Deciding to Evaluate During Project Design

OUs can utilize this Flowchart to understand the evaluation requirements in ADS 201. For missions, all three evaluation requirements must be met during the duration of the mission’s CDCS. Washington OUs that manage program funds and design and implement projects as described in ADS 201.3.3 must conduct one evaluation per project. All OUs can go through this decision tree for each project, and revisit this chart as many times as necessary until all requirements have been met across the portfolios. Missions and Washington OUs can always conduct non-required evaluations at any time. To help decide whether to conduct a non-required evaluation, please see "Planning an Evaluation" (Section 3 of the Evaluation Toolkit). For further guidance on how the ADS 201 evaluation requirements apply to you, contact your Program Office.

**START**

Within this project, is there a **new, untested approach** that is anticipated to be expanded in scale or scope?  

- **no**
  - Does the OU plan to conduct a **whole-of-project** evaluation for this project?  
    - **yes**
      - OU will conduct a whole-of-project evaluation. For questions, please see the ADS 201 Additional Help Whole-of-Project.  
      - For this project, met: Req. 1 ✓ Req. 2 n/a Req. 3 ✓
    - **no**
      - **yes**
        - Is an impact evaluation feasible for this **new, untested approach**?
          - **no**
            - OU must conduct a performance evaluation for the **new approach**.  
              - For this project, met: Req. 1 ✓ Req. 2 ✓ Req. 3 n/a
            - **no**
              - OU must conduct an impact evaluation for the **new approach**.  
                - For this project, met: Req. 1 ✓ Req. 2 ✓ Req. 3 n/a
          - **yes**
            - **yes**
              - Is an impact evaluation feasible for this **new, untested approach**?
                - **no**
                  - OU must conduct a performance evaluation for the **new approach**.  
                    - For this project, met: Req. 1 ✓ Req. 2 ✓ Req. 3 n/a
                - **yes**
                  - OU must conduct an impact evaluation for the **new approach**.  
                    - For this project, met: Req. 1 ✓ Req. 2 ✓ Req. 3 n/a
            - **yes**
              - ADS 201
                - Evaluations are required in three instances:
                  - **Requirement 1:** At least one evaluation per project +
                  - **Requirement 2:** Evaluation (impact, if feasible) of each untested approach/pilot intervention to be expanded +
                  - **Requirement 3:** At least one whole-of-project performance evaluation within the CDCS timeframe *

Before finalizing your plans, check with your Program Office to see that one of the projects in your mission CDCS fulfills the whole-of-project requirement.

+Missions and Washington OUs (that manage program funds and design and implement projects) must meet this requirement.

*Only Applicable to Missions