

Evaluation in Society: Development, Current State and Perspective

Reinhard Stockmann

Center for Evaluation (CEval), Saarland University

Abstract

This article addresses the question which role evaluation can play in modern society. A special focus is set on the meaning of evaluation in Germany and identifying changes in the past few years.

The assumption is, that in modern society, evaluation has three purposes: to support social enlightenment (1), to legitimize (2) and to steer politically (3). To be able to serve these purposes, evaluation has to have a clear position in society and it has to be institutionalized. After displaying up to date developments in the field of evaluation, the question is addressed if these developments support evaluation in fulfilling its purposes. Based on this, the challenges evaluation faces in the future are outlined.



Editors:

Prof. Dr. Reinhard Stockmann, Saarland University
(Editor in Chief)

Prof. Dr. Gerd-Michael Hellstern, University of Kassel

Prof. Dr. Helmut Kromrey, Berlin

Prof. Dr. Helfried Moosbrugger, J.-W.-Goethe-University FfM

Prof. Dr. Hildegard Müller-Kohlenberg, University of Osnabrück

Prof. Dr. Dr. Christiane Spiel, University of Vienna

Prof. Dr. Hellmut Wollmann, Humboldt-Universität Berlin

Managing Editor:

Dr. Alexandra Caspari

Saarland University, Center for Evaluation (CEval)

Dep 5.2 – Sociology - P.O.-Box 151 150

D-66041 Saarbrücken - Germany

Phone +49 681/302-3146 - Fax. +49 681/302-3899

e-mail: redaktion@zfev.de - Web: www.zfev.de