

General points of evaluation on EES project phases

PHASE I- Selection and kick off

What went well?

- Assessing the eco system in the respective countries together (although more time would have been better)
- Participants, embassy and advisory board members participating
- Dialogue among civil servants and entrepreneurs

What could improve?

- Stronger criteria for selection of candidates
 - o e.g. motivation, their decision making power, experience in entrepreneurship etc
 - o Ensure all elements of the eco system are present among participants
 - o Ensure minimum 2 or 3 participants per organisation
- Clarify role of the embassy
- Expectation management (e.g. not paid as participant/advisory board member, no per diem etc.)
- Explain the idea behind the EES programme and its objective, the expected action plan, what is expected from the participants and what experts offer.

PHASE II- Benchmarking study visit in the Netherlands

What went well:

- Interesting topics, speakers and study visits (e.g. Orange Corners and Yes Delft)
- Network reception (including presence of RVO and the embassies)
- Most elements of the Eco system model were covered in the different sessions or study visits
- Interesting exchanges because of the presence of civil servants and entrepreneurs
- The presence of the trainers during the whole 5 days
- Logistical support (e.g. visa, hotel, translation etc) was very much appreciated

What could improve?

- Need for more time for action planning and start at an earlier moment during the week
- Include more basic modules about entrepreneurship (e.g. to ensure everybody understands the main concepts) during program in Netherlands or at earlier stage
- Include simulation about the eco system module
- Spend more time on country teambuilding to facilitate action planning
- Clarify again the requirements for the action plan and what is expected from participants and what do experts offer

PHASE III Coaching

What went well?

- Coaching resulted (partly) in action planning
- Setting fixed times for online meetings

What could improve

- More hours for expert coaching needed

PHASE IV training in country

What went well

- Importance to invite the hierarchies to take part in the training in country
- Enough time for Action Planning
- Session on project management (since these skills are valuable to work as a team on action planning)
- Inviting important stakeholders including entrepreneurs to give feedback on action plans

What could improve

- Presence of trainers e.g. to answer questions about next steps and to coach with different action planning groups
- Presence of embassy
- Include session on receiving feedback

General points of feedback on the whole EES project

- Ensure the timeframe of the implementation of the action plan is sufficient, aim for 6 months. Take into account religious holidays and summer holiday.
- Set a clear objective for the project.
 - o Setting up an actual EES is too ambitious
 - o Creating awareness of the importance of EES, and then determine a process to engage with various stakeholders, is more feasible
- Ensure action planning does not become too ambitious, should remain a feasible assignment besides work
- Focus on teambuilding and or select members from the same organisation. Otherwise they are expected to work as a team without knowing each other well
- Make some funding available to deliver partial support for action planning. Or what if it would be turned into a competition?
- Ensure project ownership. There is a need for more responsibility among participants. Who is the driver behind the action planning? Could possibly be tackled by better selection of participants (e.g. ensure motivation and “entrepreneurial mindset”)
- Added value if all participants share a common language and come from similar countries. Therefore, limit the number of countries.
- Include more basic entrepreneurial models in country or online