



Plenary meeting of Committee 2

Terceira, Açores-P, 23rd October 2007

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Original English

Document **for adoption**

Monitoring & Evaluation Committee 2

Version 8/10/2007

Introduction – Why this exercise?

The AER wants to give its members the best service possible and to ensure that we are meeting your needs and your demands.

Following the restructuring of the AER in 2006, a new Standing Committee for Monitoring and Evaluation was created. The aim of this body is to monitor the AER's activities and to identify ways to improve the functioning, impact and membership of the AER.

During its meeting on 7th May 2007 in Hamar (NO), it was decided that Committee 2 and the AER Youth Team would be monitored and evaluated during the second half of 2007.

How does it work?

The aim of this exercise is to have an open discussion about the Committee's work and to agree on how all Committee members can work to improving our activities and impact. The outcomes will be transmitted to the Standing Committee Monitoring & Evaluation and the AER General Assembly in Udine (I) in November 2007.

You will find here a list of issues and some questions to consider in preparation for the Committee plenary session on 23 October 2007 in the Azores (P). At the end of this document, in Annex I, there is also some information about the Committee's structure and resources, to help you in your evaluation.

An open debate will be held during the meeting with the participants.

If you have any other issues you would like to raise, or if you would like to submit your views in writing, please contact the Committee 2 Secretariat (c.meschede@aer.eu).

Issues to consider

1. Committee structure (networks, themes, projects)

Do you approve of the current Committee structure, with an emphasis on thematic networks rather than sub-Committees?

Do you think the number of networks and themes covered are: enough, too many, too few?

2. Committee membership:

How can we attract new members to the Committee and the AER? Why are some countries not represented / over-represented within Committee 2?

3. Committee Events (plenary sessions, conferences, seminars)

How can we improve the quality and impact of the Committee's events?

How can we improve the way the events are organised?

Do we do enough / too many / too few events?

4. Running Projects

How can the AER help member regions create and run projects?

How can we involve more regions in projects?

Do we do enough / too many / too few projects in Committee 2?

How can the regions better benefit from the outcomes of projects?

5. Committee 2 Advocacy work (lobbying campaigns, promoting positions & declarations)

Do we do enough / too many / too few advocacy campaigns in Committee 2?

How can we maximise the impact of our work?

How can we improve relations with external institutions (European Commission, Committee of the Regions, Members of European Parliament)?

6. Information disseminated to members (website, mailings, newsletters)

Do you receive enough / too much / too little information regarding the Committee's work?

How can we improve communication between the members / between the members and the Secretariat?

**Overall, how do you evaluate Committee 2?
Are there other issues you would like to raise?**

LK & OG, October 2007



ANNEX I

Background information on Committee 2

Committee 2 structure

5 Networks:

- Preventing alcohol-related harm
- Responding to demographic changes (ALIVE)
- Gender Equality
- Emergency Planning
- E-he@lth

5 Projects:

- Peer reviews on preventing alcohol-related harm (European Public Health Programme) – run by AER Secretariat with input from Jönköping (S) regarding contents
- Emergency planning: discussion on AER-lead project under Interreg IV C
- Ehealth: discussion of AER participation thematic network on ehealth interoperability under ICT Policy Support Programme
- Preventing Domestic Violence- co-financed under DAPHNE II- run by Värmland (S)
- Demographic Changes & Active Ageing–run by Västerbotten (S)

Committee 2 Budget:

29000 euros per annum for Committee activities (mainly used for technical arrangements for Committee meetings – interpretation, technical equipment) + 8000 euros for Gender Equality network + 11000 euros co-financing for Alcohol Project

Committee events (per year)

- 2 Committee plenary sessions + seminar/conference
- meetings of the networks at the occasion of the Committee plenary
- ad hoc meetings of the networks/ ad hoc thematic seminars linked to networks' activities

Committee 2 Secretariat staff:

- 1 Senior Policy Coordinator – full time
- 1 Junior Policy Coordinator – part-time - 80%
- 1 Policy Officer (Brussels based) – detached by Wallonie region (B)