



Multi-Year Support for Implementation of the Evaluation Plan of Bulgaria's Programme Education

The scope of OECD work

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Today, we will cover

- 1 Introduction and scope of the work
- 2 Planned outputs
- 3 Approach to evaluation
- 4 Next steps



Scope and objectives

The importance of evaluation lies not only in its technical correctness, but also in **how the evaluation results are used**
- Michael Quinn Patton

Evaluations are to be used for **learning and improvement**
- OECD (2001) *Evaluation Feedback*

Until 2029, the OECD will provide evaluation evidence with objective to support:

- ❖ Improvements in delivery of PE
- ❖ Transferable lessons
- ❖ Informed decision-making
- ❖ Accountability and transparency



Working in thematic areas

REACT-EU

DIGITALISATION

INCLUSIVE
EDUCATION
MEASURES

HIGHER
EDUCATION

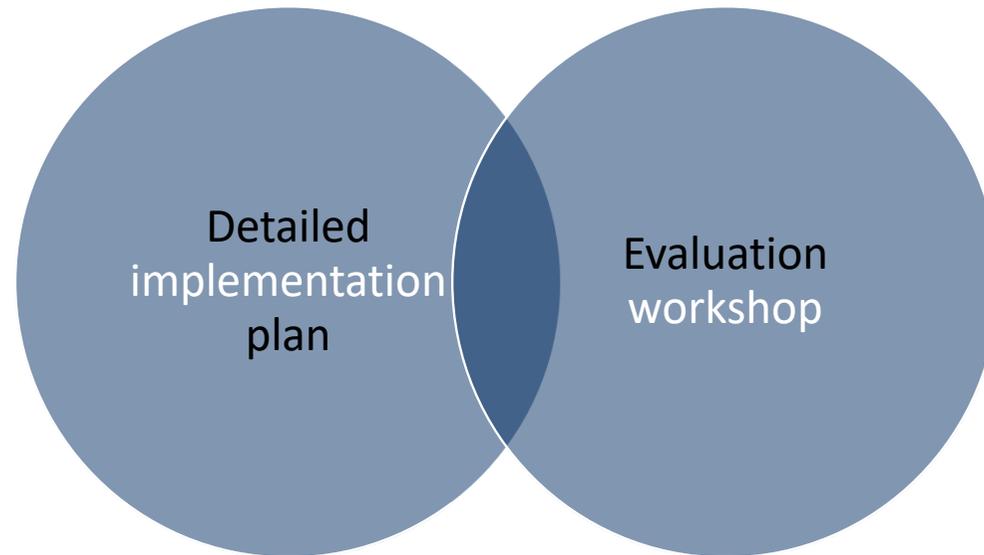
VOCATIONAL
EDUCATION AND
TRAINING

INTEGRATION OF
MARGINALISED
COMMUNITIES

*Details to be confirmed in
implementation plan*



We will develop a more detailed implementation plan



More details on: evaluation questions per theme, analytical framework, information-gathering methods, timeline, dissemination strategy etc

Engaging stakeholders and understanding their needs



Planned outputs

ACROSS THE 6 THEMATIC AREAS:

INTERIM EVALUATION REPORTS

- > 1-2 per theme (except REACT)
- > Short, usable format
- > Regular review of approach to ensure it remains appropriate

WORKSHOPS AND DISCUSSION

- > Dissemination and knowledge mobilisation throughout
- > To support engagement and use of evaluation evidence
- > To inform and facilitate discussion and improve implementation

FINAL EVALUATION REPORTS AND SUMMARY

- > 6 (1 per theme)
- > 1 summary report to review findings across themes
- > High-level review meeting at the end of implementation period



Evaluation criteria

EFFECTIVENESS: How successful the thematic area has been in achieving or progressing towards its objectives?

EFFICIENCY: What is the relationship between the resources used by the thematic area and the changes generated?

COHERENCE: How well do the thematic areas work together and in relation to other education and skills reforms in Bulgaria?

RELEVANCE: To what extent do the thematic areas respond to beneficiaries' needs and priorities, and will they continue to do so if circumstances change?

EU ADDED VALUE: Has the PE introduced changes that might not have happened without external impetus?

The OECD will also examine:

SUSTAINABILITY: What is the likelihood the effects of the policies and programme within the thematic area will last beyond the implementation period?



Indicative timeline for outputs – we will need to build in some flexibility

 We are here

EVALUATION OUTPUTS	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
Detailed Implementation Plan		X					
Evaluation Workshop		X					
Interim Evaluation Reports and Final Evaluation Reports for main thematic areas							
REACT-EU initiatives		Final					
Theme 1		Interim		Interim		Final	
Theme 2			Interim			Final	
Theme 3		Interim		Interim		Final	
Theme 4			Interim			Final	
Theme 5			Interim	Interim		Final	
Final Summary Report							X
High-Level PE Review Meeting							X

Details to be confirmed in implementation plan



A realist theory-based approach to evaluation

Helpful in complicated policy landscapes with multiple interventions rolled out over time.

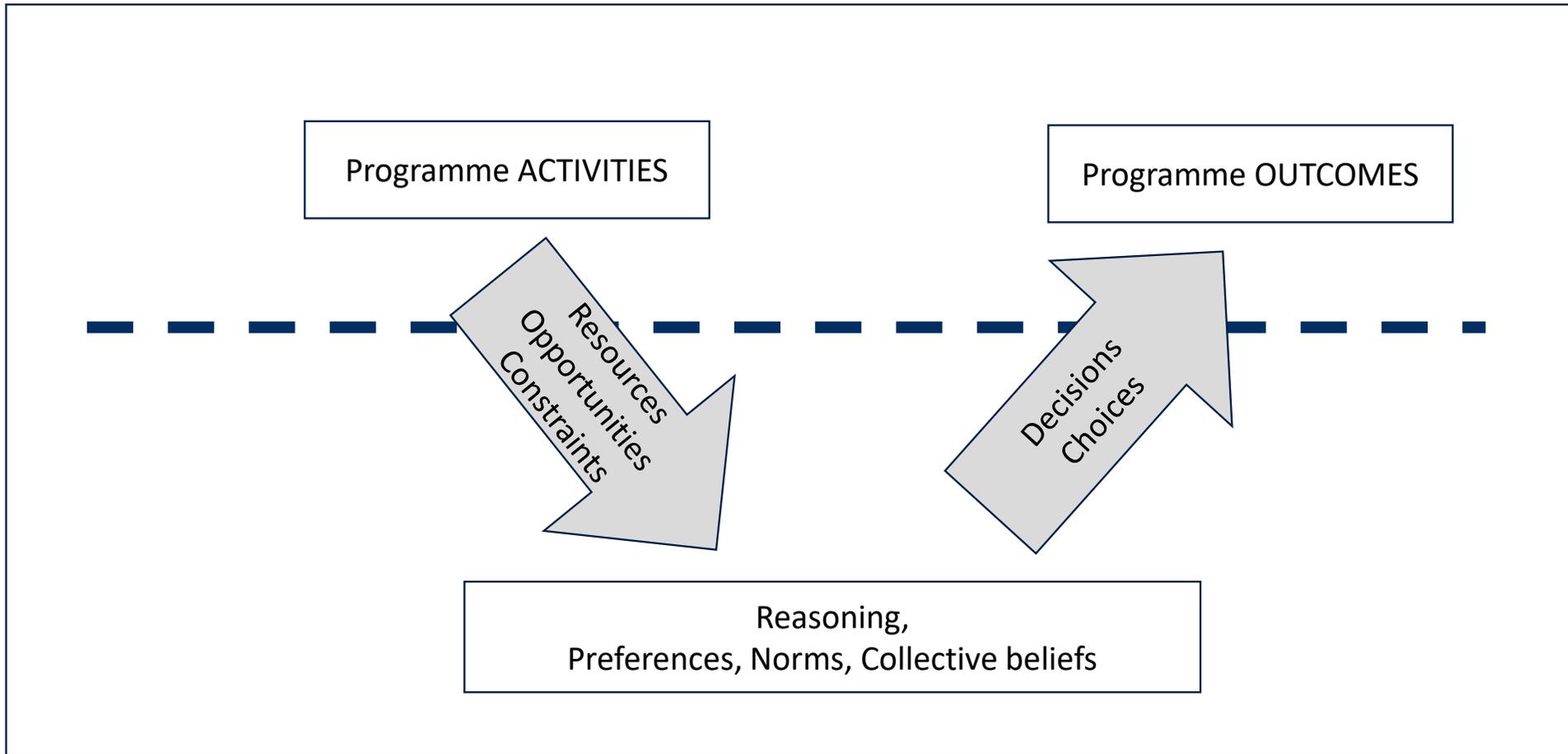
- Not just *whether* an intervention worked but **WHY** and **HOW**
- What was the intervention logic and did it work as expected?
- What worked, to what extent, in which circumstances, and for whom?
- What set of conditions shaped the outcome?

The *response of actors* to opportunities and constraints provided by intervention shapes the outcome – so we need to understand the social reality of actors and the reasoning behind their responses.

It is the WHY and HOW that will be helpful to learning, decision-making, improvement and future policy-making



Understanding the WHY



Source: *Magenta Book 2020 Supplementary Guid: Realist Evaluation*



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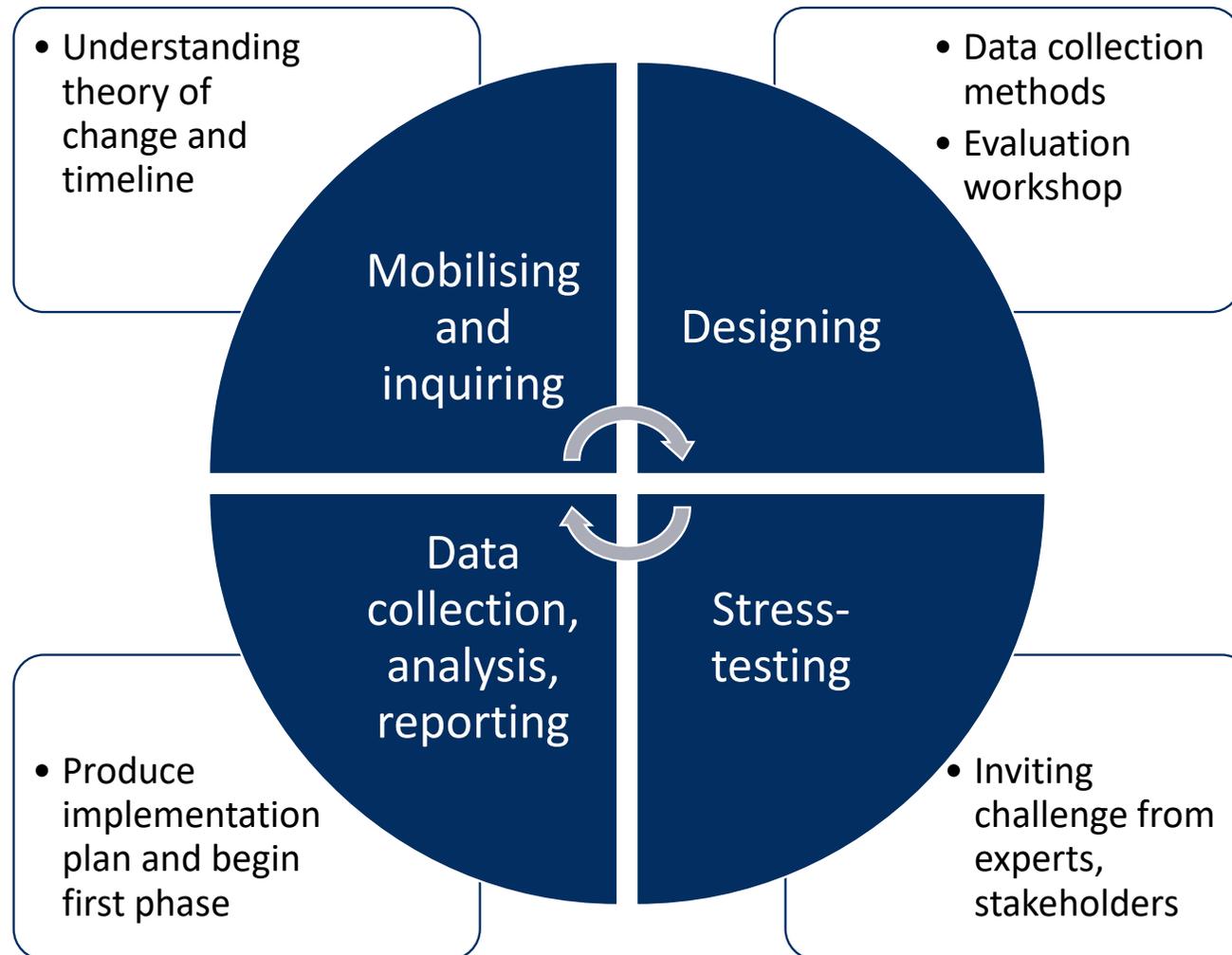
Methodological experts

**Experts in the thematic
areas.**

who will provide input,
regular challenge,
scrutiny,
peer review and
critical feedback



Next steps (once the agreement comes into force)





Our questions to you:

- ◆ What is your vision of success for all stages of this evaluation plan?
 - ◆ What have you learned from previous evaluations?
 - ◆ What role can you play in ensuring results are used to improve implementation?
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- Comments?
 - Suggestions?
 - Questions for us?

 EDUCATION
& SKILLS

Thank you
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