

# Thematic Evaluation of OP II

*18 October 2013*



# Introduction

This presentation covers:

- the scope of the evaluation
- the methodology to be used
- the deliverables and timeframes for the evaluation
- the progress achieved to date



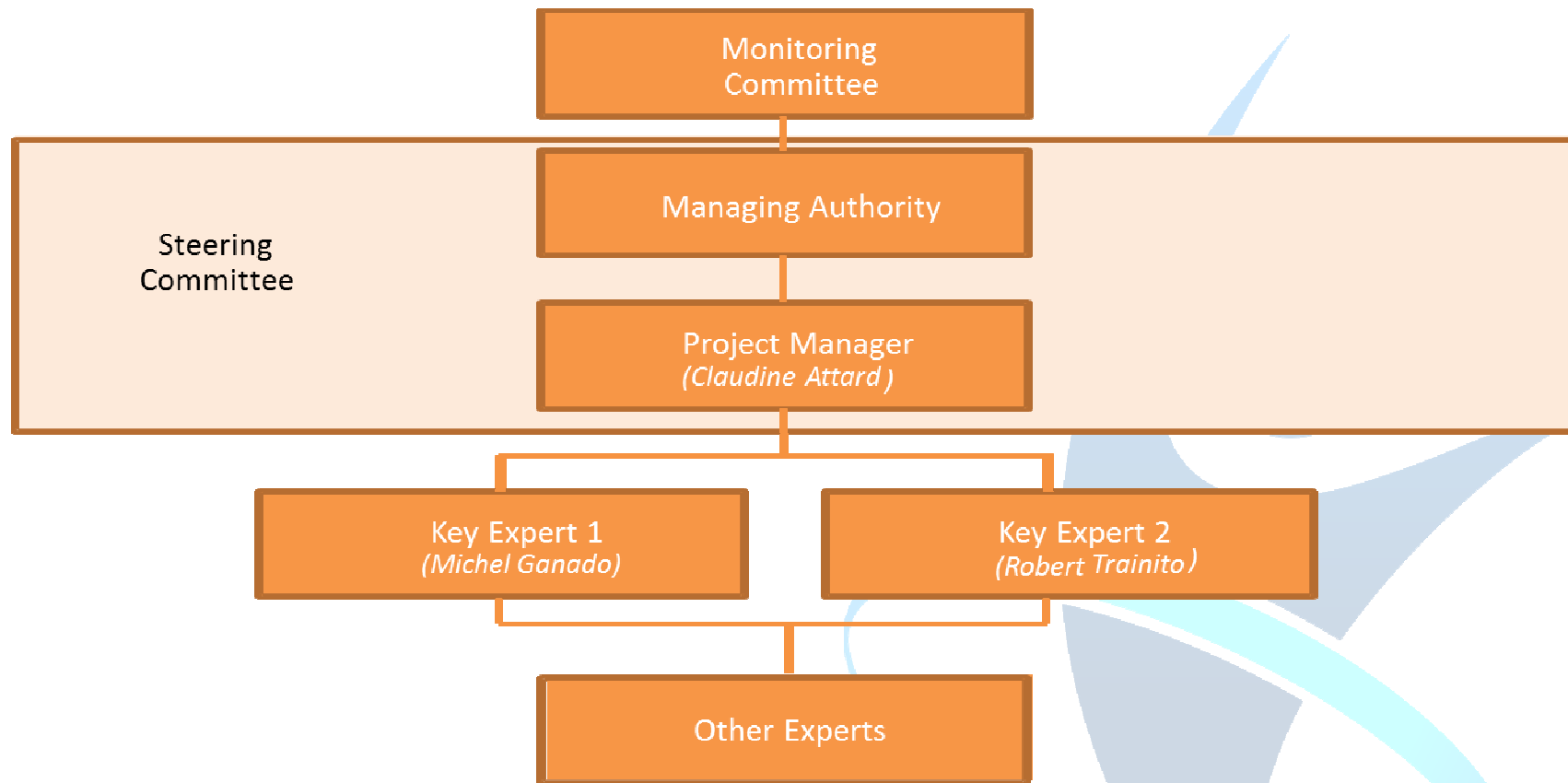
# Background

- Council Regulation No 1083/2006 provides for a shift towards more flexible demand driven approach to evaluation.
- Article 47(2) “evaluations may be of a strategic nature in order to examine the evolution of a programme or group of programmes in relation to Community and national priorities.”
- The Managing Authority has commissioned PwC to carry out a thematic evaluation to assess the extent by which Operational Programme II’s interventions have contributed towards:
  1. Education and Lifelong Learning;
  2. Enhancement of Employability and Adaptability of the Workforce.

# Specific Objectives

- Analyse the contribution of OP II intervention towards:
  - education and life long learning and
  - enhancement of employability and adaptability of the workforce
- Assess how far the delivery of interventions under assessment have taken into account the horizontal priorities and ESF principles
- Identify potential actions which are not yet addressed by the current Programme
- Recommend how actions which are being undertaken could be strengthened in future Programmes

# Evaluation Team



# Deliverables and Timeframes

## First Deliverable

- Draft to be delivered to Managing Authority within Q1 2014
- Final draft incorporating feedback from Managing Authority within Q3 2014

## Second Deliverable

- Draft to be delivered to Managing Authority within Q1 2015
- Final draft incorporating feedback from Managing Authority within Q3 2015

# Methodology



# Stage 2: Initial Research

- Documentation review
- Key stakeholder focus group meetings:
  1. To discuss OP II interventions towards **Investment in Education & Life Long Learning**
  2. To discuss OP II interventions towards **Increasing Adaptability & and Employability of Workers and Entrepreneurs**
  3. To discuss OP II interventions towards **increasing youth employment** rate
  4. To discuss OP II interventions towards **increasing female employment** rate
  5. To discuss how far the OP II interventions have taken into account the **horizontal priorities and ESF principles**



# Stage 3: Thematic Area Research (Project Level)

Investment in Education & Life Long Learning		
1	Assessment of the opportunities created through ESF-funded projects which increase participation and create flexible paths to join in lifelong education and/or lifelong learning at different levels	ESF 1.19, ESF 1.23, ESF 1.24, ESF1.25, ESF 1.34, ESF 1.40, ESF 1.125, ESF 1.130, ESF 2.139
2	Assessment of the options addressing skills mismatch through the creation of new courses which in return address growth sectors and lead to increased participation rate in lifelong education and/or lifelong learning	ESF 1.23, ESF 1.34
3	Assessment of how capacity building measures financed through OP II provide specialist training to support educational institutions to be innovative and in a position to provide young people with the right skills in line with the market's demands.	ESF 1.36, 1.131, ESF 1.123
4	Assessment of sample of projects in order to deduce the factors which address need to increase participation rate in lifelong education and learning and capacity building within public sector	ESF 4.100 and ESF 4.98

# Stage 3: Thematic Area Research (Project Level)

Increasing the Adaptability and Employability of Workers and Enterprises		
5	Assessment of the employability of disadvantaged groups following ESF interventions	ESF 3.47, ESF 3.48, ESF 3.52, ESF 3.60, ESF 3.61, ESF 3.62, ESF 3.66, ESF 3.64, ESF 3.102
6	Assessment of projects aimed at addressing how the workforce is adapting their skills in order to remain employable and be in a position to enter into employment	ESF 1.19, ESF 2.11, ESF 2.12, ESF 2.4, ESF 2.72, ESF 4.100
7	Assessment of the investment in human resources within the private sector in enabling enterprises to modernize and become more productive and competitive through the development of skills, qualifications and knowledge.	ESF Aid Schemes: ESF 2.65 and ESF 3.64
8	Assessment of the opportunities created through projects for the unemployed in order to increase their employability potential through the training programmes and any other tools provided	ESF 2.4 and ESF 1.29

# Stage 3: Thematic Area Research (Project Level)

Horizontal Priorities		
9	<b>Environmental Sustainability:</b> Assessment of the efforts employed in terms of environmental sustainability in a number of ESF interventions which go beyond the minimum requirements	ESF 1.22, ESF 1.25, ESF 3.52, ESF 3.66
10	<b>Equal Opportunities:</b> Assessment of projects aimed at addressing female participation and identification of any opportunities/recommendations.	ESF 3.48, ESF 3.54, ESF 3.59
11	<b>Innovative Activities:</b> Assessment of how the concept of innovation is currently being implemented together with an identification of any opportunities/recommendations.	ESF 1.123, ESF 1.125, ESF 1.40, ESF 3.52, ESF 4.97
12	<b>Transnational Activities:</b> Assessment of the projects which encourage transnational partnerships and identification of opportunities/recommendations.	ESF 3.62, ESF 3.66, ESF 3.71

# Stage 3: Thematic Area Research

- Interviews with intermediary body (ETC)
- Review of project documentation
- Interviews with groups of project leaders
- Project case studies
- Survey with employers who employ individuals benefiting from OP II

# Stage 4: Analysis and Reporting

- Working paper on the next programming period 2014-2020
- Focus group meetings with policy makers and other stakeholders for the two thematic aspects to discuss the initial findings emerging from the desk research, interviews and multi-criteria analysis, and to validate our conclusions and recommendations
- Consolidation of assessment on thematic areas and preparation of evaluation reports which will also identify any good practices

# Progress achieved to date

Activity	Date
Kick-Off meeting	21 June 2013
Delivery of Inception Report	5 July 2013
Stakeholder Information Session	25 July 2013
Desk research	July/ August 2013
Key stakeholder focus groups	2/3 September 2013
Interview with Intermediary Body	7 October 2013
Group interviews with project leaders of identified projects	17/18 October 2013

# Planned activities to complete 1<sup>st</sup> pass evaluation

Activity	Date
Delivery of working paper for 2014-2020 programming period	Q4 2013
Survey with employers who employ people benefitting from TAF Scheme	
Case studies	
Focus group meetings with key policy makers and other stakeholders	
Delivery of preliminary thematic evaluation report	Q1 2014
Delivery of updated preliminary thematic evaluation report	Q3 2014