

Evaluation of the Relevance of Individual Specific Objectives

Executive Summary

The evaluation aimed at evaluating the relevance of individual specific objectives of the Integrated Regional Operational Programme in the course of the programming period 2014-2020. The relevance is understood as the suitability of the specific objective for inclusion in IROP and the existence of its potential to contribute to changes in areas defined in the Partnership Agreement for the programming period 2014-2020. The evaluation aimed to identify whether and to what extent the relevance of specific objectives has changed in the context of macroeconomic situation in the Czech Republic and development in areas to which the interventions are directed. Moreover, the study focused on verifying the consistence of the adopted measures with the development needs of the Czech Republic and their effectiveness and efficiency.

The study used mainly the secondary sources – administrative data of IROP MA and statistical data on result and context indicators, national and European strategic documents. It monitored the development in areas covered by individual specific objectives and the achieved results were analysed in the context of related IROP strategies and intervention logic.

The key and most important finding of the study was the confirmation of continuing relevance of all the specific objectives.

In six specific objectives, the relevance dropped as against the beginning of the programming period. The most significant decrease in relevance was identified in SO 2.5 “Reducing energy consumption in the residential sector“, namely particularly with respect to a significant progress towards the achievement of the planned target values of the specific objective. Other specific objectives, the relevance of which have decreased, are SO 2.2 “Emergence of new and development of existing business activities in the field of social entrepreneurship“, SO 2.3 “Development of infrastructure for the delivery of health services and health care“, SO 3.1 “More efficient presentation, strengthening the protection and development of cultural heritage“, SO 3.2 “Increasing the efficiency and transparency of public administration by developing the use and quality of ICT systems“, and SO 3.3 “Support for the preparation and implementation of spatial planning documents“.

In the cases of SO 2.2, SO 2.3, SO 3.1 and SO 3.2 the influence of external factors, independent of intervention, has been proven which had a strong positive impact on areas monitored by result indicators. To identify and determine the degree of influence of external factors was not the purpose of the study, nevertheless the analysis at least indicated the principal role of economic factors (development of unemployment rate) and political and legislative factors (electronic filings).

The main recommendation ensuing from the conducted study is to monitor the development in SO 2.5 and to consider a further review of relevance of the specific objective. The study results also indicate the need to arrange for additional sources of valid data (mainly in SO 2.3) and to monitor the development, or to carry out additional thematic analyses focusing on SO 3.1 and SO 3.2, where a strong influence of external factors has been identified.