

Spanish Trust Fund for Impact Evaluation (SIEF)

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Key Characteristics

- Intent is to provide global knowledge about what works, build capacity, disseminate knowledge and improve effectiveness of social policy
- Spanish Government TF from the Spanish Directorate General of Policy Planning and Evaluation for Development of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development, and the Ministry of Economy and Finance
- 11 million Euros supporting impact evaluations from July 2007-July 2010

World Bank involvement

- Led by the HDN Chief Economist and managed by a team in the Chief Economist's Office, including 2 secondees from Spain
- Intent is to build impact evaluations into projects and to build a strong knowledge base for policy and programs
- Focus is on Bank operational units as well as DEC and across the Networks

More than just impact evaluations

- Want to introduce and foster a culture of evaluation across the Bank and with clients
- Training for Bank staff, clients and local researchers conducted through intensive country-based program
- Dissemination of results through conferences, workshops & publications – but collaboration probably most important

Funding priorities

- Policy relevance and government engagement
- Programs and issues that allow prospective evaluation approaches
- Evaluations built around clusters of evaluation to build knowledge in specific areas and to foster a specific policy focus
- Allows piggybacking Bank projects and activities where priorities already defined by clients

Governance structure

- TF Steering Committee of Bank and Government of Spain sets guidelines
- Technical Committee reviews submissions and decides on funding awards and advises on governance issues
- HDN Chief Economist's office manages implementation and finances
- Cluster managers have important role in fostering and supporting implementation of the evaluations and in integrating approaches and lessons

Selection of Priority Evaluation

- Based on a competitive process with rigorous technical review
- Three windows:
 - Quick wins \$1.5 million
 - Cluster Fund 6.0 million
 - Innovation Fund 1.5 million
- Policy relevance, technical quality, cluster relevance and team composition key are key selection criteria

Progress on Implementation

- **Quick Wins** initiative final with \$1.5 million allocated to range of projects from early childhood development to water supply and sanitation
- **Cluster Fund** has two rounds:
 1. Initial request for proposal produced
 - \$42 million in requests
 - 34 Proposed clusters (16 of > 3 proposals)
 - 163 Individual proposals
 2. Second round submission from: 7 clusters with 26 more developed proposals from these 7 clusters representing \$10 million in requests

Seven finalist impact evaluation clusters

- Basic Education Accountability
- ICT and Education
- Health Contracting and Performance
- HIV/AIDS Prevention
- Malaria Control
- CCTs (second generation)
- Active Labor Market Policies

Training for impact evaluation

- 5-day learning events 6 per year for 3 years
- \$3.0 million
- Cross network, field-based intensive hands-on training
- Encompasses local researchers, government officials as well as Bank staff and others
- Participants in previous BNPP sponsored training ranged from 52-203
- Currently ongoing in Cairo for MENA region

Unfinished business

- Under Spanish Trust Fund:
 - Innovation Fund competition
 - Continued Training
 - Support to impact evaluation teams
 - Dissemination activities jointly with partners and clients
- Raising funds to finance the policy relevant, high quality submissions generated by SIEF

SIEF making a difference

- Big boost to evaluation in the Bank
- Generated interest broadly
- Training complements impact evaluation and further broadens participation as well as understanding
- Dissemination will be key to policymakers, partners, and Bank staff and management
- Ultimate impact is if it improves resource allocation and implementation