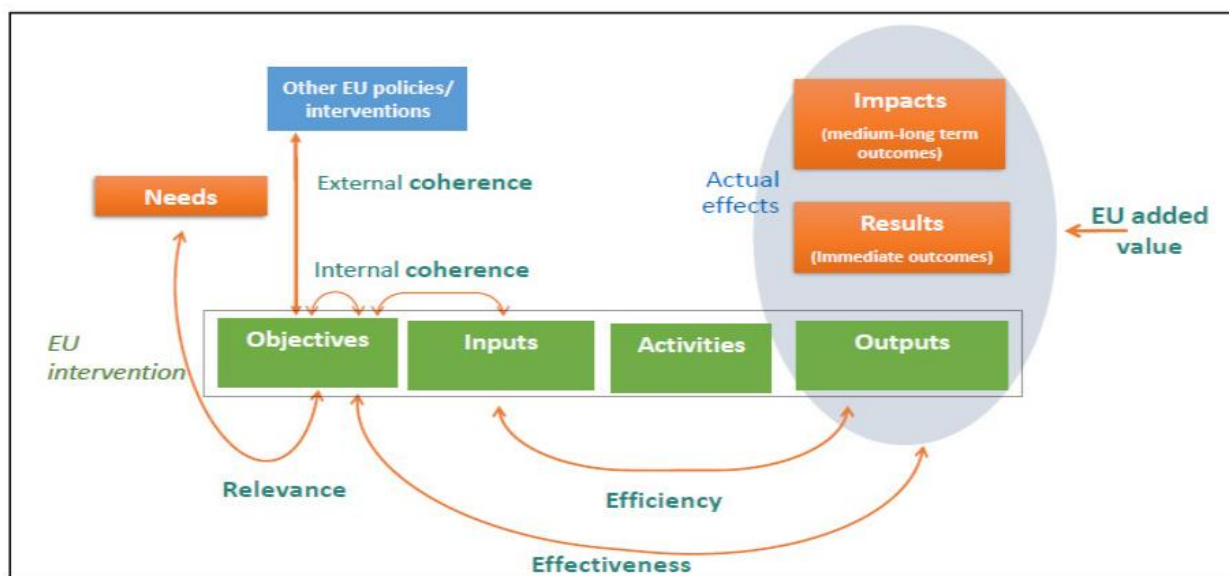


## Annex 2 – General elements and concepts of intervention logic

The elements and concepts of the intervention logic as presented below form the core of evaluative inquiry. However, they do not represent an exhaustive list; additional issues, where relevant, may also be examined during the preparation of national reports on the implementation and impact of Erasmus+.

### Simplified view of the intervention and the 5 key evaluation criteria<sup>1</sup>



### Inputs

The human and financial resources involved in the implementation of an intervention.

### Outputs

The goods and services produced by an intervention. The concrete deliverables that need to be generated in order to achieve the intervention objective(s), e.g. the number of students/staff participating in the programme, scholarships or diplomas awarded, strategic partnerships or knowledge/skills alliances created, web portals developed, etc.

### Results and Impacts

Results are the effects of an intervention on beneficiaries and participants, while impacts are the effects of an intervention on the wider society, beyond those directly affected by the intervention. Results and impacts can be positive or negative and expected or unexpected. They represent changes over the short, medium and long term which can be directly or indirectly linked to the application of the intervention. They should be closely related to the identified needs, problems and their drivers.

### Effectiveness

The extent to which objectives of an intervention are achieved. Effectiveness analysis considers how successful an action has been in achieving or progressing towards its objectives. The analysis forms an opinion on the progress made to date and the role of the action in delivering the observed changes. If the objectives have not been achieved, an assessment should be made of the extent to which progress has fallen short of the target

<sup>1</sup> See Better Regulation Tool #47: [br\\_toolbox-nov\\_2021\\_en\\_0.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/better-regulation/br_toolbox-nov_2021_en_0.pdf) (europa.eu).

and what factors have influenced the lower-than-expected progress. Consideration should also be given to whether the objectives can still be achieved on time or with what delay. The analysis should also try to identify if any unexpected or unintended effects have occurred.

### **Efficiency**

The extent to which the desired effects are achieved at a reasonable cost. Efficiency considers the relationship between the resources used by an intervention and the changes generated by the intervention (which may be positive or negative). Typical efficiency analysis will include analysis of administrative and regulatory burden and look at aspects of simplification. Analysis should pin-point areas where there is potential to reduce inefficiencies. The full efforts to support and perform an intervention can be broken into different categories such as: staff, purchases made, time and/or money spent, fixed costs, running costs, etc. These costs can be associated to different aspects of an intervention and judged against the benefits achieved. It is important to note that efficiency analysis should always look closely at both the costs and benefits of the EU intervention as they accrue to different stakeholders.

### **Relevance**

Relevance looks at the relationship between the needs and problems in society and the objectives of the intervention. The wrong "problem drivers" may have been identified or incorrect assumptions may have been made about the cause and effect relationships at the time of the intervention design. The circumstances may have changed and the needs/problems now may not be the same as the ones looked at when the intervention was designed. The analysis should capture these issues.

### **Coherence**

The extent to which the intervention does not contradict other interventions with similar objectives. The analysis of coherence also involves looking at how well or not different actions work together. Checking "internal" coherence means looking at how the various internal components of an intervention operate together to achieve its objectives (e.g. different actions under an intervention). Similar checks can be conducted in relation to other ("external") interventions, either within the same policy field or in areas which may have to work together and at different levels. The coherence analysis will usually look for evidence of synergies or inconsistencies between actions in related fields which are expected to work together. Even when evaluating an individual intervention, it can be important to check coherence with (a limited number of) other interventions.

### **EU added value**

EU-added value looks for changes for which it can reasonably be argued that they are due to EU intervention, rather than any other factors. In many ways, the evaluation of EU added value brings together the findings of the other criteria, presenting the arguments on causality and drawing conclusions, based on the evidence at hand, about the performance of the EU intervention. European added value may be the result of different factors: coordination gains, legal certainty, greater effectiveness or efficiency gains, complementarities, synergies, etc.