

# WG1: A Guide to Evaluation Activities in Funding Agencies

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# EUROHORCs and ESF – Road Map

# 6:

Develop common approaches to ex-post evaluation of funding schemes and research programmes by:

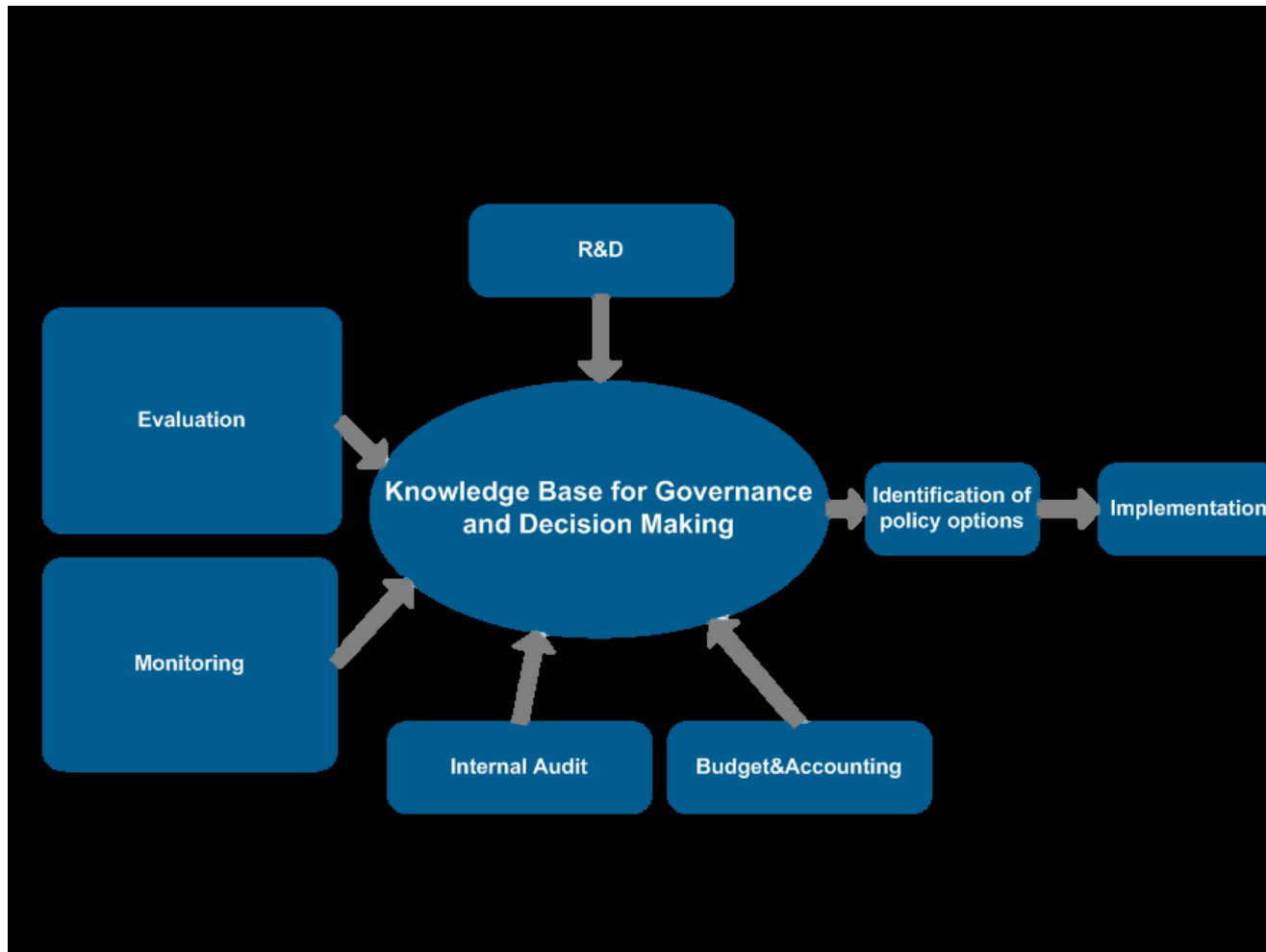
- inter-comparison of national evaluation practices
- improving evaluation studies and conducting studies on the effect of evaluation

# Overall goal: Improve evaluation studies

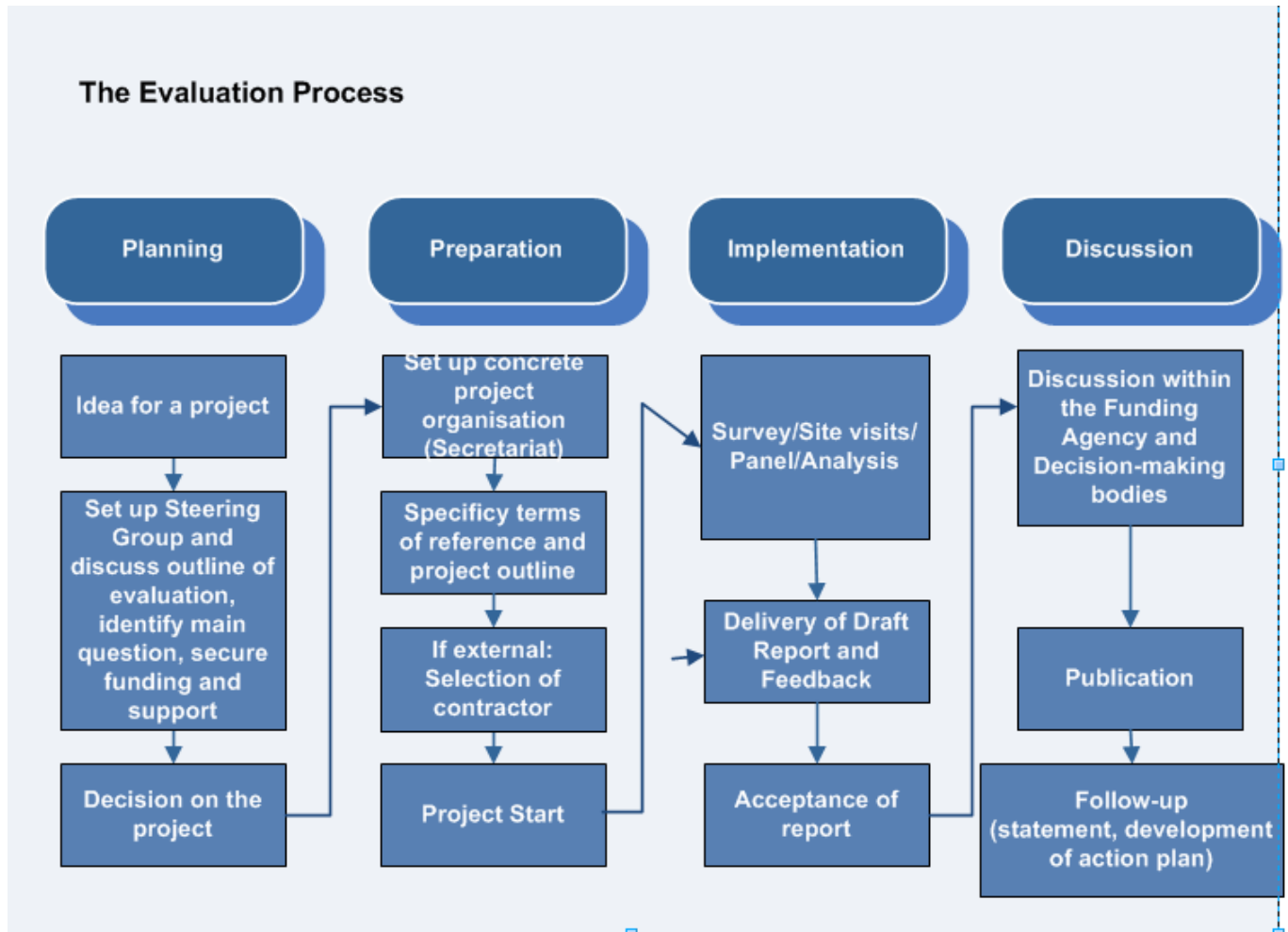
Contribute to:

- Quality in internal operations and external accountability
  - Demonstrate funding organisations' and research organisations' excellence and efficiency
- ➔ Working Group on **Quality Assurance in Evaluations (WG1)**

# Funding Agencies' Knowledge Base for Governance and Decision Making



# Stages and Elements in the Evaluation Process



# Golden Rules for Evaluation Processes (I)

- 1. Discuss why the evaluation should be carried out and how the results will be useful for the agency (stakeholder).*
- 2. Focus the goals of the evaluation and plan for the follow-up. Identify challenges and risks and make sure the evaluation will “make a difference”.*
- 3. Allocate sufficient time and resources to the planning and design of an evaluation project.*
- 4. Clarify terms and conditions when establishing the contract (if applicable) and project description and make sure they are communicated to contractor/external experts.*
- 5. Make sure the evaluation is supported and considered legitimate by all relevant stakeholders.*

## Golden Rules for Evaluation Processes (II)

6. *Make sure appropriate and state-of-the-art methods are applied.*
7. *Make sure the evaluators are autonomous.*
8. *Communicate with relevant target groups throughout the evaluation project.*
9. *Make sure the most is made of the evaluation results (e.g. publishing the evaluation results).*
10. *Allocate sufficient time and resources to the follow-up of evaluations.*
11. *Critically assess the evaluation process to learn from it.*

# What now?

- Systematic approach to ensure usefulness
  - Internal organisation and expertise
  - Project groups
  - ToR requirements
  - Discussing the results
- Implementation?
- How to be a change agent?