



**What do we need to know about
evaluations in H2020?**



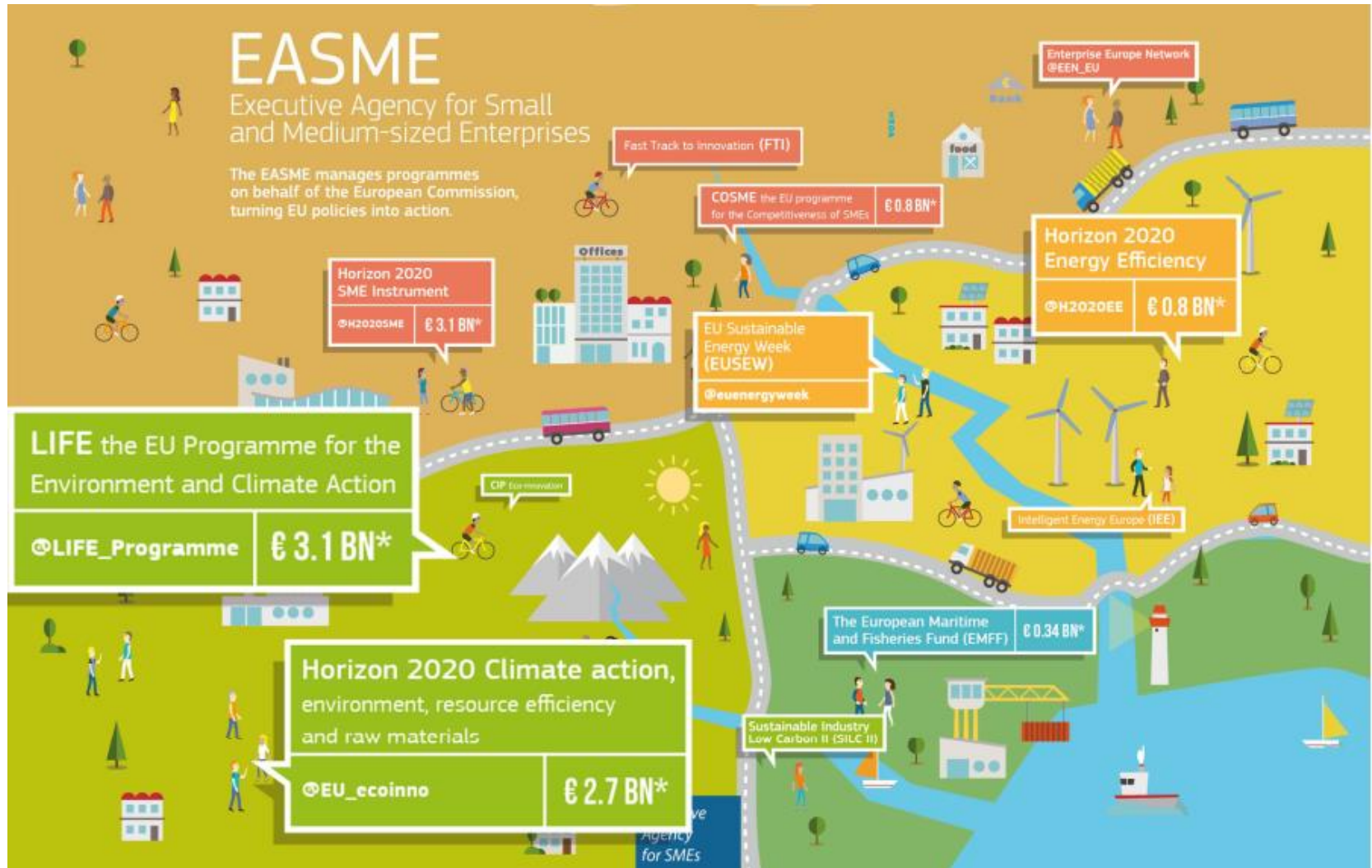
EASME's role within the European Commission



- One of the six Executive Agencies
- Managing EU programmes
- Feeding into the policy-making process with project outcome & success stories

<https://ec.europa.eu/easme>

EASME: Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises



H2020 Evaluation Principles

- Fair and equal treatment of all proposers
- Group of (at least three) independent external experts – different nationalities, backgrounds (EU has a database of 80,000+ evaluators)
- Confidential process, no conflicts of interest
- Evaluation based on the topic text and evaluation criteria
 - **Excellence**
 - **Impact**
 - **Quality & efficiency of implementation**

Proposal Scoring

0

The proposal fails to address the criterion or cannot be assessed due to missing or incomplete information.

1

Poor. The criterion is inadequately addressed, or there are serious inherent weaknesses.

2

Fair. The proposal broadly addresses the criterion, but there are significant weaknesses.

3

Good. The proposal addresses the criterion well, but a number of shortcomings are present.

4

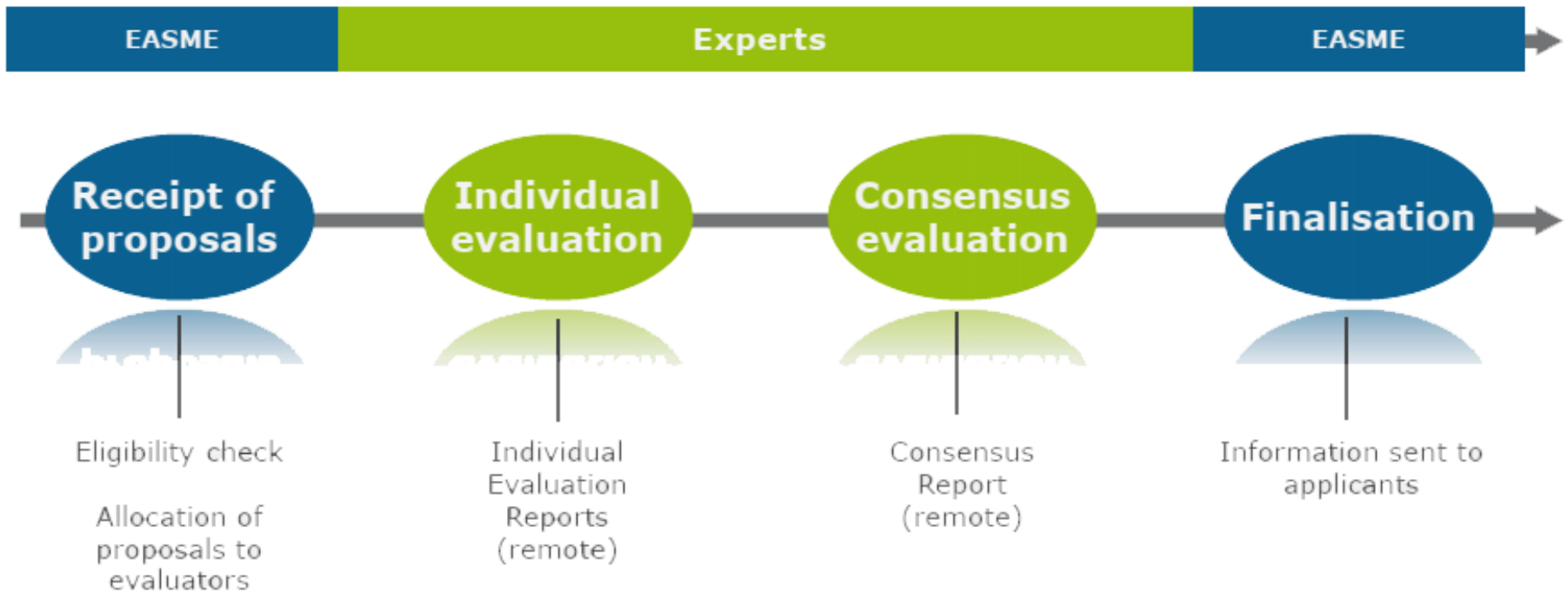
Very Good. The proposal addresses the criterion very well, but a small number of shortcomings are present.

5

Excellent. The proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion. Any shortcomings are minor.

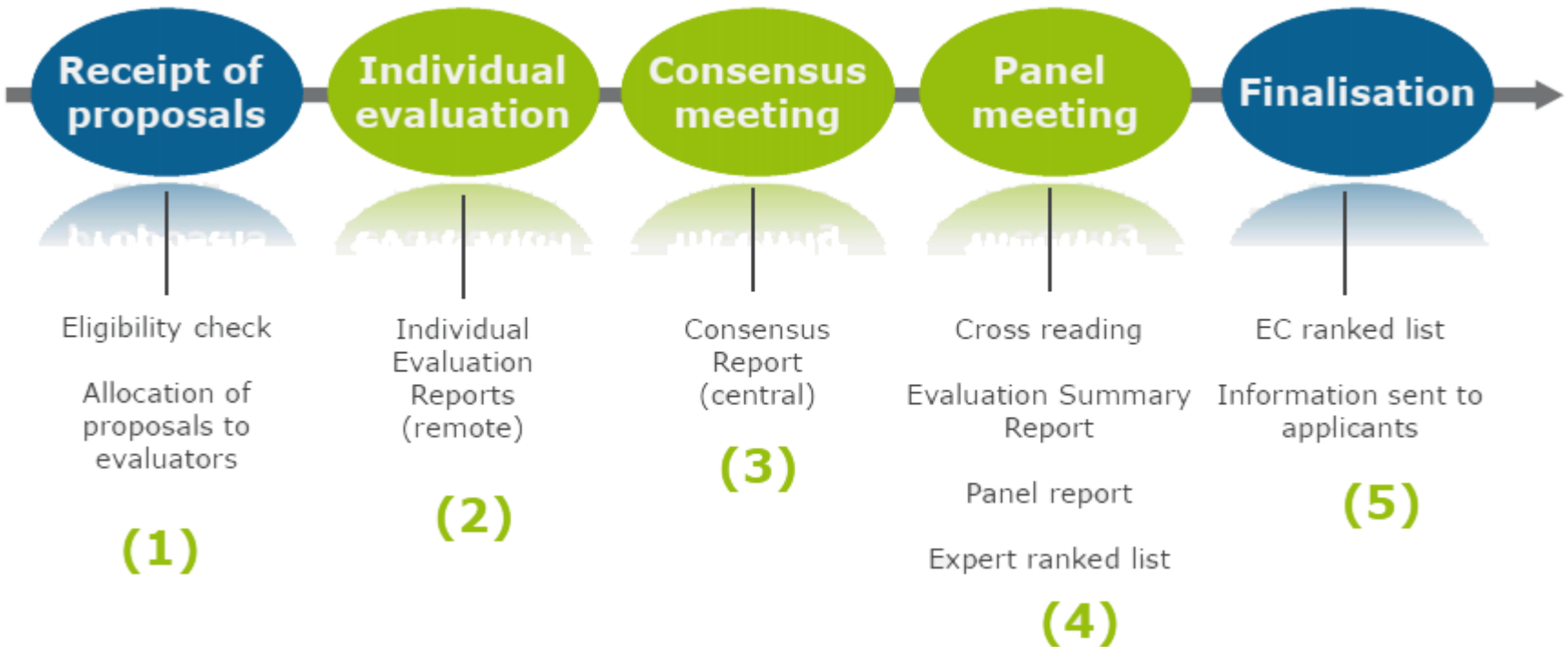
Overview of the evaluation process

(1st-stage of two-stage topics)



Overview of the evaluation process

(one-stage or 2nd-stage of two-stage topics)



1. Admissibility and eligibility checks

checked by the Commission/Agency

Admissibility

- Submitted on time
- Readable, accessible and printable
- Complete
- Draft plan for exploitation and dissemination of results included, if relevant

Eligibility

- Minimum number of partners as set out in the call conditions
- Other criteria as set out in the call conditions

“Out of scope”

- A proposal will only be deemed ineligible in clear-cut cases

2. Individual evaluation

Experts read the proposal and evaluate it against the award criteria

- Without discussing it with anybody else
- As submitted - not on its potential if certain changes were to be made

Experts disregard excess pages

Experts check to what degree the proposal is relevant to the topic

Experts complete an Individual Evaluation Report (IER)

- Give their view on operational capacity and scope of the proposal
- Give comments and scores for all evaluation criteria (scores must match comments)

3. Consensus meeting

Involves a discussion on the basis of the individual evaluations and on the preparatory work of the rapporteur

The aim is not to re-evaluate the proposal

The aim is to find agreement and common view on:

- Additional questions on scope / operational capacity / exceptional funding
- Comments and scores for each evaluation criterion

and finalize the Consensus Report

4. Panel review meeting

Aim is to check the consistency of comments and scores given at the consensus stage

Endorse the final scores and comments for each proposal

- Resolve any cases where a minority view is recorded in the CR
- Where necessary, propose a new set of scores or revise comments – all changes need to be carefully justified

Adopt the ranking for above-threshold proposals – Expert Ranked List

4. Outcome of the evaluation



Deadline to inform: 5 months!

4. Further evaluation steps of proposals on main and reserve lists

Ethics review (ethics screening & assessment)

- Independent assessment

Security scrutiny

- For proposals dealing with information that is EU-classified

5. Evaluation review requests

- **LIMITED** to procedural aspects of the evaluation.
- Must be filed by the coordinator— **within 30 days** after receiving the evaluation result letter.
- The complaint will be successful, if there is sufficient **evidence** to support its re-evaluation.
- Unsuccessful complaints will be rejected. Complainants can **NOT** request a second evaluation review procedure.

5. Impact of grant preparation on evaluation

- **No grant negotiation phase!**
- Time from submission of a proposal, evaluation and signature of the grant is **8 months maximum**
- What does this mean for the evaluation of proposal?
 - **Proposals are valued as submitted**
 - **No substantial modifications can be recommended**

Main steps to finalise the signature of the grant agreement

- 1) Gather **legal, administrative and financial** information from the project participants and any third parties
- 2) Make sure the **Description of the Action** and the **Estimated budget** match the proposal (and addressing potential shortcomings identified)
- 3) Establish the **key points** of the grant agreement
- 4) Verify the **financial capacity**
- 5) **Signing** the grant agreement

Information sources and support

Horizon 2020 Participant Portal

- H2020 [online manual](#)
- Check the [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- Contact the Horizon2020 [Research Enquiry Service](#)
- IT [Helpdesk](#)

National Contact Points ([NCPs](#))

Horizon 2020 and FP7 projects

- [CORDIS](#) database

[EASME](#) website

Information sources and support



- Academia (in particular eastern Europe)
- Private sector / innovation agencies
- Local / national authorities / agencies

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/experts>



Thank you!

#InvestEUresearch

<http://www.ec.europa.eu/research>

Participant Portal:

www.ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/home.html