The 2 step application: When to submit an ‘Expression of Interest’ and when a ‘Full Application’
(All information subject to PPSG approval)
UPDATED 21 April 2015

VB Procedure

+ 2 step application: Expression of Interest and Full Application
+ Decisions on both steps are taken by SC – JS only makes recommendations
+ Except for 1st call – All applicants must go through both steps

VB Project Idea

+ Submission online via Programme's website
+ Check against Programme objectives
+ Allow for informal feedback prior to submission to formal call
+ No formal pre-assessment procedure!

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PROJECT IDEAS

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Communication

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Project Ideas: New Project Idea

Home > Project Ideas > New Project Idea

Submitting a project idea

Please read the Project Idea guidance before submitting your idea.

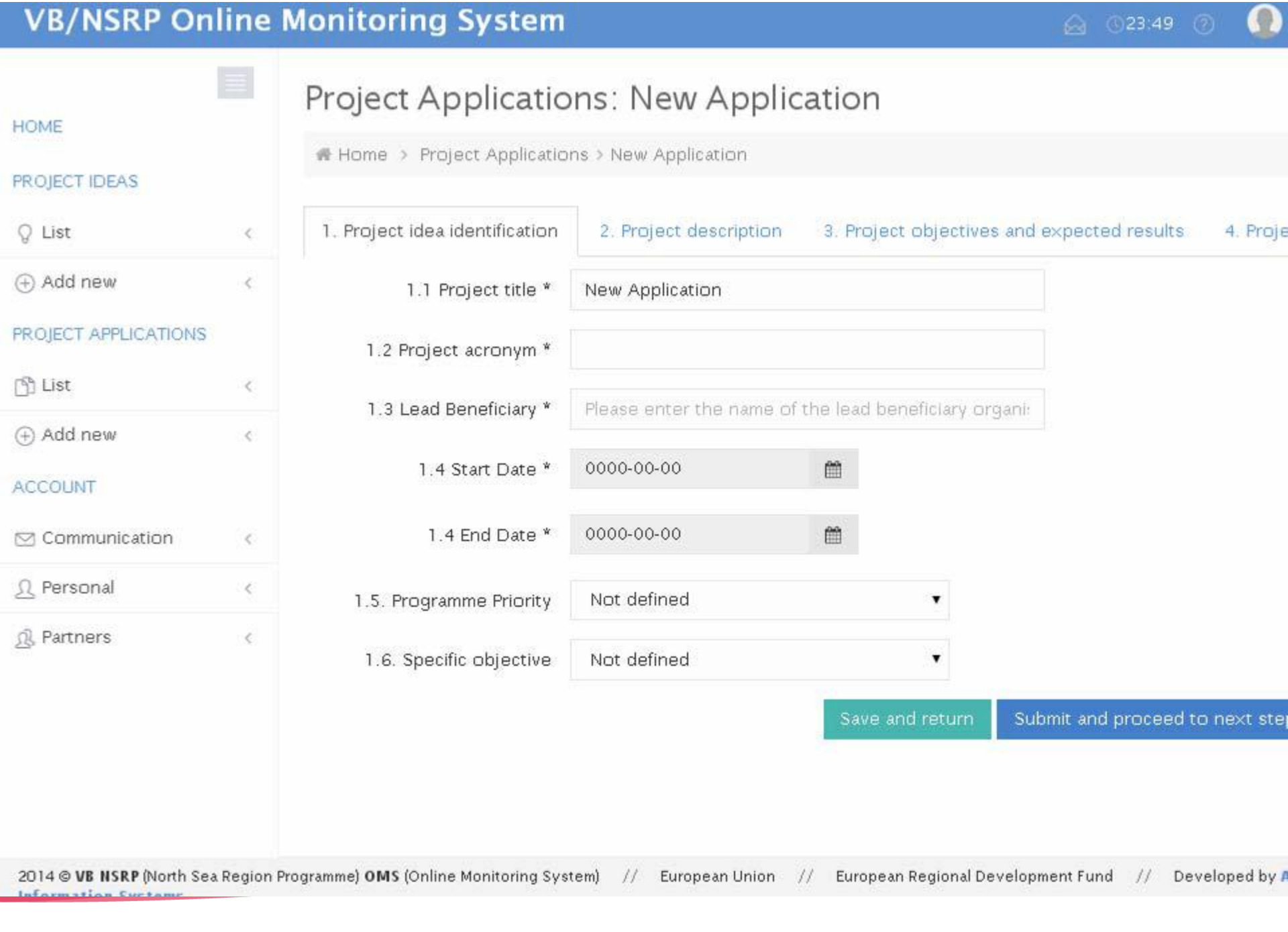
Main details | Contact | Description | Submission

Project Title *	New Project Idea
Priority *	Not defined
Created by	DemoCorp User
Date of creation	2015-03-11 02:34:53
Date of modification	11/03/2015 14:34:53

Save and return | Submit and proceed to next st

VB Expression of Interest (EoI)

+ Project description (relevance, focus, transnationality)
+ Project objectives and expected results
+ Budget
+ Investments


VB/NSRP Online Monitoring System
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Project Applications: New Application
Home > Project Applications > New Application
1. Project idea identification
2. Project description
3. Project objectives and expected results
4. Proje
1.1 Project title *
New Application
1.2 Project acronym *
1.3 Lead Beneficiary *
Please enter the name of the lead beneficiary organi
1.4 Start Date *
0000-00-00
1.4 End Date *
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1.5. Programme Priority
Not defined
1.6. Specific objective
Not defined
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VB Assessment Procedure: Expression of Interest

+ Assessed using a subset of the full assessment criteria

+ Grades: Very Strong, Strong, Sufficient, Insufficient – Must receive minimum of Sufficient in each category

+ Must receive positive decision by Steering Committee in order to move forward with Full Application (except 1st call)

+ If rejected, re-submission is possible

2 Stages of the Technical Assessment for Full Applications:

-Eligibility Check : Appendix (10 pages or less), Letters of Intent correctly uploaded, location of the Lead Beneficiary, all self-declarations included (if applicable for State Aid schemes), start and end date of the project etc…

All applications must first pass the Eligibility Check

-Strategic and Operational – quality assessment

Assessment Criteria – Are linked directly to specific sections of the Full Application

Strategic: Project Context, Cooperation Character, Results and Outputs, Partnership Relevance

Operational: Management, Communication, Work Plan and Budget

Example of what the Assessment Criteria will look like:

Assessment questions	Assessment is based primarily on responses to the following questions. To what extent does the project application….?	Ref. AF
Project's context (relevance and strategy) *How well is a need for the project justified?*	▪ *Address common territorial challenges in the programme area or a joint asset in the programme area – is there a real demand for the project?*	C.1.1
	▪ *Clearly contribute to a wider strategy on one or more policy levels (EU / national / regional)?*	C.3.1
	▪ *Make use of available knowledge and build on existing results and practices?*	C.3.2 C.3.3
	▪ *Make a positive contribution to the horizontal principles - equal opportunities and non-discrimination, equality between men and women, and sustainable development?*	C.4

Assessment Criteria – how?

Assessment Grading:

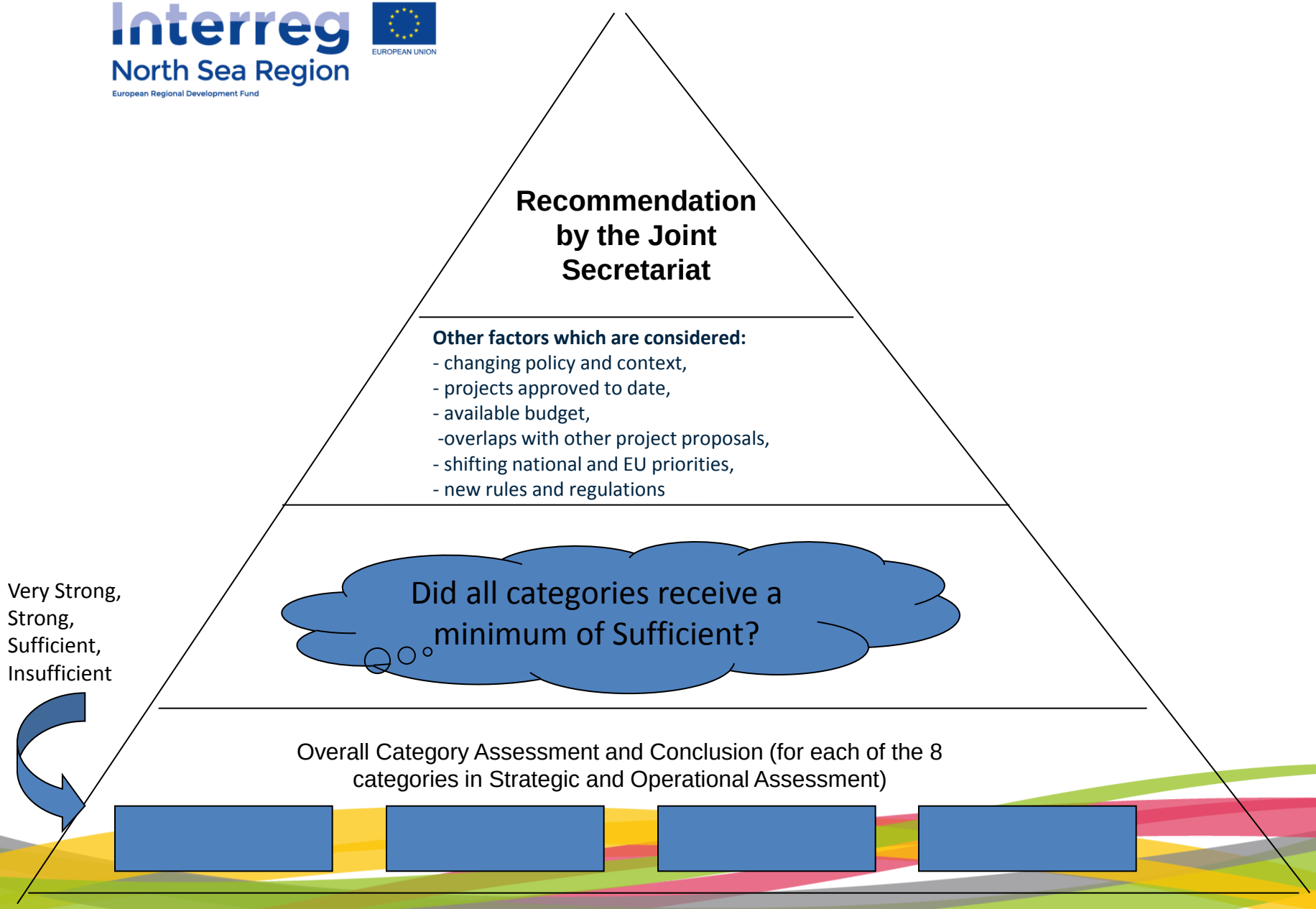
+ **Very strong** – The application addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion convincingly and successfully. The answer provides all the information and there are no concerns or areas of weakness.

+ **Strong** – The application addresses the criterion well, although some small improvements could be made. The answer gives clear information on all or nearly all areas.

+ **Sufficient** –The application broadly addresses the criterion, but there are areas which could be strengthened. There are several areas where detail could be improved or the information is unclear.

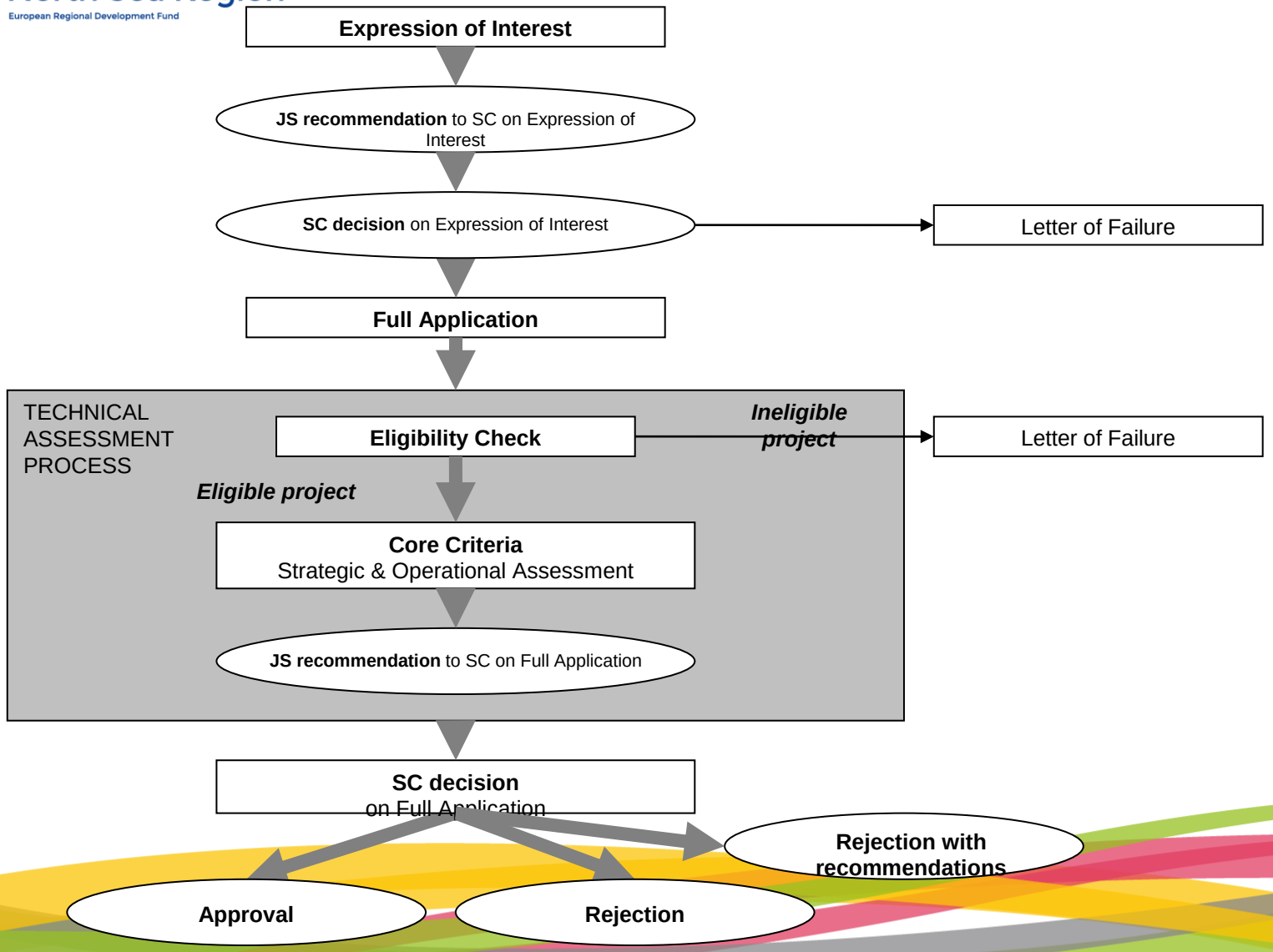
+ **Insufficient** – The application fails to address the criterion adequately and/or the information provided is not in line with programme rules/regulations. The answer does not correctly address the question asked.

+ All applications must receive a minimum of 'Sufficient' in every category in the to be **considered for a recommendation of approval.**


Recommendation by the Joint Secretariat
Other factors which are considered:
- changing policy and context,
- projects approved to date,
- available budget,
-overlaps with other project proposals,
- shifting national and EU priorities,
- new rules and regulations
Did all categories receive a minimum of Sufficient?
Very Strong, Strong, Sufficient, Insufficient
Overall Category Assessment and Conclusion (for each of the 8 categories in Strategic and Operational Assessment)

Guidance for applicants

+ Each part of the assessment links to a specific part of the application
+ All Assessment criteria will be available to applicants
+ Guidance note specific for each call will be available


Expression of Interest
JS recommendation to SC on Expression of Interest
SC decision on Expression of Interest
Letter of Failure
Full Application
TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT PROCESS
Eligibility Check
Ineligible project
Letter of Failure
Eligible project
Core Criteria
Strategic & Operational Assessment
JS recommendation to SC on Full Application
SC decision
on Full Application
Rejection with recommendations
Approval
Rejection

Guiding principles for all applicants

+ Cooperation
+ Innovativeness
+ Additionality
+ Integrated territorial development
+ Sustainable development
+ Equal opportunities and non-discrimination
+ Links to other policies and funds

Golden Rules from the decision-makers

+ Easy language (answering the right questions)
+ Be very clear about the assumptions behind the project
+ Is it clear why all of the actions included are being planned?
+ Is there a clear logic for moving from one action to the next?
+ What would happen if one activity needed to be changed? Are they all necessary?
+ Show the added value of each result / output - for each partner and for the North Sea Region
+ Show how you will focus communication. In particular, have you selected the right target groups and appropriate channels / means for reaching them?
+ Explain the road to the application. Why has the partnership decided that this project is the solution?
+ Describe what you want to change and where (geographically)
+ What could go wrong? Show you are aware of the main risks and are managing them
+ How will you test whether the desired change has been delivered?
+ Embed your project in the context of regional strategies and other programmes
+ Be concise!