

Upcoming interim evaluation: Implementation of Agribusiness strategy 2019-2023



European Bank
for Reconstruction and Development

Information sheet
July 2022

The Evaluation Department (EvD) of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) is conducting an interim evaluation of the implementation of EBRD's Agribusiness strategy 2019-2023. This document outlines the main aspects of this evaluation.

What does EvD do?

EvD is an independent department within the EBRD charged with assessing whether the Bank's products and services are achieving the results expected of them – in short, what worked, what didn't and why?

The Department reports directly to the Executive Board of Directors to ensure objectivity in its work. EvD is independent and assesses performance, identifies lessons and makes recommendations to improve future performance.

Each evaluation carried out by EvD is guided by an approach paper, which spells out the scope of the evaluation, the questions it proposes to answer, methods to be employed, and sources of information.

Further information on EvD's work is available at
<http://www.ebrd.com/evaluation>

The scope of the evaluation

The evaluation primary focus is on learning and identifying operationally and strategically useful findings to inform a future strategy, particularly in the times of upheaval on the agricultural markets and challenges to the global food security posed by Russia's war on Ukraine.

This evaluation aims to provide independent evidence and useful feedback from the implementation of the current strategy and actionable recommendations and

suggestions for the new strategic period in the post-crisis environment.

To this end, the evaluation team will seek to address one overarching question: *To what extent has the EBRD been successful in implementing the Agribusiness Strategy 2019-2023 and in achieving related desired transition impact?*

Evaluation questions and methodology

Three evaluation questions will guide this work:

- ▶ To what extent was (and still is) the Bank's Agribusiness strategy relevant?
- ▶ To what extent was the Bank's Agribusiness strategy implemented?
- ▶ What key (project-level) results have the Bank's operations achieved? (based mainly on the Evaluation Samples in the Focus Markets)

The evaluation will use a range of methods and datasets. Main methods include document review, portfolio data analysis, semi-structured interviews, and field visits to focus markets.

The Evaluation samples include 26 projects from Türkiye, Kyrgyzstan, Lithuania, Poland, Egypt and Tunisia, as well as (desk reviews in) Ukraine.

Timeline

EvD issued the approach paper in July 2022. The approach paper will be available on request as well as on the EBRD website under the Evaluation department section.

A draft report is expected in January 2023 with the final report (and Management Comments) to be presented to the Audit Committee of the Executive Board of Directors for discussion before end Q2 2023. Publication on the EBRD website is expected in Q3 2023. EvD welcomes input from interested people at any stage of the evaluation.

Contacts

Véronique Salze-Lozac'h
Chief Evaluator

Véronique Salze-Lozac'h
Evaluation Department
Chief Evaluator,
Email: SalzeloV@ebrd.com

Tomasz Bartos
Senior Evaluation Manager,
Evaluation Department
Email: BartosT@ebrd.com