



ENVIEVAL

Development and application of new methodological frameworks for the evaluation of environmental impacts of rural development programmes in the EU

FINAL PROJECT CONFERENCE

Venue:

**Lower Saxony State Chancellery in Brussels,
Rue Montoyer 61, 1000 Brussels**

Date:

09.30am – 05.30pm, 19th of November 2015

Programme

Main objectives of the workshop

- To learn from past evaluation experiences to improve future forthcoming environmental evaluations of RDPs
- To present and discuss indicators and methodological solutions to main challenges in environmental evaluations such as establishing robust cause-effects relationships and consideration of sample selection issues
- To review existing data gaps and discuss the cost-effectiveness of improved and targeted environmental monitoring programmes for RDP evaluations
- To discuss key elements of a methodological handbook for environmental evaluations of RDPs

09.00 Registration and coffee

09.30 Welcome [Žymantas Morkvėnas, Baltic Environmental Forum Lithuania]

09.45 Background and introduction to project and workshop objectives

[Gerald Schwarz, Thünen Institute of Farm Economics]

10.00 Session 1: Assessing environmental effects of rural development programmes (RDPs) in the EU at different scales and levels

- **Addressing challenges of evaluating impacts of RDPs on climate stability**
[Andrea Povellato, CREA-INEA]
- **Addressing challenges of evaluating impacts of RDPs on water quality**
[George Vlahos, Agricultural University of Athens]
- **Addressing challenges of evaluating impacts of RDPs on biodiversity wildlife**
[Peter Toth, Szent Istvan University]
- **Synthesis of solutions in relation to counterfactual related challenges from ENVIEVAL case studies**
[Janne Artell, Natural Resources Institute Finland]

11.30 Coffee





11.45 Session 2: Data gaps, environmental monitoring programmes and cost-effectiveness of environmental evaluations

- **Application of EU databases and review of data issues**
[Katalin Balazs, Szent Istvan University]
- **Implications of different monitoring data scenarios for the cost-effectiveness of counterfactual-based environmental evaluations**
[Anne Wolf, Thünen Institute of Rural Studies]

13.00 Lunch

14:00 Session 3: Key elements of a methodological handbook for environmental evaluations of RDPs

- **Introduction to the handbook currently developed by ENVIEVAL**
[Žymantas Morkvėnas, Baltic Environmental Forum Lithuania]
- **Snapshot of the handbook – Step-by-step guidance through the logic models**
[Gerald Schwarz, Thünen Institute of Farm Economics]
- **Snapshot of the handbook – Role of and key issues from the fact sheets**
[David Miller, The James Hutton Institute]

15.30 Coffee

16:00 Session 4: Panel with discussants and open floor discussion addressing the following questions:

- **How to further improve the impacts and cost-effectiveness of future environmental evaluations?**
- **What are key priorities for further methodological improvements and improvements of data availabilities?**
[Panel members: European Commission DG Agri, Evaluation Helpdesk, Scientific Community, Project Advisory Group and Project members]

17.00 Summary of the workshop [Žymantas Morkvėnas and Gerald Schwarz]

17.30 End of workshop

Drinks and snacks served after the end of the workshop.