Program Evaluation in the Kindergarten: Challenges for Evaluators

Petra Wagner
Department of Psychology, Upper Austria University of Applied Sciences

Barbara Schober, Margit Kanka, Christiane Spiel
Faculty of Psychology, University of Vienna

Abstract

This paper deals with the challenges of a program evaluation in the educational institution 'kindergarten', and discusses the following challenges for evaluators: (1) conducting an explication of aims, (2) developing a custom-made evaluation design, (3) developing a suitable evaluation tool, (4) reporting the evaluation results. We illustrate the methodical approach of a program evaluation on the basis of concrete examples and reflect it against the background of the standards for evaluation of the German Society for Evaluation (2002).