



agencia
de evaluación
y calidad

AEVAL: The institution, evaluation
approach and experience

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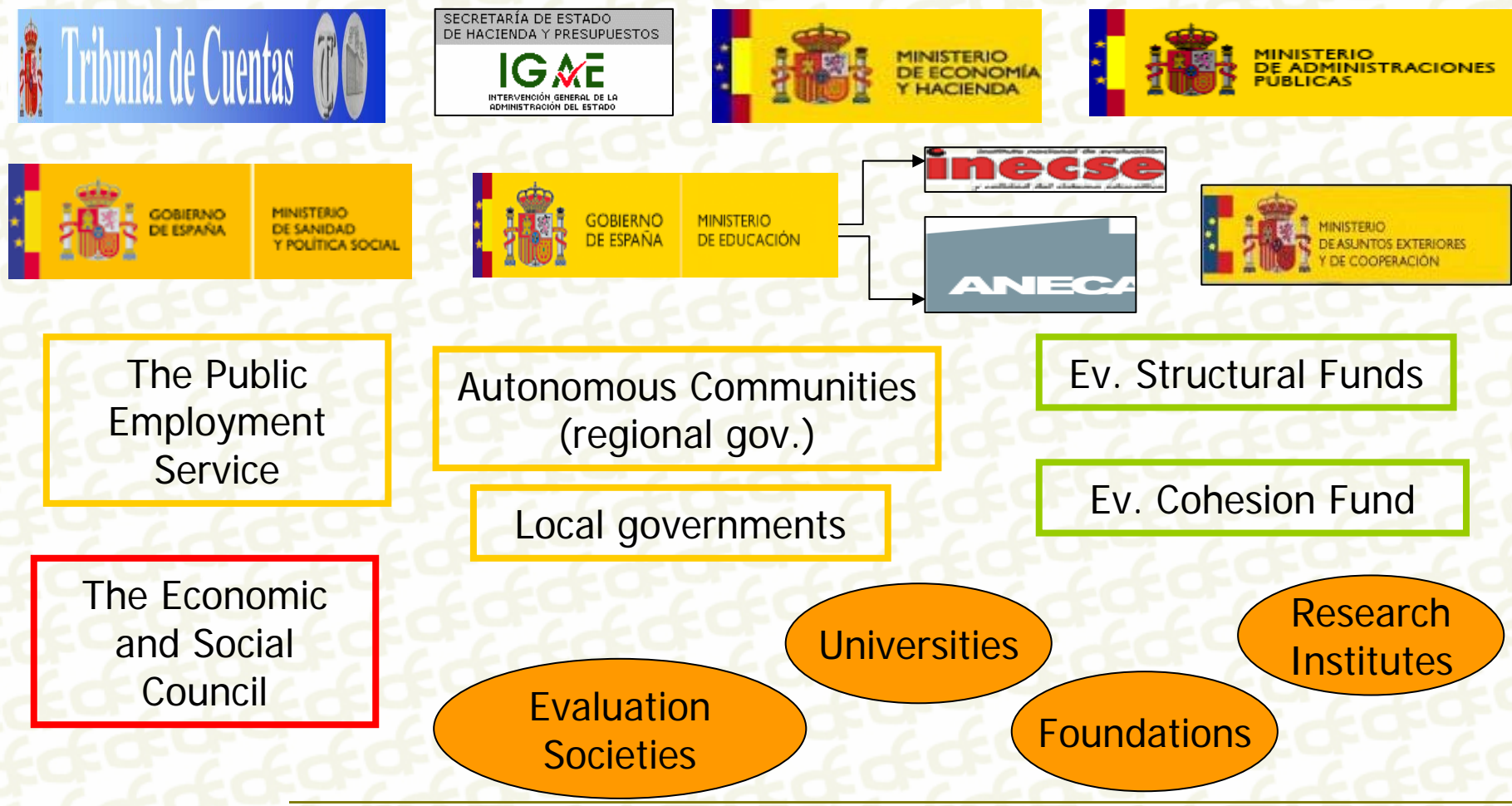
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THE EVALUATION FRAMEWORK IN SPAIN. AEVAL JUSTIFICATION, OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITY

Evaluation of public interventions in Spain

Previous to the establishment of AEVAL, an expert panel was commissioned to analyse the situation of evaluation in Spain and report on the opportunity of an evaluation agency, its characteristics and functions.



Reasons for promoting the evaluation of public interventions in Spain

A citizen's demand to improve transparency and accountability

A political and management need, for learning and improving, and also to approach decentralised and cross-sectoral policies

The budgetary context: the quality of public expenditure

The productivity/competitiveness challenge

A Government's commitment framed within its broad political guidelines of modernisation and innovation in Public Administrations

International evaluation developments in the EU and OECD

The State Agency for the Evaluation of Public Policies and Quality of Services. Spain.



- AEVAL was created in January 2007. It is a public-law body with its own legal personality and resources and with autonomous management. It was the first of a new kind of government institutions: “state agencies”. This is a new form of organisation provided with a higher level of autonomy and flexibility of structure and management, coupled with a stronger control on goal achievements.
- Its mission is to promote and perform evaluations of public interventions and to support quality management of public services, with the aim to encourage the rational use of resources and to enhance the accountability of Public Administrations.

AEVAL: Institutional Framework

- It is attached to the **Ministry of the Presidency** through its office-holder. The **Chair** is appointed by the Spanish cabinet.
- The **Governing Board** is the top management body in the Agency. It has representatives of three Ministries, trade unions and independent professionals with widely recognised reputation.
- Representatives of the **Autonomous Communities** (the self-governing regions in Spain) can take part in this board if they sign a collaboration agreement with the Agency.
- An **inter-administrative network** (local-regional-central) has been established to collaborate in quality and evaluation developments
- The Agency reports to the **Parliament** by request, to present the Agency Annual activity report and also to report on the other state agencies' activities to improve quality.

AEVAL: Planning and operating

- The Agency's activities and its reciprocal relations with the central government are governed by the **Management Contract** for its term of effect of 4 years. This contract establishes the goals and resources of the Agency.
- The governing Board approves the **Annual Work Plan**. Part of it is a list of scheduled evaluations of public policies and programmes commissioned by the Spanish cabinet.
- AEVAL has a small **structure** composed mainly of civil servants. The Agency works in collaboration with external experts and different public and private organisations.
- The central government provides most of the **funds**, but the Agency can also generate its own resources.

AEVAL commitments

- Carrying out the evaluations included in the annual work program approved by the Spanish cabinet.
- Annual evaluation of the degree of implementation and results of key measures included in the Spanish National Reform Program.
- Annual evaluation of policies included in the Spanish Strategy for Sustainable Development.
- Annual report to Parliament (Congress) on the activities carried-out by State Agencies and their commitments for improving the quality of services rendered to citizens.
- Annual report of the Observatory for the Quality of Public Services.

AEVAL EVALUATION APPROACH. EVALUATIONS CONDUCTED IN 2007-2009

Some features of the evaluation approach in AEVAL

The Agency details its evaluation approach and procedures in the document: *The Evaluation function. Principles and Guidelines for the evaluation of public policies and programmes*

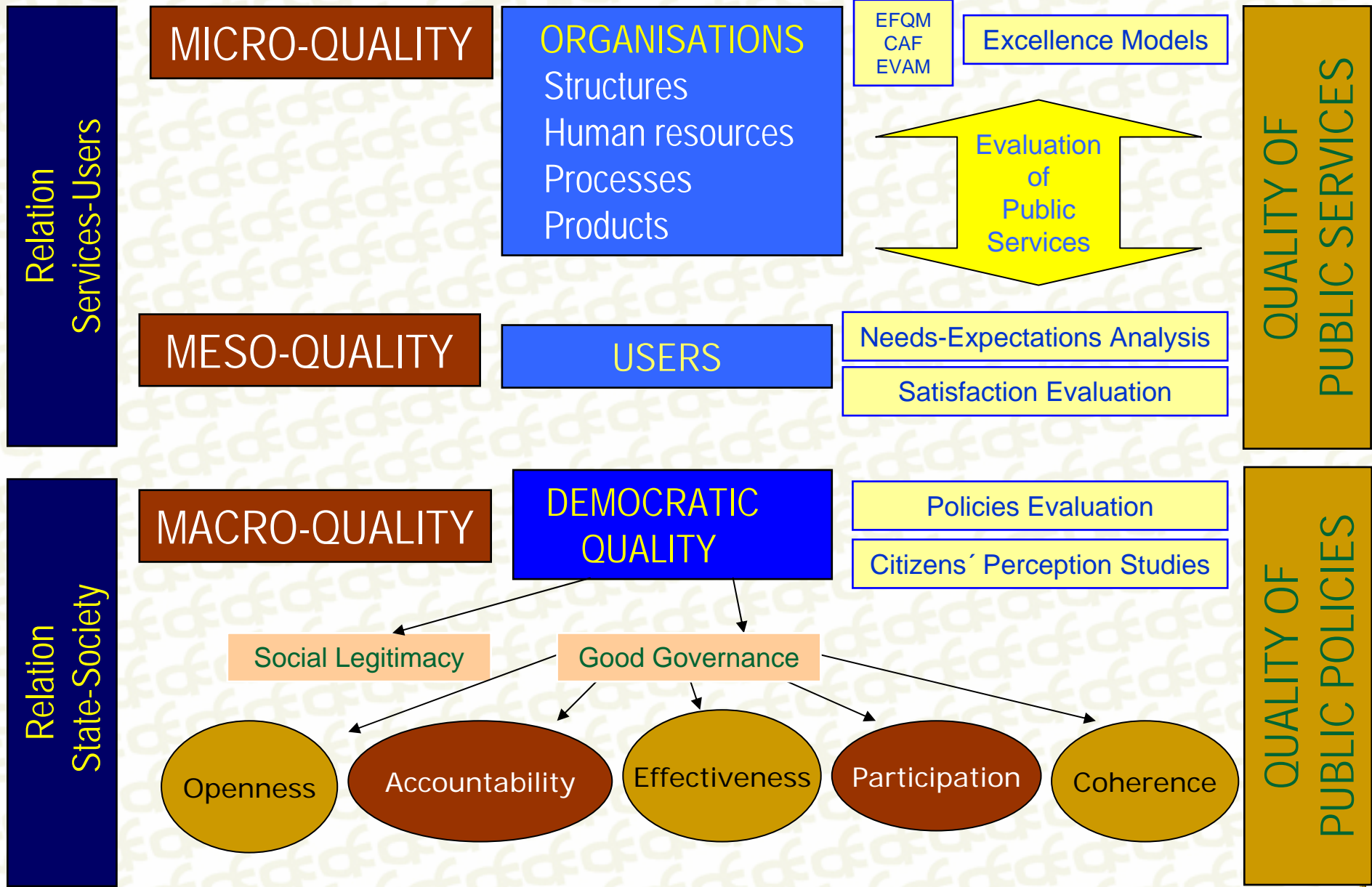
AEVAL promotes evaluation as an instrument for *learning and improving*, for *transparency and accountability*.

AEVAL applies to the evaluation process the *good governance principles*: openness, accountability, effectiveness, participation and coherence.

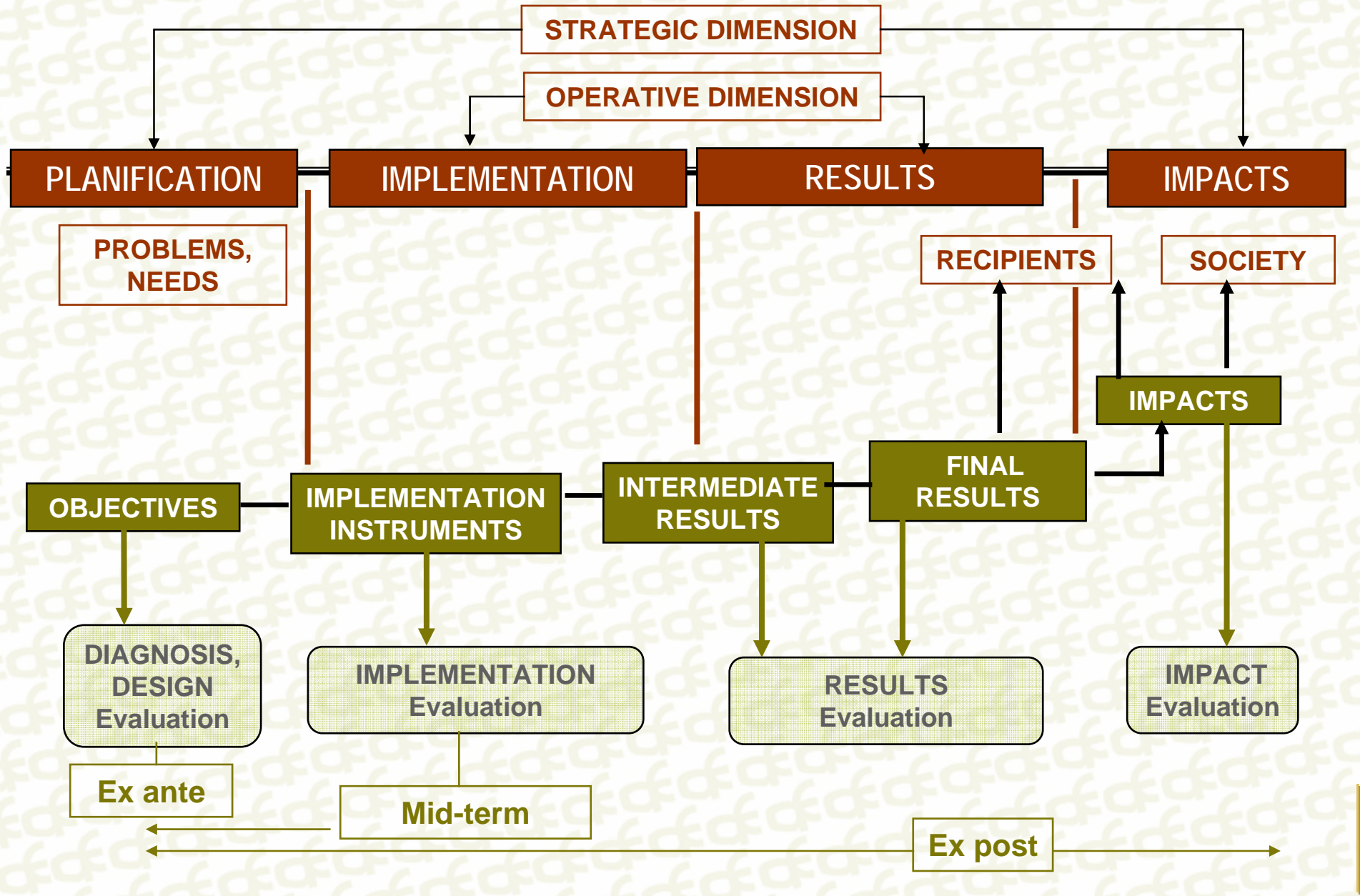
AEVAL follows a *comprehensive approach*:

- Considering the different levels to evaluate the quality of public interventions (macro, mezzo, micro)
- Including the strategic and the operative dimensions
- Targeting the whole policy cycle

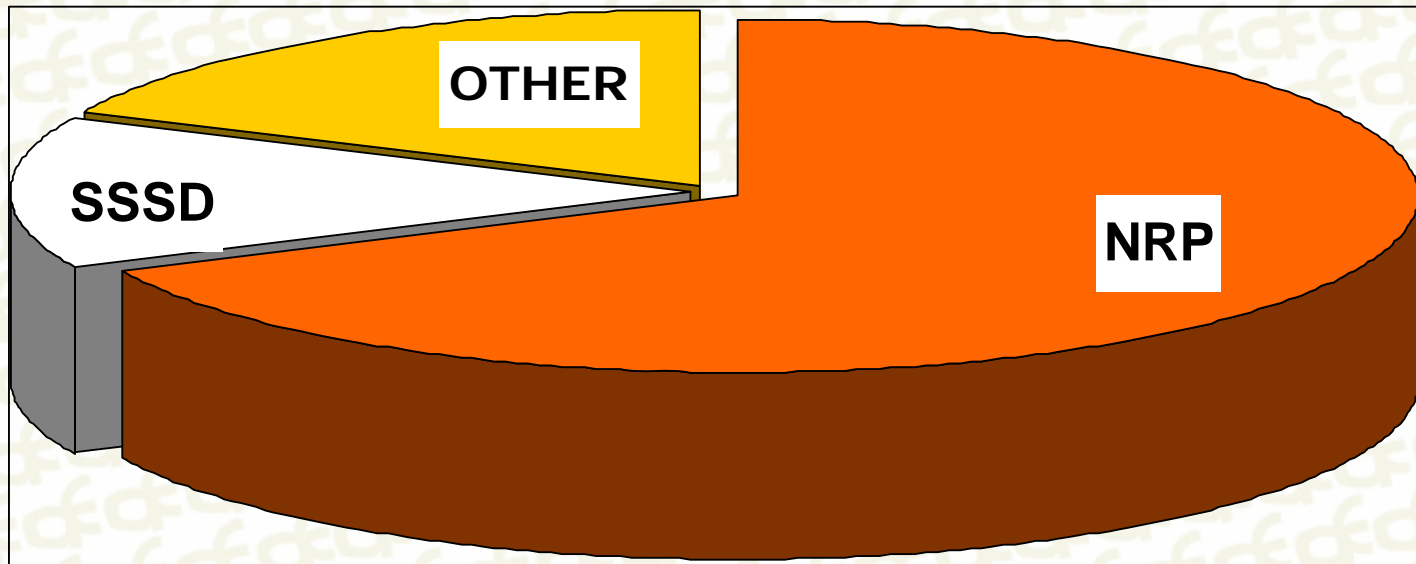
A comprehensive approach: Different levels to evaluate the quality of public interventions



Evaluation in the policy cycle



23 evaluations in 2007-2009



Department	Commissioned Evaluations	Work Plan
Science & Innovation	Programmes to foster research, development and innovation. INGENIO 2010	2007
	Improvement of the technology transfer system to companies	2008
Culture	Quality of service in State Museums	2007
	Intellectual property rights management systems	2008 y 2009
Economy & Finance	The financial facilities to boost entrepreneurial activity	2007
Education	The educational grants and scholarships system	2008
Industry, Tourism & Trade	Administrative procedures for company creation in Spain	2007
	The effectiveness of energy security policies	2007
	National Transition Plan to Terrestrial DTV Programme Learning to Export	2009 2009

Department	Commissioned Evaluations	Work Plan
Environment, rural and marine affairs	The National Registry of Greenhouse Gas Emissions Allowances (RENADE)	2007
	Actions financed by the National Budget in areas of socioeconomic influence for national natural reserves	2008
	Management and functioning of hydrographic basins	2009
Interior	Strategic Plan of Road Safety 2005-2008	2009
Foreign Affairs and Cooperation	Training Programmes in the Spanish Cooperation for Development	2009
Health and Social Policy	The effect of measures adopted for the rationalization of pharmaceutical expenditure	2007
	The role of the Central State on the creation of a system for the promotion of the autonomy and the long-term care of dependent citizens	2008

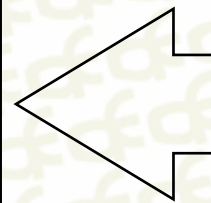
**Labour and
Immigration**

Labour taxes incentives to promote employment in Ceuta and Melilla	2007
Policy of bonus and reductions of the Social Security System contributions	2008
Policy of bonus and reductions for disabled	2009
Intermediate Evaluation of the Strategic Plan of Citizenship and Integration (by Convention)	2009
Measures to rationalise and improve the management of the Temporary Incapacity Benefit	2009

Achievements & remaining challenges

ACHIEVEMENTS

- AEVAL 23 evaluations
- Inter-administrative network
- Greater awareness of evaluation
- Parliamentary interest



- International trends
- Assignments by law
- Demand for evaluations
- Growing quality of evaluations

REMAINING CHALLENGES

- Promoting changes in the planning culture: solid logic of intervention and monitoring systems
- Promoting evaluation use
- Enhancing evaluation culture and evaluation institutionalisation



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Services**