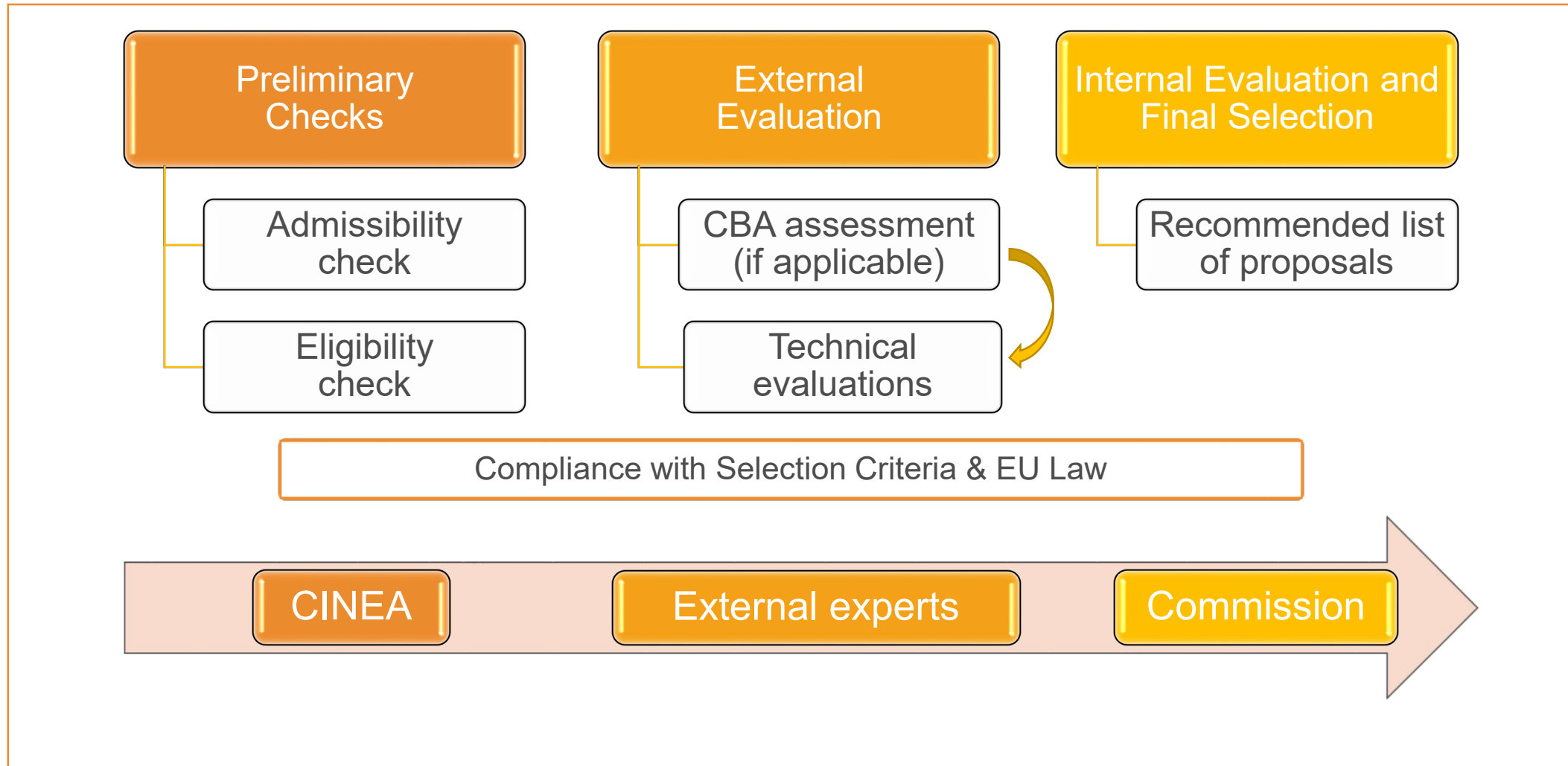


Agenda

- Welcome and calls overview
- Policy context of the 2021 CEF Transport MAP calls
- Priorities of the call (topics)
- **The evaluation and award process**
- Cost-Benefit Analysis
- Budget requirements for proposals
- The application process in eGrants

Principles for the evaluation and selection process



Admissibility & Eligibility

- To be admissible proposals must be:
 - Submitted before the call deadline through the Funding & Tenders Portal Electronic Submission System. Paper submissions are NOT possible;
 - Readable, accessible and printable;
 - Complete and contain all the requested information and all required annexes and supporting documents. There will be no follow-up for missing elements.
- To be eligible :
 - Participants (beneficiaries and affiliated entities) must be legal entities (public or private bodies) established in one of the eligible countries
 - The proposed project must be located on the respective TEN-T network (location) and relevant to call priorities (activities)

Operational & Financial Capacity

- Operational capacity:
 - Applicants must demonstrate they have know-how, qualifications and resources to successfully implement the projects and contribute their share (including sufficient experience in projects of comparable size and nature).
 - Public bodies, Member State organisations and international organisations are exempted from the operational capacity check.
- Financial capacity:
 - Applicants must have stable and sufficient resources to successfully implement the projects and contribute their share. Organisations participating in several projects must have sufficient capacity to implement all these projects.
 - A financial capacity check will be carried out for all beneficiaries, except public bodies (entities established as public body under national law, including local, regional or national authorities); international organisations or if the individual requested grant amount is not more than EUR 60 000. The result may lead to a request for a financial guarantee.

Award criteria

Award criteria	Minimum pass score	Maximum score
Priority and urgency	3	5
Maturity	3	5
Quality	3	5
Impact	3	5
Catalytic effect	3	5
Overall (pass) scores	15	25

Award criteria 1/2

- **Priority and urgency**: evaluating the **correspondence** of the proposal with the sectoral policy objectives and priorities, measuring its **EU added-value** and where applicable assessing the possible synergies with other sectors; (5 points)
- **Maturity**: assessing the **maturity** of the action in the project development. The criterion will measure, among others: i) the **readiness/ability** of the project to start by the proposed start date and to **complete** by the proposed end date, ii) the **status** of the contracting procedures and of the necessary permits, and iii) information on the **financial availability** needed to complement the CEF investment; (5 points)
- **Quality**: evaluating the **soundness** of the implementation plan proposed, both from the technical and financial point of view, the architecture and design approach, the organisational **structures** put in place (or foreseen) for the implementation, the risk analysis, the control procedures and quality management and the **communication** strategy of the applicant. Moreover, when applicable, it will also assess the information related to the maintenance strategy proposed for the completed project; (5 points)

Award criteria 2/2

- **Impact**: assessing, when applicable, **the economic, social and environmental impact, including the climate impact, and other relevant externalities**. This criterion may be substantiated by a Cost Benefit Analysis (**CBA**) or, in the absence of such tools, other forecast of end-user take-up, in which case the evaluation will look at the soundness, comprehensiveness, and transparency of the analysis as well as proposed means to monitor its impact. **Moreover**, when applicable, the criterion will assess, among others, the innovation and digitalisation, safety and interoperability and accessibility aspects of the proposal, as well as its **cross-border dimension, effect/contribution to the network** territorial accessibility; (5 points)
- **Catalytic effect**: evaluating the financial gap (for instance the need to overcome financial obstacles generated by insufficient commercial viability, high upfront costs or the lack of market finance), the capacity to mobilise different investments sources, the capacity to trigger important overall investments with limited EU support and when appropriate the extent to which externalities justify the CEF financial support. It shall assess the **catalytic effect of the EU financial support** and determine whenever possible the actual co-funding rate to be granted. (5 points)

To note 1/2

- Read carefully the workprogramme, call text, etc.
 - Contact Member State early to seek their agreement (and advice)
 - Part B: Page restriction of 120 pages (exceeding pages are cut)
 - Some changes in terminology, e.g. action/project
- To facilitate the evaluation provide the requested information (where it is requested) in a clear, factual and concise manner
 - Ask somebody to review the application
- Deliverables and milestones: Continuous reporting

To note 2/2

- Timing and duration
 - Costs under calls 2021 can be eligible from 1 January 2021
 - Duration of actions: 2/3 years for studies and 4/5 years for works or mixed, max. until 31 December 2026
- Applications including works and for which an EIA is mandatory:
 - By the date of application, key steps of the EIA have to be completed: an EIA report prepared by the project promoter and consultations carried out under the EIA directive. Development consent procedure may be completed after the submission of the application.

Selected proposals - grant preparation

- Successful applicants will be invited by CINEA to prepare the Grant Agreement via eGrants tool together with the EU Project Officer
- Grant preparation involves a dialogue in fine-tuning of technical and financial aspects, such as milestones, deliverables, etc., and implementation of recommendations from evaluation if applicable
- Grant Agreement provisions are defined in the Model Grant Agreement (MGA) and are not-negotiable
- The Model Grant Agreement that will be used (and all other relevant templates and guidance documents) can be found on Portal Reference Documents

Grant implementation

- Payments:
 - Pre-financing, Interim (mostly) and Payment of the Balance (final payment)
- Reporting:
 - Periodic reports (technical with/without payment) and continuous via deliverables and milestones
- Suspension, termination and reduction:
 - Breach of obligations, e.g. the project does not start as planned or significant delays/changes
- Amendments
 - Possible but may not put into question the award of the grant
- Communication and visibility
 - Guidelines are available and must be followed