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THE METHODOLOGICAL INNOVATIONS FOR THE 2014-2020 EU PROGRAMMING PERIOD

The Public Investment Evaluation Unit (UVAL – *Unità di valutazione degli investimenti pubblici*) provides technical support to government bodies by preparing and disseminating methods for evaluating public investment programs and projects before, during and after the projects themselves, in part to optimize the use of EU Structural Funds. The unit is a part of the network of central and regional evaluation teams.

UVAL operates within the Department for Development Policies of the Ministry for Economic Development, to which it was transferred by decree of the Prime Minister on 28 June 2007, as published in the *Gazzetta Ufficiale* on 19 September 2007. The unit received its current structure in 1998 as part of the reorganization of the development promotion functions, which were previously assigned to the Ministry for the Economy and Finance.

The unit determines whether investment programs and projects comply with economic policy guidelines, assesses the financial and economic feasibility of the initiatives, and determines whether they are compatible and appropriate as compared with other solutions, while also evaluating their social and economic impact in the areas concerned.

Collana Materiali Uval

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Abstract

The programming period 2014-2020 of the European Structural Funds was launched in Italy in December 2012 with the document "Methods and objectives for effective use of EU funds 2014-2020", which provides guidance to implement the Partnership Agreement and the Operational Programmes. It proposes seven methodological innovations to support development and territorial cohesion all over the country. The first part of this volume proposes an extract of the quoted document, focused on the seven methodological innovations. Each innovation is described in its essential contents but considering that they need to be introduced at the same time, to achieve the intended change in public development policies and produce benefits for citizens and enterprises. The second section of the publication proposes several slides to enrich the contents of the seven innovations which have already been presented in seminars organized for Italy's national structures mainly involved in coordinating cohesion policies. The main methodological and strategic change for future cohesion policies as proposed in this publication, is the right combination of results&actions. It means expected measurable results directly linked to improvements in citizens' quality of life and detailed actions associated, assuring respect for timing of interventions, continuous partnership involvement, transparency, impact assessment and stronger national coordination of cohesion policies.

Le innovazioni di metodo per la programmazione comunitaria 2014-2020

Sommario

La programmazione comunitaria 2014-2020 è stata avviata in Italia, nel dicembre 2012, con il documento "Metodi e obiettivi per un uso efficace dei fondi comunitari 2014-2020", che fornisce indirizzi per la preparazione dell'Accordo di partenariato e dei Programmi operativi e propone sette innovazioni di metodo per rilanciare lo sviluppo e la coesione del Paese. Nella prima parte del presente volume si propone un estratto di tale documento ed in particolare si riporta la parte relativa alle sette innovazioni metodologiche. Ciascuna innovazione viene descritta nei suoi contenuti essenziali, nella consapevolezza che è necessario che vengano introdotte tutte contemporaneamente per ottenere quel cambio di passo necessario perché l'intervento pubblico volto al riequilibrio territoriale riesca a garantire investimenti che producano benefici per i cittadini, il lavoro e le imprese. Nella seconda parte del testo si propongono materiali di approfondimento dedicati ad alcune delle sette innovazioni, predisposti a supporto di un ciclo di seminari di confronto interno alle strutture di coordinamento nazionale di queste politiche. La pubblicazione offre dunque una rassegna di testi e slide che propongono, quale principale cambiamento metodologico e strategico per le politiche di coesione del futuro, il binomio risultati-azioni. Risultati attesi misurabili e legati ad un effettivo miglioramento della qualità della vita dei cittadini, e azioni circostanziate e ben calibrate per ottenerli, devono accompagnarsi al rispetto dei tempi degli interventi, al coinvolgimento del partenariato in tutte le fasi della programmazione, alla massima trasparenza, alla valutazione d'impatto e alla funzione di presidio nazionale di orientamento delle stesse politiche di coesione.

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- *Metodi (Methods)*, which offers papers dealing with methodological issues and guidelines in all of the areas in which the Unit operates