

SESSION I “POLICY EVALUATION CHALLENGES FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF POLICY MAKERS”

The first session approaches policy evaluation traditions and challenges from the perspective of Estonian policy makers. The role of policy evaluation and independent expertise in policy making process (value added by the evaluators). The expectations of policy makers towards policy evaluators (the usage of larger variability of evaluation methods innovative approaches, counterfactual impact evaluation , evaluation ethics). Evaluation challenges for EU 2014-2020 programming period (main developments and changes compared to the previous programming period accent on impact evaluations). The international evaluation partnership for capacity building and carrying out cross border joint evaluations on horizontal issues . Monitoring and usage of evaluation recommendations.

SPEAKERS : Ms Miryam Vahtra, Ms Mari Lahtmets

Miryam Vahtra is the coordinating official for evaluations in the Ministry of Finance in Estonia. With an intermezzo of maternity leave of a number of years, she has been dealing with evaluation since 2006. She is a member of the Evaluation Working Group, consisting of most of the institutions commissioning evaluation in Estonia.

Mari Lahtmets is advisor to the Fiscal Policy department in the Ministry of Finance and closely involved in the preparation of strategic documents for the Structural Funds for the period 2014-2020. Together with Miryam Vahtra, she is one of the key persons representing the Ministry of Finance as the organisation commissioning the Ex Ante Evaluation, currently being carried out.

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