



# Ongoing evaluation of implementation of the Operational Programme Research, Development and Education

Ministry of Education, Youth and  
Sports

## Evaluation of Horizontal Principles Fulfilment in Implementation of OP RDE

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EUROPEAN UNION  
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## Executive Summary

OP RDE calls are generally designed in such a way that **project applications must be in accordance with the horizontal principles in order to be considered and assessed**. The OP RDE cannot accept a project that is in a negative relation with the horizontal principles mentioned in the text of OP RDE. **Neutral relationship is not considered negative.**

The implementation of most OP RDE projects has only just begun. Therefore, it was not possible to assess the real contribution of projects to the implementation of horizontal principles. Therefore, the answer to the evaluation question presents rather an assessment of the potential of the projects in individual OPs for contribution to the implementation of horizontal principles.

### Sustainable Development

**The primary motivation for better resource management is to use the project's finances more effectively, not to contribute to the fulfilment of the horizontal principle.**

**PA1 projects will contribute in a part to the implementation of the horizontal principle of sustainable development.** These projects will be focused on meeting these objectives of Priorities 2030 in the area of sustainable development:

- greater share of renewable energy in final energy consumption;
- research aiming at more effective resource-management and low-carbon emission (with the impact on competitiveness and greater energy security of the Czech Republic);
- increased energy efficiency;
- reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and mitigation of negative impact of energy production.

**PA2 and PA3 projects will likely not contribute significantly to the implementation of the horizontal principle of sustainable development, they will be rather neutral to the horizontal principle.** Projects in the monitored cases do not contain activities that directly target the fulfilment of the horizontal principle, therefore, these projects will only contribute indirectly in the form of project implementation in accordance with the principles of sustainable development (digitalisation of internal project documents and internal communication, purchasing of equipment, or various machines and construction work with regard to energy performance etc.).

**All existing PA4 projects are neutral to the horizontal principle of sustainable development. Significant contribution made by other PA4 projects to the implementation of the horizontal principle is not expected.** The OP VVV administration is, in accordance with the horizontal principle of sustainable development) fully digitalised, printed documents are not used.

### Equal Opportunities and Prevention of Discrimination

**Implementation of OP RDE is currently not encountering any barriers which would cause discrimination of target groups and prevent them from using the benefits created by the projects.** Cross-referencing of PA1 and PA2 did not show any barriers that would need to be eliminated with targeted interventions. PA3 projects aim at elimination of barriers preventing children with specific educational needs from participation in the general education system. PA4 projects are in most cases neutral to the horizontal principle.



## Equal Opportunities for Men and Women

**PA1 projects can indirectly contribute to the implementation of the horizontal principle of equal opportunities for men and women.** R&D institutions surveyed whether they were interested in part-time jobs. Part-time work is not offered to increase equality between men and women (work-life balance), but that the offer of these jobs is rather related to the needs of the project

**PA2 projects may indirectly contribute to fulfilling of horizontal principle of equal opportunities for men and women.** At universities, there is age – gender inequality in some fields (e.g. in mathematics and physics), where there is currently not enough women with proper qualification and experience. This inequality will disappear by itself in time, therefore there is no need for specific interventions OP RDE aiming at this topic.

**PA3 projects will be neutral to the horizontal principle of equal opportunities of men and women.** Neutral contribution of projects to fulfilling the horizontal principle of equal opportunities for men and women was identified in the area of regional education in 86% of projects. The projects do not explicitly eradicate the gender inequality of men and women but they do not contribute to widening of the gender gap either. Some of the stated description of contribution of projects to fulfilling the horizontal principle is more of a formality rather than a description of actual contribution of a project to improvement in the area of horizontal principle.

**PA4 projects have in most cases (70%) neutral impact on fulfilling of horizontal principles of equal opportunities of men and women. The other 30% have positive impact.** These projects do not help with the systematic eradication of discrimination factors but they use methods (e.g. applications of transparent and just system of hiring employees and their wages), which minimize the effectiveness of these factors in the given projects.

## Recommendations

**Based on this analysis, no recommendations that could be implemented at the Operational Programme level were identified.** This report will be resubmitted in 2018 and 2023 as part of the Progress Evaluation Project. These reports should show the real contribution of the OP RDE projects to fulfilling horizontal principles, resulting in more recommendations that might be implemented at the OP RDE level.

### Disclaimer:

This document is English translation of original document in Czech. In case of discrepancy between the Czech original text and the English translation, the Czech text shall prevail. The contractor is responsible for the correctness of the English translation.



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