Enhancing development practice and research with evaluation data:

The I.nteractive D.atabase E.valuation a.nd L.earning IDEaL

3D Seminar

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Enhancing development *practice* through institutional learning

—Systematic Institutional Learning is a key objective in many institutions and at various levels

—Enables evidence-based decision making

—Two ingredients:

(1) Knowledge / Evidence needs to be available => ideally in a systematically generated or collected form

(2) "Evidence-to-practice" => knowledge needs to be prepared in a way that can be effectively and easily used for Institutional Learning

— Traditional „Knowledge App“:

—Also in electronic form not necessarily more easily usable

—Key features of a knowledge app: focused on contents and on the needs of the user = easily accessible and comprehensible; searchable and filterable

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Developing IDEaL

—Starting point late 2019: Around 1,100 project evaluations since 2007, which systematically evaluate projects using the OECD-DAC criteria => key ingredient (1) systematic evidence base

—Hardcopy versions of these project evaluations were coded into a database, combined with project info from the KfW project management database and country context data, then programmed into an App == key ingredient (2) evidence-to-practice

—IDEaL = **I**nteractive **D**atabase **E**valuation **a**nd **L**earning

—Designed for both intra-institutional learning (internal App live since 2021) and inter-institutional knowledge transfer and transparency – web-based App live since June 2023

IDEaL. Interactive Database for Evaluation and Learning

Search for projects

Search IDEaL

Search and filter

Region

Africa Subsahara, As… 6

Country

Enter search term

Sector

Enter search term

BMZ Priority area

Enter search term

Type of implementing partner

Enter search term

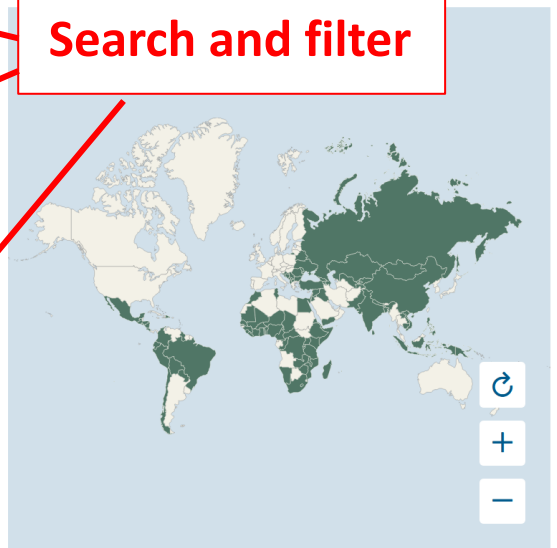
Overall rating:

Min 1

Max 6

× Clear filters

Your search returned 1143 results



Overall rating: 2.7

2.1	Relevance
2.2	Coherence
2.6	Effectiveness
2.6	Efficiency
2.9	Impact
2.8	Sustainability

For more information about our rating process, please visit this link.

Results per page 25

Sort by Latest evaluation first

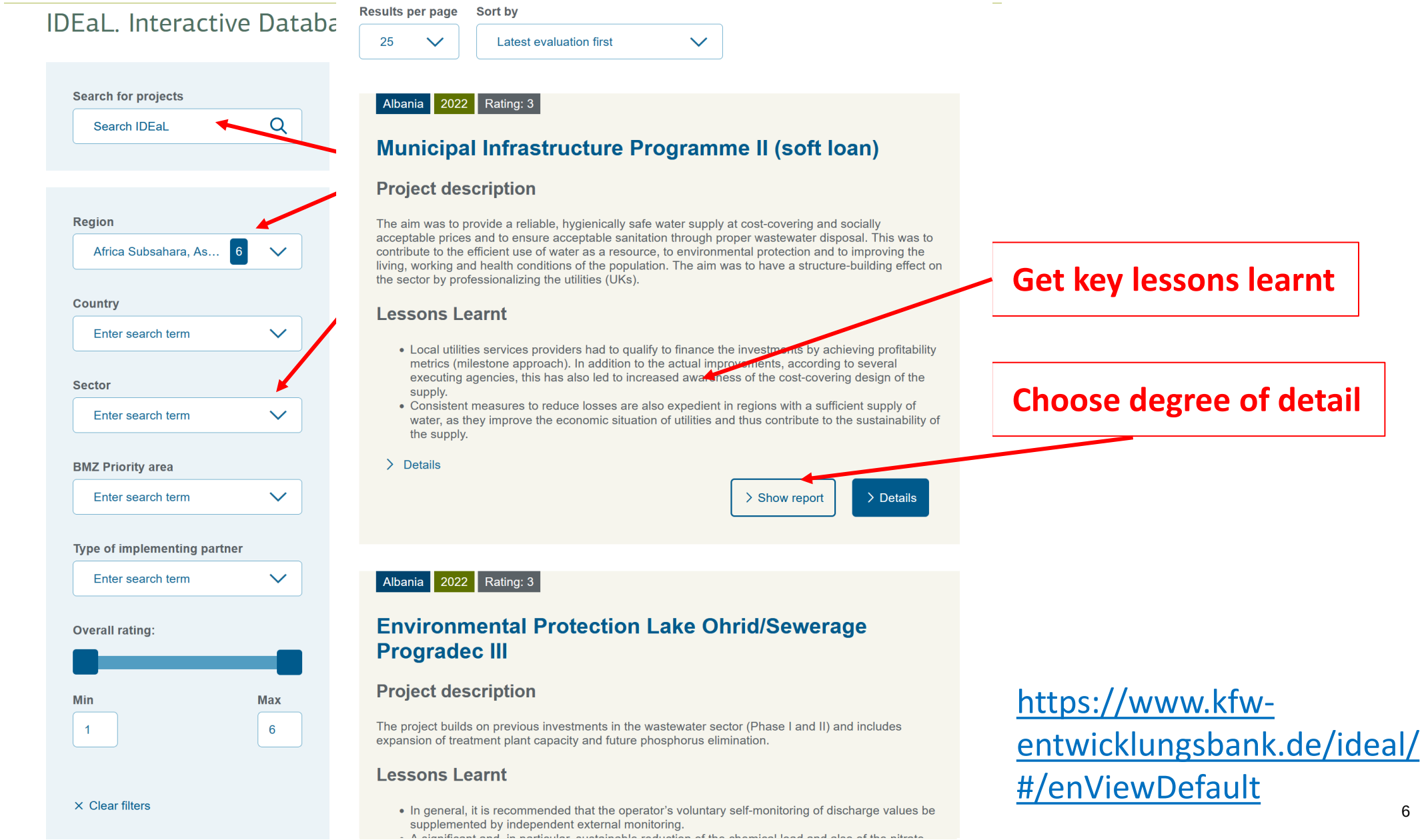
Albania 2022 Rating: 3

Municipal Infrastructure Programme II (soft loan)

Project description

The aim was to provide a reliable, hygienically safe water supply at cost-covering and socially acceptable prices and to ensure acceptable sanitation through proper wastewater disposal. This was to contribute to the efficient use of water as a resource, to environmental protection and to improving the living, working and health conditions of the population. The aim was to have a structure-building effect on the sector by professionalizing the utilities (UKs).

https://www.kfw-entwicklungsbank.de/ideal/#/enViewDefault



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Enhancing development *research* through meta analysis

- Research paper *"Volume, risk, complexity: what makes development finance projects succeed or fail?"*
- Jointly with Yota Eilers, Jörg Langbein, Lennart Reiners
- Augmented version of the IDEaL database: project characteristics clusters (i) financing, (ii) structure, (iii) complexity, (iv) risks, plus (v) evaluation and (vi) country context
- N=5,608 project success ratings on a discrete 6–1 scale using OECD-DAC criteria
- 96 LMIC countries with projects implemented during 1990–2020

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Results: project finance

Dep. variable: Rating (Pooled)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Total volume (log)	0.049**							0.029	0.037
	(0.021)							(0.028)	(0.029)
Aid type (Base: Loan):									
–Grant		0.052						0.093	0.105
		(0.088)						(0.098)	(0.087)
% counterpart contributions			0.241**					0.196*	0.145
			(0.112)					(0.117)	(0.118)
Budget funds (log)				0.070**				0.057	0.095**
				(0.029)				(0.037)	(0.042)
% budget funds of ODA					0.000			-0.000	-0.000
					(0.000)			(0.000)	(0.000)
% project funds of GDP						0.000		-0.000	-0.000
						(0.000)		(0.000)	(0.000)
Disbursement vs. commitment							0.169	0.178	0.137
							(0.165)	(0.163)	(0.156)
Full specification									Yes
Sector and region indicators	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Sub-rating indicators	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Other control variables	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Observations	5608	5608	5608	5608	5608	5608	5608	5608	5458
Adjusted R^2	0.15	0.14	0.15	0.15	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.15	0.23

—Some evidence for larger projects with greater ownership faring better

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Results: project complexity

Dep. variable: Rating (Pooled)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Project duration (log)	-0.234***					-0.215***	-0.149**
	(0.069)					(0.073)	(0.075)
Delay		-0.032				0.009	0.009
		(0.069)				(0.070)	(0.069)
Revised ToC			-0.071			-0.060	-0.048
			(0.049)			(0.049)	(0.047)
Years mandate to contract				-0.030		-0.026	-0.048*
				(0.024)		(0.023)	(0.027)
Technical complexity					-0.117**	-0.083	-0.130**
					(0.055)	(0.056)	(0.055)
Full specification							Yes
Sector and region indicators	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Sub-rating indicators	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Other control variables	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Observations	5608	5608	5608	5598	5608	5598	5458
Adjusted R^2	0.15	0.14	0.15	0.14	0.15	0.16	0.23

—Most dimensions of project complexity exert negative influence

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Results: project risks

Dep. variable: Rating (Pooled)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Number ex-ante identified risks	-0.004				0.002	0.001
	(0.013)				(0.013)	(0.013)
% ex-ante identified risks occured		-0.504***			-0.464***	-0.486***
		(0.068)			(0.067)	(0.067)
Overall risk (base: low)						
-Medium			-0.251***		-0.185**	-0.203**
			(0.080)		(0.078)	(0.082)
-(Very) high			-0.460***		-0.326***	-0.352***
			(0.086)		(0.084)	(0.088)
-Not assigned			-0.285***		-0.159	-0.219*
			(0.109)		(0.116)	(0.116)
Overall risk control (base: low)						
-Medium				0.075	0.070	0.084
				(0.058)	(0.055)	(0.058)
-High				0.001	-0.065	-0.061
				(0.253)	(0.193)	(0.169)
-Not assigned				0.090	-	-
				(0.096)	(.)	(.)
Full specification						Yes
Sector and region indicators	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Sub-rating indicators	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Other control variables	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Observations	5608	5608	5608	5608	5608	5458
Adjusted R^2	0.14	0.18	0.16	0.15	0.19	0.23

—Higher-risk projects – both ex ante and ex post – fare worse

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Additional findings

- Heterogeneous effects by region and sector
- Detailed project-level characteristics show that design matters less than expected
- Project manager turnover and success rating: marginally positive correlation
- Key explanatory clusters are finance (positive correlation) and complexity & risks (negative correlation)
- Evaluator- and evaluation-specific characteristics uncorrelated with assigned project success ratings
- Empirical results robust to alternative models

Thank you.

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