



**Using evaluation evidence from
development co-operation programmes:**

Addressing deforestation to reduce CO₂ emissions

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OECD DAC Network on Development Evaluation

Known for normative work and the development of evaluation principles, criteria and standards.

The Network brings together evaluation managers of 29 OECD development co-operation ministries and agencies, five regional development banks, the World Bank, IMF and UNDP.

The Network provides a forum for dialogue, exchange and knowledge sharing- with meetings approximately every 8 months.

Did you know?

45 evaluation units participate in the DAC Evaluation Network

Members have **over 600 staff** and a combined **budget of over 150 million euros**

Members produce **over 1000 reports per year**
(average report approximately 50 page)

= 50,000 pages of evaluation reports

A wealth of evidence

How to turn evaluations into knowledge?

What is DEREc ?

The DAC Evaluation Resource Centre

- An online resource containing over 3000 evaluation reports
- An easy to search database of members' evaluations

www.oecd.org/derec/

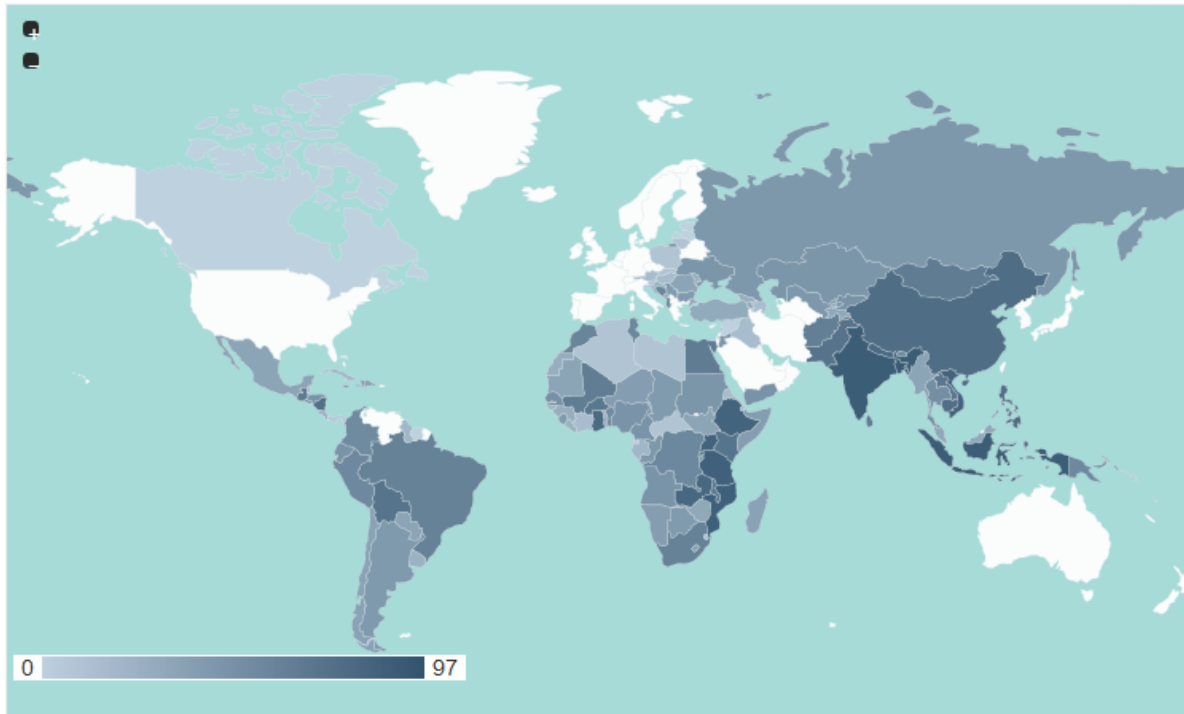


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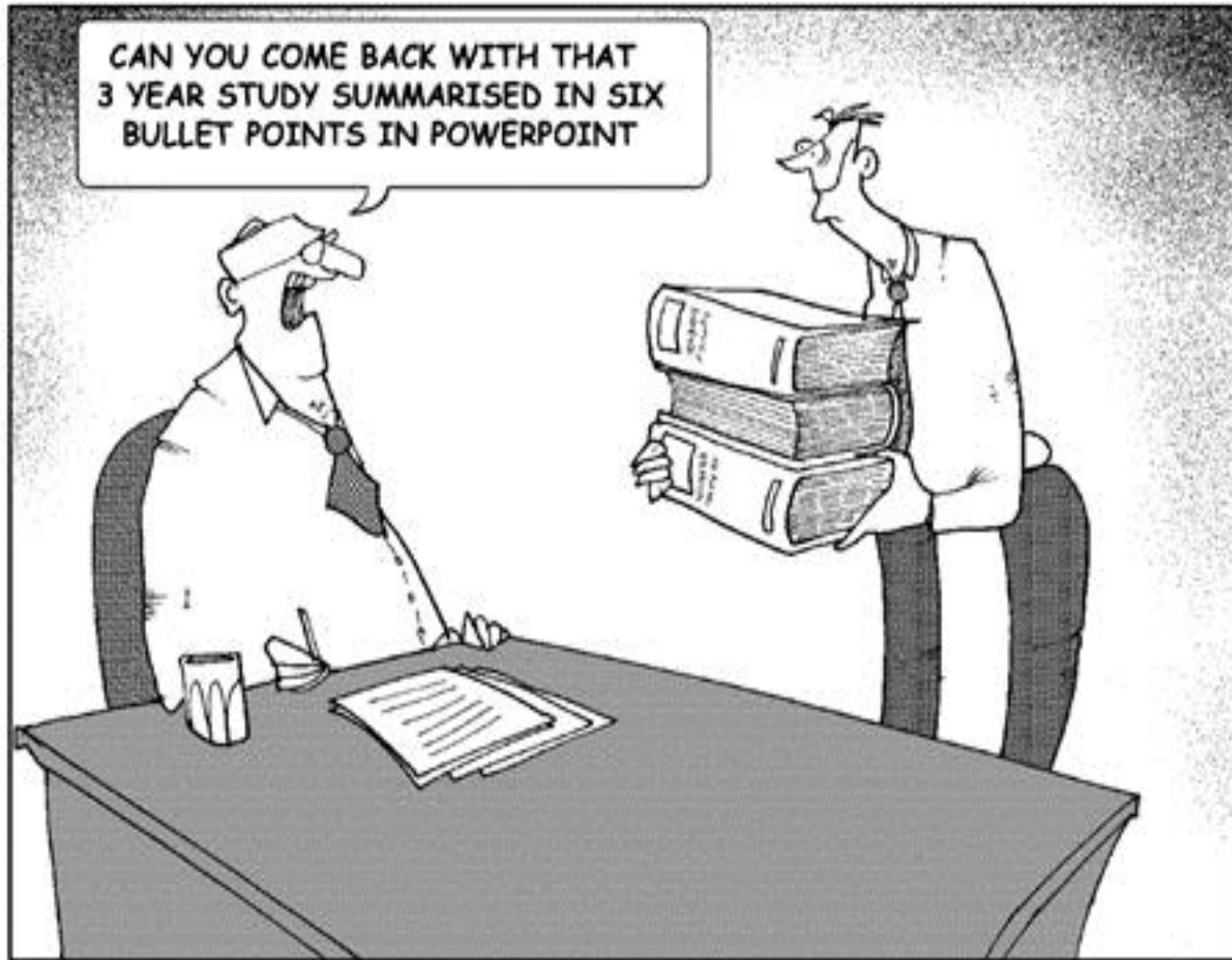
Top sectors or themes

All	94%	<div style="width: 94%;"></div>
Country programme	18%	<div style="width: 18%;"></div>
Governance and public sector management	7%	<div style="width: 7%;"></div>
Corporate evaluations and annual reports	7%	<div style="width: 7%;"></div>

Thousands of evaluations, but obstacles to use?

Main challenges

- Extracting and synthesizing key information
- Deriving general lessons applicable to other programmes



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Summarize key information

THE DAC NETWORK ON DEVELOPMENT EVALUATION

Evaluation Insights series

Informal working papers highlighting emerging findings and relevant policy messages from evaluation.

Part of the Network's effort to support use of evaluative evidence in policy-making and debate.

Aim to be concise & easily readable



THE DAC NETWORK
ON DEVELOPMENT EVALUATION

Evaluation Insights on
development programmes aimed
at reducing deforestation and CO₂
emissions.

→ COP21 & SDGs



Broader questions

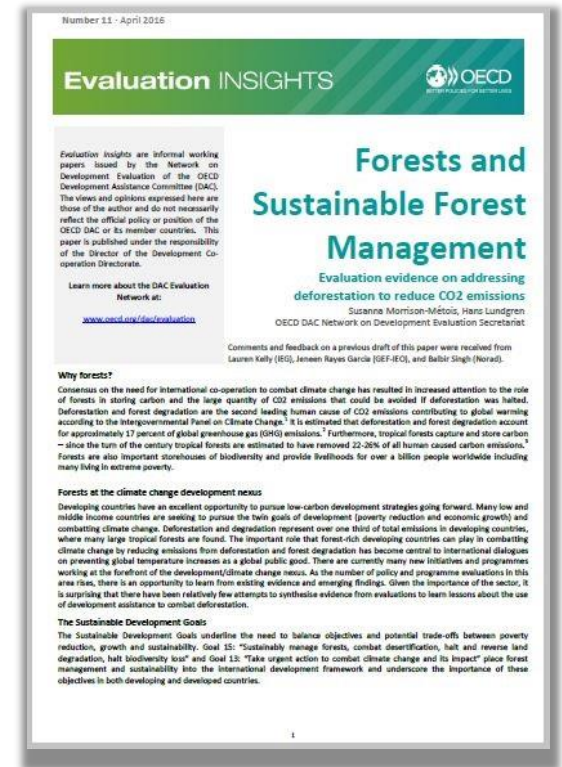
What programmatic approaches are being used?

Is there evidence of effectiveness?

What is the evidence on specific approaches?

Looking at

- Protected Areas
- Payments for Environmental Services (PES)
- Community Based Forest Management
- Results based payments & REDD+ (Reducing Emissions for Deforestation and Forest Degradation)



Using ODA to combat deforestation

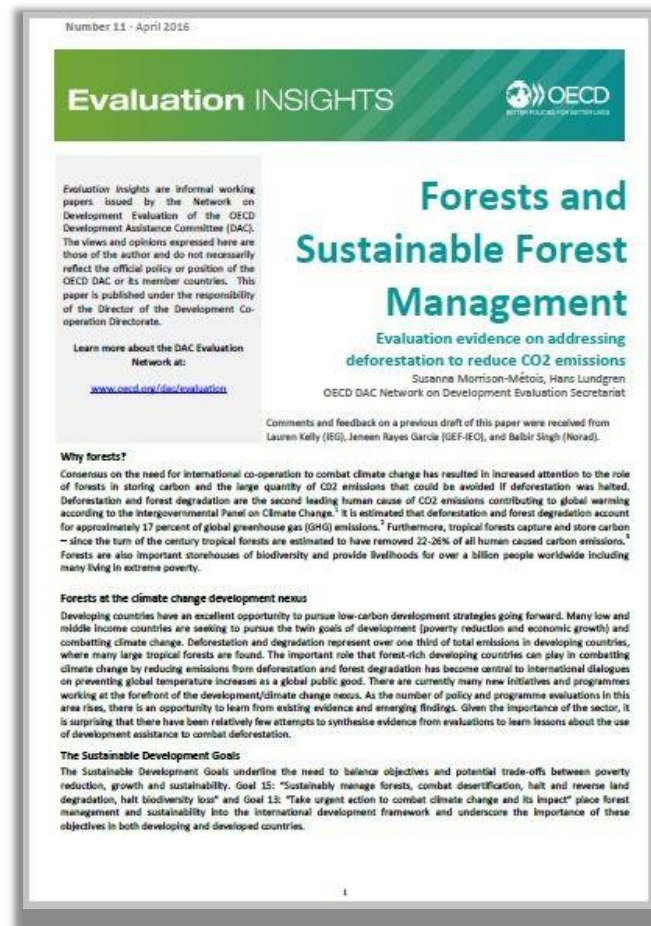
Selection of evaluations:

Search of DEREc & other databases

Evaluations of major actors (UN REDD programme, World Bank & FCPF, GEF, Norad, etc.)

Snowball sampling

Focus on systematic reviews and overall programme & strategy evaluations



Common findings

Need to develop **theories of change**

- Balancing tradeoffs
- Clarifying programme rationale

The **need for alignment** from major actors.

- Complexity of the international aid architecture.

There is a need for **policy coherence** (Externalities)

A narrow focus on CO₂ → a **more holistic, cross sectorial** approach.

More efforts have been made to address **the root causes** of deforestation.

Questions posed by evaluators?

Context matters. The case of Brazil. But what explains the uneven progress in other countries?

Are successful programmes pro-poor?

-Issues of high transaction costs and targeting

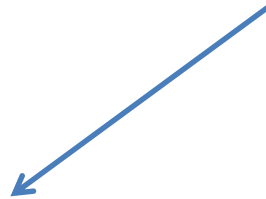
Do local authorities, women and indigenous groups have a **seat at the table**?

Areas for further work

- **Results based payments** – How well do they work? Do they provide the right incentives to the right people? What quantity of CO₂ emissions is actually avoided?
- **Issues related to measuring progress**- long- term processes, improvements to monitoring frameworks, attention to how intermediate outcomes lead to results
- **Measuring and evaluating cost effectiveness of programmes** – improving cost analysis and models for both multilaterals and partner countries
- **The role and impact of the private sector**- opportunities, consumer driven initiatives, leveraging additional finance

Other ways to improve evaluation use

The role of evaluation



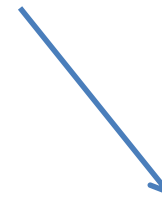
Decision-making

- Should we change course, close down, scale-up?
- Do we need to change strategy?



Learning

- What worked, what didn't and why?
- How to achieve desired results?
- Understanding development processes and influence of context



Accountability

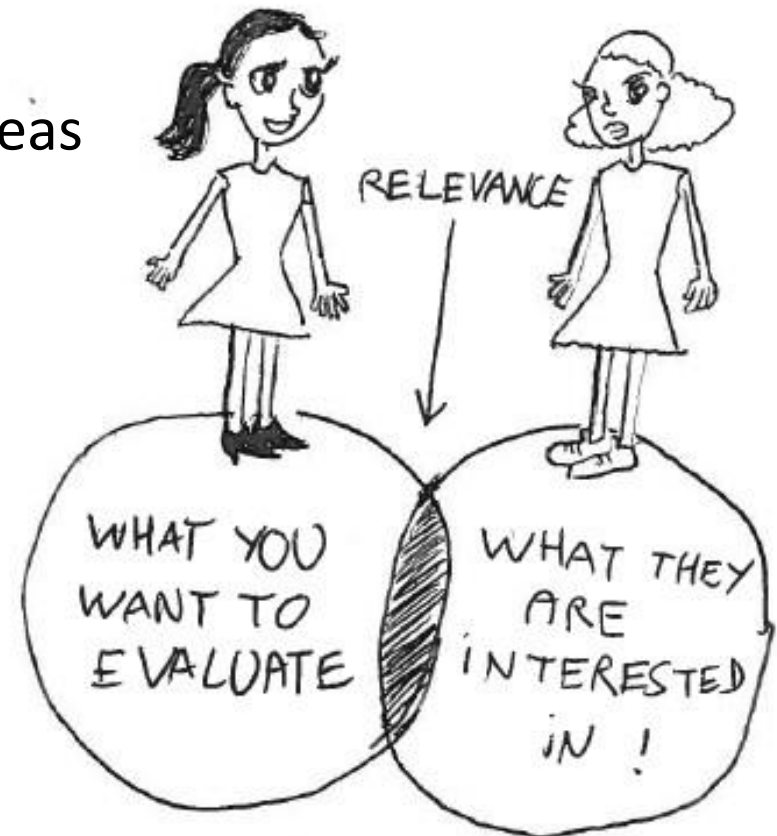
- For achieving results
- For use of resources
- To funders, beneficiaries, governments, citizens, etc.

Avoid getting sucked into an institutional vacuum



Where can evaluation contribute

- 1) Plan and time evaluations strategically
- 2) Identify knowledge gaps & priority areas
- 3) Show how evaluation is relevant
 - highlight key findings
 - easy to use evaluation products



What kind of change?

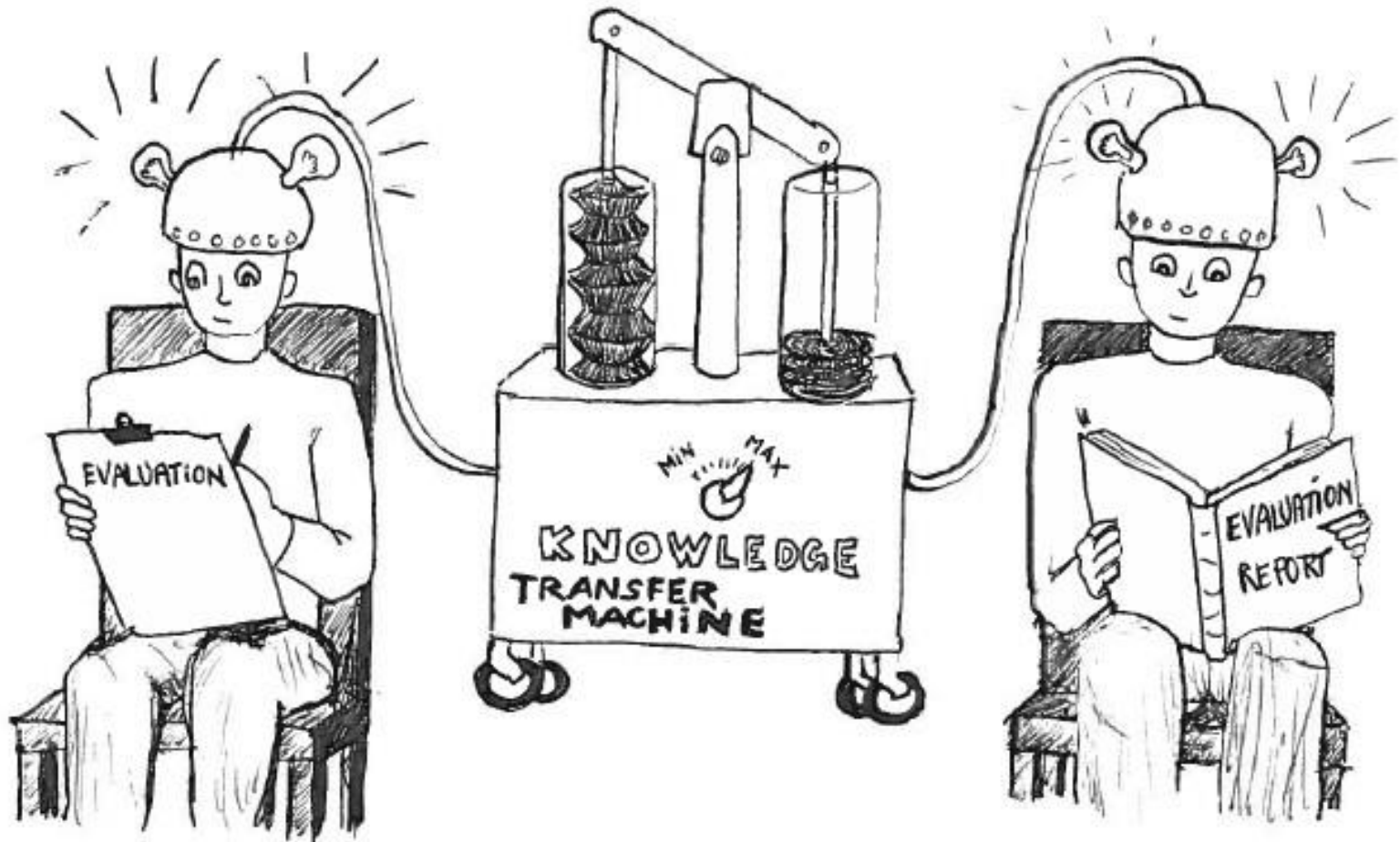
Evaluations may contribute to:

- Conceptual change / challenging assumptions
- Procedural change /change in processes
- Behavioral change of key actors
- Change in policy content
- Discursive change / influence debate
- Confirmation of performance & 'proof of concept'
- Knowledge generation

Or it could lead to no change !

Use of evaluation is essentially a social product

Importance of trust. Knowledge as a form of capital.



Don't disseminate, engage !

Monitoring uptake

Survey of users/ uptake review

- Developing metrics
- Reaching out to stakeholders

Documenting evaluation use / anecdotes

Monitoring citations / downloads

Developing tools and processes

- Management response
- Dashboards to monitor implementation
- Creating a focal point w/ job to use evaluation evidence
- Online learning portal – knowledge management systems
- Evaluation briefs for different audiences

Suggestions (a summary)

1. 'Tackle bigger unanswered questions'
2. Think about the strategic value of the evaluation and how it could lead to change
3. Keep the social aspects of knowledge creation and sharing in mind
4. Summarize key information for policy-makers & focus on the usability of evaluation products

Remember,

Evaluation is not *an end in itself* but *a means to an end*.

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