

Implementation evaluation of the Framework for Strategic and Annual Performance Plans

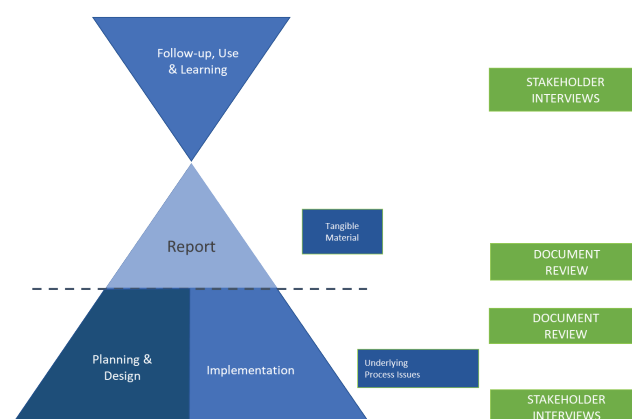


National Treasury introduced the Framework for Strategic and Annual Performance Plans (FSAPP) in 2010, with supporting PFMA regulations, to provide a common planning framework across national and provincial spheres of government. The FSAPP added to a suite of policies giving structure to the Government-Wide Monitoring & Evaluation System (2007). Specifically, the FSAPP was intended to align the strategic and annual performance planning cycles of national and provincial government with an emphasis on outcomes.

PDG was appointed to undertake a mixed-methods implementation evaluation of the FSAPP employing a utilisation-focused approach. The evaluation design entailed a clarificatory review phase which led to the development of a previously implicit Theory of Change and logical framework for the FSAPP. This informed data collection which included departmental electronic surveys, semi-structured interviews, focus groups, structured review of planning and reporting documents, as well as secondary datasets.

The evaluation involved a range of institutional stakeholders at the centre of government possessing at times overlapping and shifting responsibilities for planning, monitoring and reporting. Despite its complexity, PDG navigated a dynamic institutional environment to source previously unassembled data and incorporated an innovative structured documentary review process, linking an analysis of statutory plans to their corresponding annual reports. These analyses were vital to providing a comprehensive picture of FSAPP implementation and rendering a judgement on the strengths and weaknesses of implementation to date.

The evaluation findings and recommendations have proved a



valuable informant to on-going planning reform across the South African state. The final evaluation report was adopted by Cabinet of Republic of South Africa in March of 2019. The Department of Planning, Monitoring & Evaluation has applied the recommendations in the development of an updated FSAPP, as well as used the report as an informant to broader planning reform in advance of the 2019-2024 term of government.

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FSAPP PROJECT:

Project Profile: Implementation evaluation of the Framework for Strategic and Annual Performance Plans

Client: Department of Planning, Monitoring & Evaluation

Date: 2015 - 2018