

# 1<sup>st</sup> CALL FOR PROJECT PROPOSALS

# **Project Selection**

The Cooperation Programme is co-funded by the European Union and National Funds of the participating countries

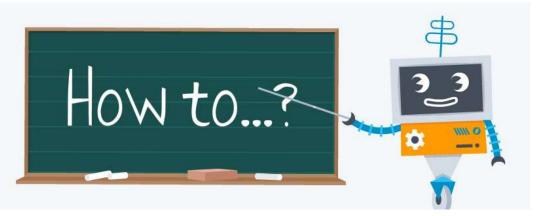


#### Created document "Project Selection Procedure"

PSP document provides:

- Description of project selection procedure;
- Ensuring traceable, transparent, and

binding criteria;



Aim:

- Increasing transparency;
- Facilitation of decision making process.



# Project Evaluation Procedure - 2 phases



1st phase:"Administrative<br/>and technical requirements"2nd phase:"Quality assessment"

- Evaluation is going to be carried out by the Joint Secretariat;
- Evaluation based on the selection criteria described in the attached document within the AP;



### **External experts in the Evaluation Procedure**

- During the evaluation procedure, the JS may be assisted by external experts;
- Procedure and criteria for the selection of these experts agreed by the participating countries and approved by the Joint Monitoring Committee;
- Their engagement costs will be paid by the Technical Assistance Budget of the Programme;





# 1<sup>st</sup> phase: Administrative and technical requirements



- Check for meeting administrative compliance and eligibility criteria by the projects;
- Ensuring fulfillment of administrative and eligibility requirements of the Programme;
- It is an on-off procedure;
- Not fulfilling the above requirements of the Programme, means exclusion from the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase check;



## **<u>1<sup>st</sup> phase</u>: Administrative compliance**

It confirms:

- the proposal has been submitted within the deadline set;
- AF has the official format specified by MA;
- AF is complete and meets all the requirements set in the respective Call;
- All required accompanying documents submitted along with the AF are properly filled in, signed, stamped and attached to AF;



Project proposals that are not compliant with the administrative criteria set are excluded from any further evaluation.



# <u>1<sup>st</sup> phase</u>: Eligibility criteria



They examine:

whether the proposal fulfils the requirements for being eligible for funding by the Programme.

For instance:

- ✓ structure of the cross-border partnership;
- general compatibility with the Programme objectives and principles;
- ✓ co-financing requested;
- ✓ duration of the project, etc.;

Proposals that do not fulfill the eligibility criteria will be rejected.

Additional information /clarification requested only in the case of permitted errors agreed between the two countries and approved by the JMC.



#### <u>2<sup>nd</sup> phase</u>: Quality assessment of the projects

Projects demonstrated administrative compliance and satisfy the eligibility criteria will be subjected to **quality** assessment.

The quality assessment is based on a scoring system;

Concluded with a ranking list of all the project proposals that have passed successfully the 1<sup>st</sup> phase.

In the evaluation are used <u>core</u> selection criteria.





#### What is evaluated?

- Nature of the proposed project;
- Project relevance with and contribution to the achievement of the specific objectives of the Programme;
- Project's viability, sustainability and results in the eligible territory;
- Cross border cooperation and capitalization;
- Quality of the cross-border partnership;
- Proposed monitoring and management methodology;
- Information and publicity actions;
- Planning of the budget;





#### **Core selection criteria**



- 1. Project Quality (Content related criteria):
  - Relevance of the proposal;
  - Quality of the results;
  - Impact and sustainability;
  - Innovation;
  - Cross border cooperation and capitalization;
  - Implementation related criteria:
    - Quality of the partnership;
    - Quality of the methodological approach;
    - Budget and finance;



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Both criteria are with a threshold of 23 points and maximum 45 points.

Maximum total score a project may obtain is 90 points.

Quality criteria are closely linked to the nature and objectives of the Programme.

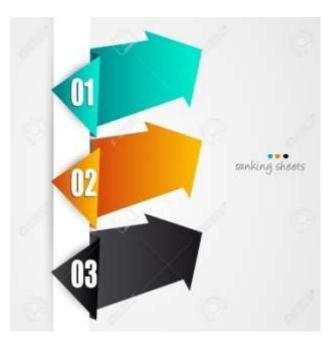
Evaluation will be done by two assessors.

Average score taken into scoring if the difference between 2 assessors is equal or up to 6 points.

When there is a difference higher than 6 points, a third evaluation will take place by the JS Coordinator.



#### Ranking

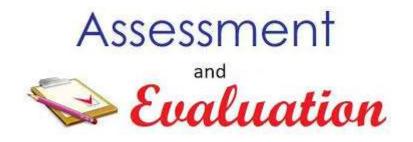


Project proposals ranked according to the results obtained in the evaluation procedure. Divided into three categories:

- Project proposals to be accepted;
- Project proposals to be rejected and
- Project proposals to be further discussed at the Joint Steering Committee (acceptable under conditions, such as budget surplus, provision of further necessary documents, licences, permits, etc).



**Roles - MA** 



1. Managing Authority ensures that the evaluation procedure is carried out in accordance to the requirements of the CfP and approved selection criteria.



#### Roles - JS

- 2. <u>JS</u>, with the consent of the Managing Authority, submits to the Joint Steering Committee:
  - Fiches of the submitted project proposals with summary of most important project information about;
  - Ranking list of all evaluated project proposals;
  - All evaluation forms of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> phase checks;



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#### **Roles - JSC**



3. <u>JSC</u> selects the projects to be funded.

In case of equal scoring of two or more project proposals (but not available budget:

 advantages and disadvantages of each proposal will be presented to the JSC, who will decide on the proposal(s) to be funded.



#### **Award Notice**

All Lead beneficiaries will be informed in writing on the results obtained after the completion of the decision procedure of the JSC.



If a proposal is accepted under conditions, the Managing Authority will have to check that these conditions are taken into account before signing of Subsidy Contract.





Project proposals and AFs are kept confidential.

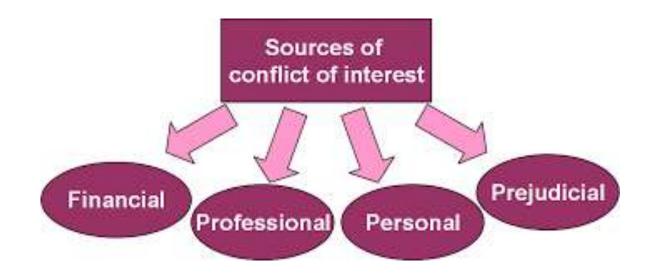
Content of PPs and Afs should not be published or forwarded to persons or institutions which are not directly engaged in the applications assessment procedure or decision making.

The project idea itself, concept and structures remain the property of the project applicants.

All actors participating in the assessment procedure have to guarantee that the privacy and confidentiality of all applications, and personal data to be protected (respect to the national privacy laws and EU Directive 95/46/EC).



#### Independence



JSC members, JMC members, JS assessors and external assessors will declare that they do not have a conflict of interest and/or political influence, and must sign a Declaration of Confidentiality.



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# Thank you for your attention!

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