



CEF Synergy Info Day 2016

Evaluation process & Award criteria

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Principles for the evaluation and selection process

- **Basis:** eligibility, selection and award criteria of the work programme and the call for proposals
- **Equal treatment:** All proposals evaluated against the same criteria; no preferential treatment to any applicant
- **Transparency:** Adequate feedback to applicants on the outcomes of the evaluation



European
Commission

SELECTION PROCESS

**European Commission
(DG MOVE & DG ENER)**

**Executive Agency
(INEA)**



Call publication



Info Day event



Proposal admissibility & eligibility check



Technical evaluation

Evaluation Committee



Consultation with CEF Coordination Committee (CCC)



Information to European Parliament



Selection Decision



Signature of individual grant agreements

Call publication & application support

- Call published in Official Journal and announced on **specific call page** on INEA website
- Call texts, Guide for Applicants, application forms prepared by INEA and available on call page at publication
- **Helpdesk** operational as of call publication: INEA-CEF-SYNERGY-CALLS@ec.europa.eu
- FAQs made available on call page

Admissibility check

Admissibility requirements

- Has the proposal been submitted electronically in TENtec?
 - Has the proposal been submitted on time?
 - Is the proposal complete?
 - Has the proposal been signed by the applicant(s)?
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Eligibility check

Eligibility conditions

Eligible applicants

- One or more Member States
- International organisations, joint undertakings, public or private bodies established in Member States
- Third countries and entities established in third countries, if necessary for carrying out the project of common interest
- Concerned MS approval
- Applicants not in exclusion situation

Eligible actions

- Proposed Action must contribute to at least one Project of Common Interest (PCI) in the transport AND energy sector

Selection criteria check/compliance with EU law

Financial and operational capacity

Applicant has the financial and technical capacity to carry out the action

Compliance with EU Law

Proposal complies with EU legislation:

- environment
- interoperability
- competition
- state aid and
- public procurement

Technical Evaluation: overview

- External experts provide technical support on the submitted proposals in a two-step process:
 - **Individual reading of proposals**
 - **Consensus meeting for each proposal**
- Evaluate on the basis of the information included in the application and against the defined award criteria

Technical Evaluation: experts

- Experts are selected from the database used by several EU funding programmes
- Selection on the basis of their experience, geographic balance and gender (energy sector, regulatory and financial expertise, etc.)
- Sign a contract, confidentiality and absence of conflict of interest declaration
- Evaluate in their personal capacity and not as representatives of a country or employer

Technical Evaluation: individual assessment

- Each proposal is assessed independently by at least three experts
- Experts first carry out individual readings, without discussion with other experts
- Each expert completes the evaluation form, comments and scores award criteria on a scale from **0 to 5**

Technical Evaluation: consensus meeting

- The experts and a moderator from INEA meet to agree on comments and scores for the award criteria
- A rapporteur drafts the consensus report
- The proposal must reach at least 60% (or **3 points**) of the maximum points for each criterion to be considered for funding

Award criteria

Relevance

- Contribution of the proposed action to the TEN-T and TEN-E priorities, specific general and sectorial objectives of the CEF Regulation and objectives of the work programme
- EU added value of the Action in light of the TEN-T Regulation
- Extent of the cross-border dimension of the action

Maturity

- Development stage of the project
- Readiness of the technology for deployment
- Appropriateness of the proposed Action as the next step in the development of the project

Impact

- *Impact of the Action* in relationship to the nature, degree and effect of the existing and future synergies of the action
- *Impact of the CEF funding*: impact of the EU support on public and private investment and how CEF funding will ensure or accelerate the implementation of the proposed Action (when applicable)

Quality

- Soundness of the implementation plan
- Capacity to be completed within the proposed timeline
- Project management, quality management and risk management processes
- Completeness and clarity of the information provided

Relevance of the action

Information to be provided

Contribution of the proposed Action to the TEN-T and TEN-E priorities and funding objectives of the CEF Regulation

Contribution of the proposed Action to the objectives of the work programme and the call

EU added value of the proposed Action in light of the definition of Article 3 (d) of the TEN-T Guidelines

Cross-border dimension: Area of impact of the proposed Action and which Member States are impacted by the proposed Action

Cross-border section within the meaning of Article 2(2) of the CEF Regulation

Maturity of the action

Information to be provided

State of preparation of the proposed Action, the readiness to start the implementation of the proposed activities, completion of preparatory steps

Readiness of the technology for deployment

Appropriateness of the proposed Action as the next step in the development of the PCI(s) to which the proposed Action relates

Procurement/ Subcontracting

Pending legal/administrative/technical issues

Impact

Information to be provided

Impact of the proposed Action

Nature, degree and effect of the (existing and future expected) synergy between transport and energy sector

Expected impact on reaching commercial viability and future roll out on a wider level in at least 2 EU Member States if relevant (*for studies with pilot deployment*)

Innovative processes to improve the business-model and the business-client relationship

Expected impact of the study on decision-making regarding PCI(s) development?

Impact

Information to be provided

Impact of the CEF funding

Extend to which the grant will stimulate public and/ or private financing

Extend to which the grant will ensure or accelerate the implementation of the proposed Action

Other impacts of the CEF funding (*if applicable*)

Quality of the action

Information to be provided

Implementation plan including the measures in place to guarantee the respect of the proposed timeline

Project management processes including control, quality and risk management methods and procedures

Ex-post monitoring and audits

Plan for communication, dissemination of results and visibility given to the CEF financing

Risk assessment grid

Final selection process

- Internal Commission committee convened to select the proposals for funding
 - Considers the technical evaluation by experts
 - Cuts any costs and/or activities that are not eligible or not recommended for funding
 - Evaluates the complementarity of the proposed Action with other EU funded projects, in view of optimising the impact of investments already made in the region/country/global project,
 - Evaluates the comparative EU added value (high, medium, low) of the proposed Action in relation to other proposed Actions,
 - Identifies potential synergies with other EU funding programmes, notably Horizon 2020, and
 - Takes budgetary constraints into account

Subsequent steps

- Preparation of a draft Selection Decision
- Draft is subject to an inter-service consultation within the Commission
- CEF Coordination Committee is consulted and the European Parliament informed
- Commission Selection Decision formally adopting the list of proposals selected for funding

Grant agreement preparation and signature

- Once the Decision is adopted, successful applicants are invited to cooperate with INEA on the preparation of the individual grant Agreement
- Grant Agreement is signed between the beneficiaries (applicants) and INEA and covers the technical, legal and financial aspects of the proposal based on evaluation results
- Project management carried out by INEA

Indicative timeline of the selection process

Selection process step	Indicative date
Call publication	28 September 2016
Deadline for the submission of proposals	13 December 2016 (17:00 Brussels local time)
Evaluation of proposals	December 2016 – March 2017
Consultation of CEF Coordination Committee; Information of European Parliament	April 2017
Adoption of Selection Decision	April 2017
Preparation and signature of individual grant Agreements	From May 2017



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CEF Synergy call : for more information



INEA-CEF-SYNERGY-CALLS@ec.europa.eu



[**https://ec.europa.eu/inea/en/connecting-europe-facility/2016-cef-synergy-call**](https://ec.europa.eu/inea/en/connecting-europe-facility/2016-cef-synergy-call)



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Thank you!