framework Programmes for Research and Innovation at National Level of the European Research Area and Innovation Committee (ERAC), as approved by ERAC at the plenary meeting on 2 December 2016.

REVISED MANDATE**OF THE AD-HOC WORKING GROUP ON MEASURING THE IMPACT OF EU
FRAMEWORK PROGRAMMES FOR RESEARCH AND INNOVATION AT NATIONAL
LEVEL OF THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AND INNOVATION COMMITTEE (ERAC)**

1. The ad-hoc Working Group on Measuring the Impact of EU Framework Programmes for Research and Innovation (R&I) aims to exchange experiences and share good practices on the evaluation of impact of EU Framework Programmes at national level.
2. Based on their national experiences, the ad-hoc Working Group will develop a harmonised impact evaluation template based on (i) a core set of evaluation questions, (ii) common evaluation methodologies, (iii) common indicators and (iv) available common datasets and available EU and national databases to assess the socio-economic impacts of EU Framework Programmes at national level.
3. The ad-hoc Working Group shall present the impact evaluation template to ERAC Member States and Associated Countries deciding to carry out national impact evaluations on EU Framework Programmes at national level could do so according to the agreed template¹. The Policy Support Facility could support Member States in the exchange of good practice on the evaluation of impact through a project-based mutual learning exercise.

¹ N.B. The Programme Committees of Horizon 2020 receive information on all actions proposed or funded under Horizon 2020 and discussions can take place therein on this information.

4. The ad-hoc Working Group was set up for a period of 9 months, commencing in March 2016². The ERAC plenary on 2 December 2016 decided to extend the mandate of the ad-hoc Working Group for an additional period of 6 months until 30 June 2017. The ERAC plenary also decided that this extension cannot be renewed. Membership is open to ERAC delegations and nominated national experts³, who may join at any moment. Delegations could decide to nominate national colleagues already participating in the EU RTD Evaluation Network⁴ to this ad-hoc Working Group. The ad-hoc Working Group may divide its work internally between delegates along the main areas of its activity or specific issues that will be addressed. It may invite outside experts if appropriate.
5. The ad-hoc Working Group is chaired by a representative or an alternate representative of a Member State or of an Associated Country. The ad-hoc Working Group shall meet at the invitation of the Chair.
6. The secretariat of the ad-hoc Working Group shall be provided by the General Secretariat of the Council (ERAC Secretariat). The secretariat is limited to keeping membership lists, ensuring correspondence and circulation of documents, as well as providing procedural advice concerning the documents that will be circulated. The ad-hoc Working Group shall be supported by the Commission services.

² doc. 1204/1/16 REV 1.

³ Nominated national experts are present as formal representatives of their country, not as individual experts (para. 11, ERAC Mandate, doc. 14875/15).

⁴ The EU RTD Evaluation Network, established in 1997, is composed of members from EU Member States, EU candidate countries and associated countries provides a forum for discussion and analysis of base practices in EU evaluation methodology. Membership is mixed, consisting of researchers, academics and representatives from ministries and R&D organisations. The network does not have a formal role and representatives do not represent national positions.