

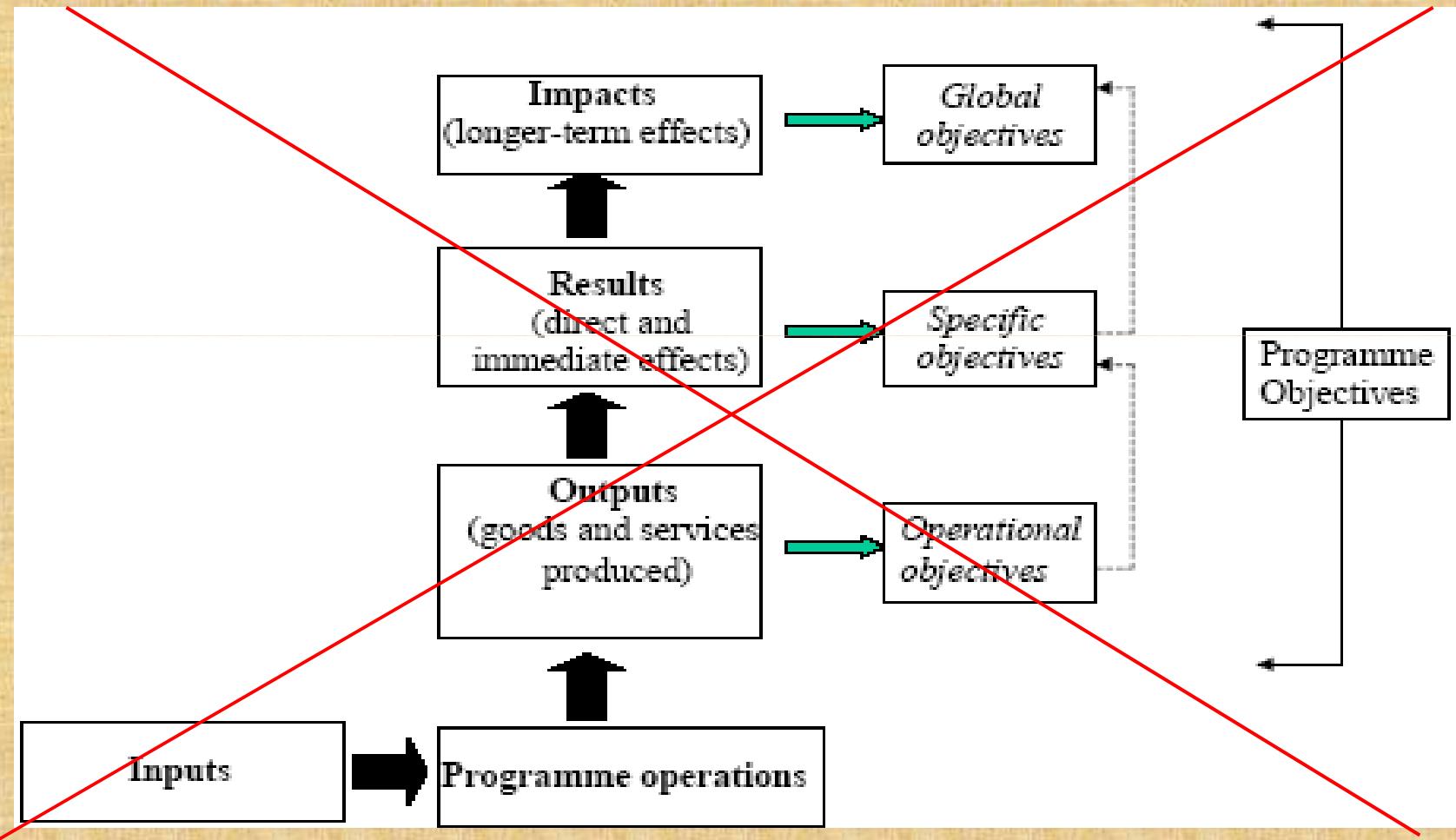
Result oriented approach – focus on impact evaluation

Stanislaw Bienias, -

IDEA - Institute for Development, Evaluation & Analysis



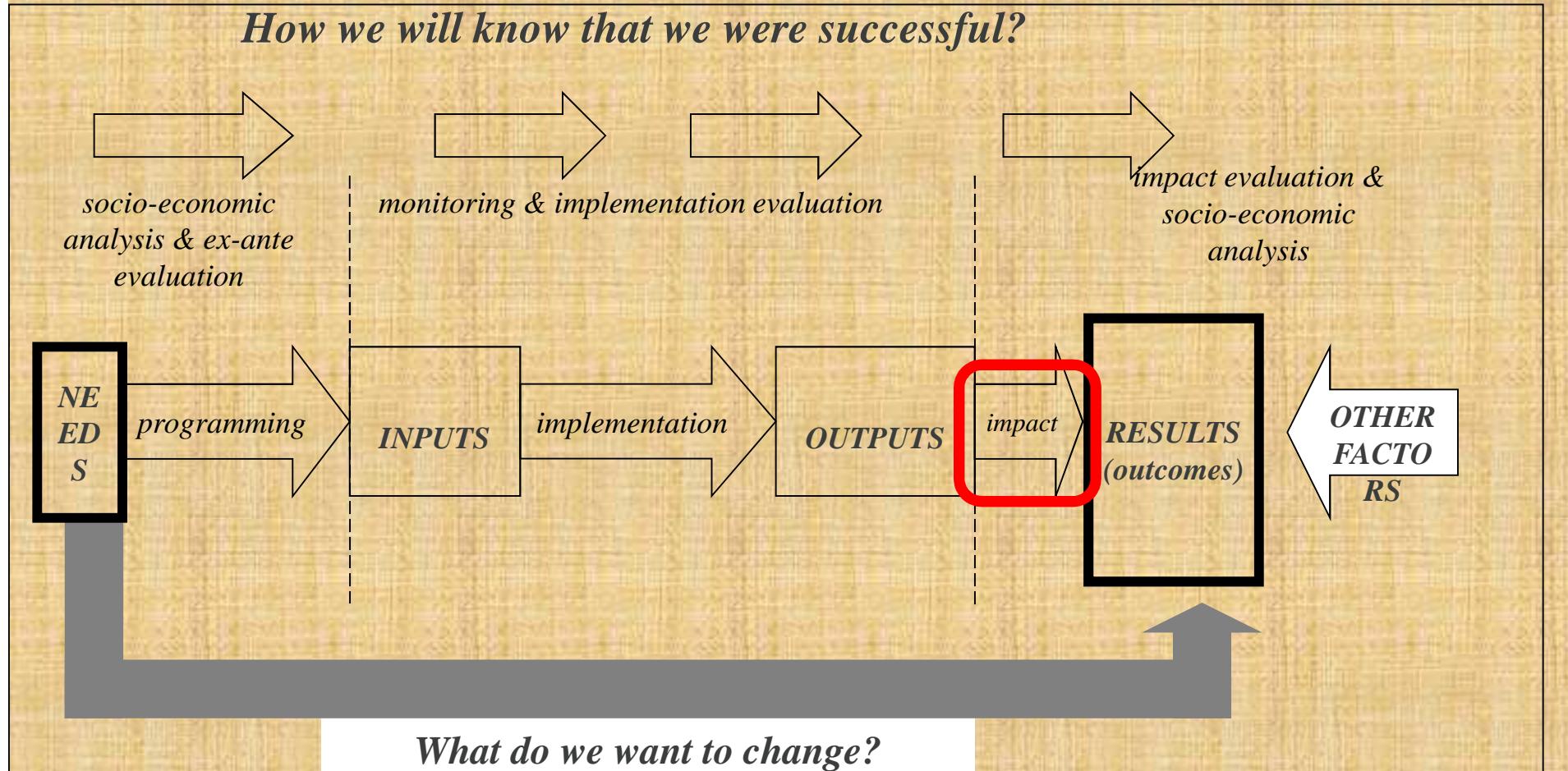
Old intervention logic (2007-13)



Source: WD No. Monitoring nad evaluation indicators, DG Regio, August 2006

Name of your presentation

New intervention logic (2014+)



Source: Own elaboration based on Outcome indicators and targets.... report led by Fabrizio Barca and Philip McCann

Name of your presentation

New intervention logic (2014+)

Everything may be summarized with two simple questions:

1. *What do we want to change?*
2. *How we will know that we were successful?*

- Source: V. Gaffey , Budapest Evaluation Conference, May 2011

New intervention logic (2014+)

Change in result indicator

=

contribution of intervention (**impact**)

+

contribution of other factors

Definition in the regulation proposal

Article

General Provisions

1. **Evaluations shall be carried out to improve the quality of the design and implementation of programmes, as well as to assess their effectiveness, efficiency and impact.** Impact of programmes shall be evaluated in accordance with the mission of the respective CSF Funds in relation to the targets for the Union strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth[1] and having regard to the size of the programme in relation to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and unemployment of the programme area concerned, where appropriate.

[1] Ref. EU2020 headline targets.

Source: General Regulation for 2014-2020 (no 1303 repealing Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006, 17 December 2013

Article 56

Evaluation during the programming period

1. **An evaluation plan shall be drawn up by the managing authority or Member State** and may cover more than one programme. It shall be submitted in accordance with the Fund-specific rules.
- 2.
3. During the programming period, the managing authority shall ensure that evaluations, including evaluations to assess effectiveness, efficiency and impact, are carried out for each programme on the basis of the evaluation plan and that each evaluation is subject to appropriate follow up in accordance to the Fund-specific rules. At least once during the programming period, an evaluation shall assess how support from ESI Funds has contributed to the objectives for each priority. All evaluations shall be examined by the monitoring committee and sent to the Commission.
- 4.

Source: General Regulation for 2014-2020 (no 1303 repealing Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006, 17 December 2013

Types of evaluation

1. Evaluation of impacts

– **theory based impact evaluations** – why it works?

(methods: use of administrative data, literature reviews, case studies, interviews, surveys and other qualitative methods)

• **counterfactual impact evaluations** - does it work?

(methods: difference-in-difference, discontinuity design, propensity score matching, pipeline approach and random control trials)

Challenge for triangulation!

2. Implementation evaluations

(methods: use of administrative data, literature reviews, case studies, interviews, surveys and other qualitative methods)

Shift towards evaluation of impacts instead of evaluation of implementation process!

Source: The Programming Period 2014-2020. Guidance document on monitoring and evaluation. European Regional Development Fund and Cohesion Fund. Concepts and Recommendations, DG Regio, January 2014

Why to focus on impact?

„With a support of Cohesion Policy we always improve well being of our beneficiaries. Of course sometimes the effects of our interventions are bigger, sometimes smaller”

Naive approach!!

Three short stories about effects of EU interventions

- Effects of SAPARD Programme in Poland and Slovakia
- Effects of Phare programme (support to SMEs in Poland
- Effects of trainings financed from ESF in Poland 2004-2006.

Lessons learned

Public interventions not always improve well-being of the beneficiaries, it may happen that they are:

- Ineffective
- Inefficient

but TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION that they can also BE HARMFUL for the „beneficiaries”

Conclusions for all ESI Funds

- In your programmes focus on a desired change, make yourself sure that you know how to answer a question:

„What do you want to change with your programme?”

- Make yourself sure that you know how to answer a question:

„How will we know that we were successful?”

= prepare your evaluation plan, focus on those evaluations where you will use counterfactual approach!

If you have not yet started to prepare your evaluation plan
– you are already **extremely late!**

Cohesion Policy should be evidence based!

Concept of: „evidence based policy” comes from the concept of: „evidence based medicine”

Fundamental principal of healthcare:

„Primum non nocere”

Hippocrates of Cos 460 – c. 370 BC

so first rule of Cohesion Policy decision maker should be

First, do no harm!

Athens, AD 2014

THANK YOU for your attention!



StanislawBienias@ideaorg.eu

www.ideaorg.eu

