

Evaluation ESIF in the Czech Republic – Faster, more accurately, more usefully

The second conference of the National Coordination Authority's Evaluation Unit, titled "Evaluating ESI Funds in the Czech Republic: Faster, more accurately, more usefully" aims to contribute to strengthening evaluation capacities in the Czech Republic and to foster cooperation and exchange of experience among evaluators inside and outside organisations implementing ESI funds in the Czech Republic and beyond.

Title:

Venue: Ministry of Regional Development, entrance [Pařížská 4, Prague](#)

Date: 2nd November 2016

Type: conference

Capacity: 100

Interpreting into English will be available.

Description:

This year's conference will focus on the factors that are key if evaluation is to deliver the most accurate and useful information in the shortest possible time to relevant partners. The topic will be approached from different angles: from a methodological point of view (keynote speaker will be Janet Billson, expert on focus groups and other qualitative methods), through a panel discussion on how to best use conclusions and recommendations, to individual experts' experience with running various types of evaluations.

In the afternoon, two parallel sessions will run, each assembled from a number of presentations based on a specific experience. One block will focus on evaluation as a means of accountability. This session will showcase evaluations whose primary question was whether the programme objectives were met (e.g. the OECD's experience; an evaluation estimating macroeconomic benefits of cohesion policy). The second parallel session will focus on evaluation for learning. There, presentations will focus on evaluations that are intended to help learning about how projects or programs work (e.g. Vanguard method etc.).

Key speakers:

- Janet Mancini Billson – Director of Group Dimensions International, expert on focus groups and other qualitative methods. She has conducted evaluation worldwide for clients including the World Bank, the US government and UN agencies.
- Karol Olejniczak, Igor Widawski – authors of the Knowledge Brokering approach to the role of evaluation units, and of an interactive simulation game based on the approach.
- Matěj Bajgar, economist at OECD, will discuss the OECD's experience with evaluations implemented in the labour market and research and development.

Our vision is to bring foreign experts to the Czech Republic in order to provide local evaluators with learning opportunities, and to expose to evaluation other relevant stakeholders, including decision-makers, its primary users. We hope that the conference will become a national and international platform for sharing ideas and experience, and that it will contribute to improving the evaluation culture in the country.

There will be a follow-up [training workshop](#) for up to 60 participants on 3rd November 2016.

Contact: jana.drlikova@mnr.cz



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