



Evaluation of the WMES and Delivery Mechanisms

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Structure of the Presentation

- Objectives of the Studies
- Our Approach
- Progress to Date
- Emerging Issues:
 - RES
 - DMs

Objectives of the Studies

- WMES :
 - Effectiveness in meeting the economic needs of the region;
 - Assessment of Strategic Added Value;
 - Provide evidence of outcomes;
 - Provide a framework for ‘learning’ with a focus on outcomes and impacts;
 - Provide advice for the development of future evaluation systems.
- DMs:
 - Relevance of rationale;
 - Institutional/ organisational arrangements;
 - Outcomes and impacts;
 - Costs and benefits, effectiveness and VFM;
 - Strategic Added Value;
 - Were the objectives and targets met and why?



Our Approach

- Led by Integrated Evaluation Framework (IEF)
- Concurrent research
 - Review of existing documents
 - Review of financial and output data
 - Telephone survey of stakeholders
 - In-depth interviews with key informants
 - Telephone survey of firms in clusters/ corridors

Progress to Date

- Document review – near complete
- Financial and output data – have a framework for completion.
Issue of what finance is attributed to the RES
- Stakeholder interviews – ongoing. Undertaken and arranged over 100, total will be around 120-150
- Firm survey – starting. Target of 100.

Emerging Issues - RES

- Wide consensus that WMES has played an important strategic role - important framework for strategic action
- Broad agreement with pillars – but could be made more distinctive to region.
- More emphasis to be given to the challenges for the region
- Strategy V's Delivery (Framework and Action Plans)
- Mixed evidence base (market failure?)

Emerging issues - RES

- Need for wider ownership
- Need for wider approach?
- SAV of WMES
 - Mixed views on the vision
 - Is the main reference point in terms of regional development
 - Influence – over priorities and spend
 - Creating and supporting partnership
 - But – not clear about market failure or opportunities
 - More to do in alignment of regional strategies

Emerging issues - RES

- Pillar 1 – views are generally very positive
- Pillar 2 – support for the work of the RSP. Evidence base.
- Pillar 3 - generally positive especially in relation to strategic interventions
- Pillar 4 – important but weak.
- Powerful Voice – important and more to do

Emerging Issues - DMs

- RZ's Increased strategic role and SAV. The concept remains well supported.
- RZ's Zones: taken a long time; partnership and delivery structures; ready to deliver?
- Corridors: engaging HE, beginning to work
- Clusters: private sector support; taken a long time, but some are starting to work
- Insufficient cross-DM co-operation

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Thank-you for listening