



Independent
Evaluation Office
GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY

Applying Rapid Impact Evaluation to Assess Impacts of the GEF-UNIDO Energy Efficiency Program in South East Asia

Canadian Evaluation Society Conference 2017
“Lessons from Applying RIE in Canada and Internationally”
Leading Edge Panel

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Background

- IEO is an independent unit in the GEF partnership tasked with higher-than-project level evaluations
- IEO mission is to enhance global environmental benefits through excellence in evaluation
- IEO is particularly interested in assessing environmental impacts in the GEF focal areas (Biodiversity, Climate Change, Land Degradation, Chemicals and International Waters)

Why RIE?

- RIE used for a case study in a highly complex evaluation on GEF programs
- RIE used for impact assessment, alternative to geospatial impact analysis
- The aim was to obtain estimates of GHG emission reductions attributable to the program

On what?

- The Evaluand was an Energy Efficiency program, composed on highly homogeneous projects implemented in five South East Asian countries
- Project components included:
 - support to ISO 50,001 standard regulatory framework
 - EnMS and SO Training to enterprises, service providers, financial institutions and government
 - Energy efficiency pilots

How?

- The full RIE approach was applied
- A long and iterative design phase (visits in DC and Vienna)
- One-week missions to two out of five countries
- Estimates of the program contribution to improved energy efficiency in industries from the three expert groups in each country and from a global panel
- The evaluation report and RIE Case Study will be soon available on

www.gefieo.org

What did it take?

- A long time to set it all up, and to carry it out
- A larger budget than expected
- Adapting the approach to a mission type setting that is typical of development evaluation
- Great support from GEF Secretariat and especially from UNIDO
- Use of RIE Technical Advisers was different from standard RIE, as was the expert panels, and e-surveys

Did it yield what we expected?

- Estimates of the EE results attributable to the intervention were generated
- These could be triangulated with other sources, suggesting these results have validity
- But getting the actual estimates of GHG emission reductions from the two technical advisors was challenging
- We used the RIE results in the evaluation

What would we do it differently?

- Hiring of Technical Advisors could have been done earlier in the process
- A mission type setting requires a different RIE process, with the risk of it being less use-seeking. Sharing the project summaries could have been done prior to the missions
- Different use of RIE Technical Advisors... not much to change here
- Country expert panels composition... maybe we could have seek advice from others beyond the TAs

A scenic landscape of a rugged coastline. In the foreground, a grassy hillside slopes down towards the sea. The middle ground features steep, dark, and rocky cliffs that drop into the water. The background shows more distant, layered mountain ranges under a sky filled with soft, white clouds. The overall tone is serene and majestic.

Thank you!

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