

EEA FM

Objectives and achievements in the beneficiary states

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Financial Mechanism Office

EEA FM in BULGARIA



- Bulgaria and Romania joined the EEA in summer 2007
- The EEA Financial Mechanism will make available 21.5 million euro to Bulgaria until April 2009 in order to contribute to the reduction of economic and social disparities in the European Economic Area. An additional 20 million euro is channelled through the BCP
- The projects can run until April 2011, and should come under the priority sectors protection of the environment, health and childcare, human resource development, and conservation of European cultural heritage

EEA FM and the BCP

Key differences:

- Applicant eligibility
- Gatekeeper
- Timing
- Priority sectors

CROSS-CUTTING PRINCIPLES

- sustainable development
 - social
 - economic
 - environmental
- good governance
- gender equality
- bilateral cooperation

PRIORITY SECTORS BULGARIA



Priority sectors of the BCP:

- Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions
- Energy efficiency and renewable energy
- Facilitating sustainable production
- Schengen

FOCUS AREAS (1)

PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT

- Supporting biodiversity and nature reserves
- Developing sustainable forest management
- Protecting ground water, managing waste water, and reducing air pollution, including monitoring systems
- Developing sustainable waste water collection and promoting recycling systems
- Developing sustainable energy production, incl. renewable energy, geothermal energy, hydropower and energy efficiency

FOCUS AREAS (2)

HEALTH AND CHILDCARE

- Supporting children at risk
- Rehabilitating buildings, modernisation of equipment and managerial systems
- Implementing preventive measures to reduce drug and alcohol abuse and promote a healthy lifestyle
- Preventing and improving treatment of communicable diseases (HIV/AIDS and TB)

FOCUS AREAS (3)

HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

- Increasing the competence and administrative capacity of central, regional and local authorities / municipalities, including the use of information technology
- Developing cadastre through the establishment of a system as a basis for the Spatial Data Infrastructure
- Promotion of social dialogue

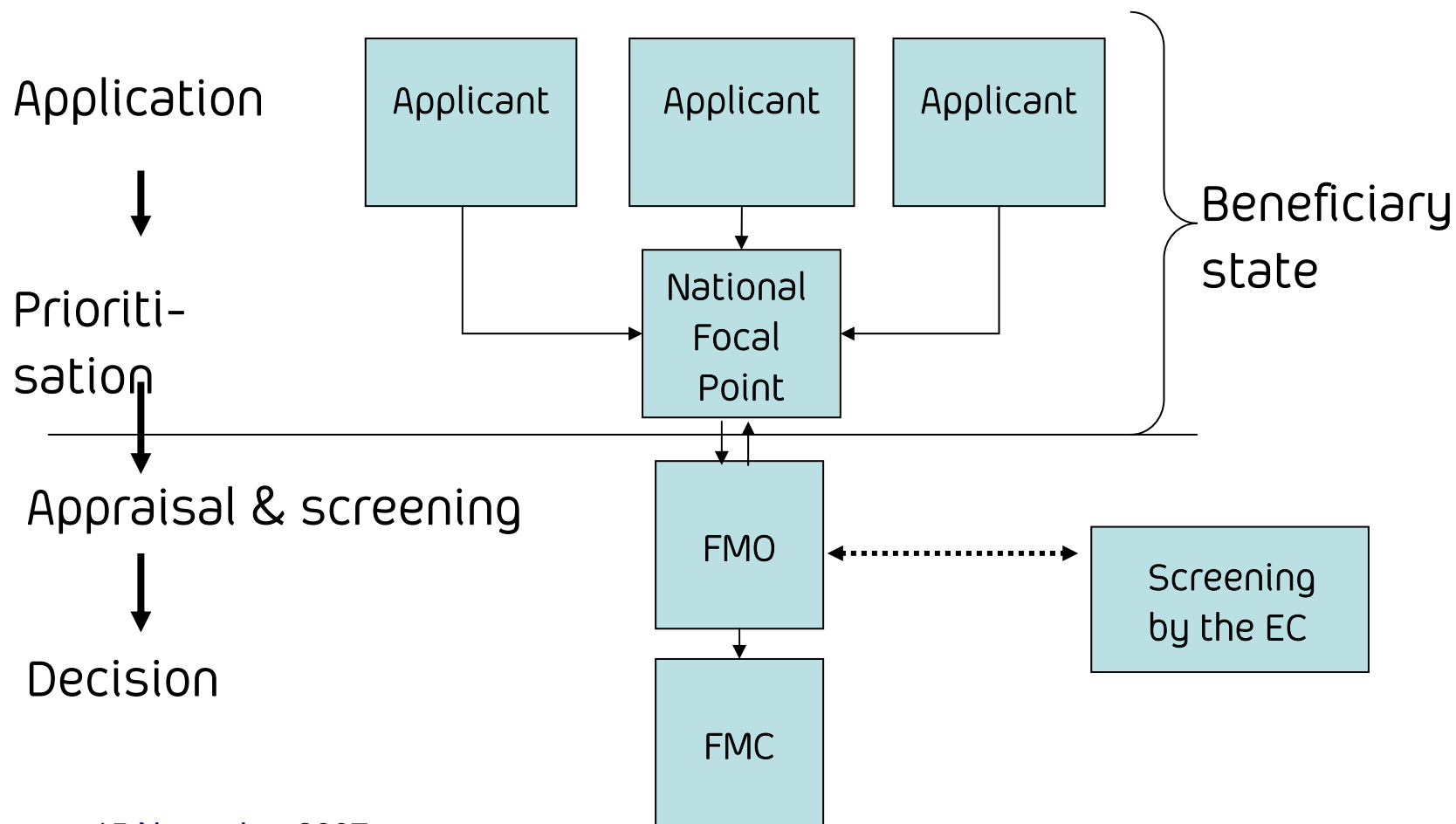
CULTURAL HERITAGE

- Preservation and rehabilitation of cultural and historic heritage
- Use of new technologies for improved management of archaeological, historic and religious collections

EXPERIENCE TO DATE – APPLICATION PROCESS

- Oversubscription – 21 open calls to date have made 698 million euro available
- Interest in priority sectors
- Participation of project partners from donor states – current average about 15%
- Overall length of decision-making process – one year

PROJECT SELECTION OVERVIEW



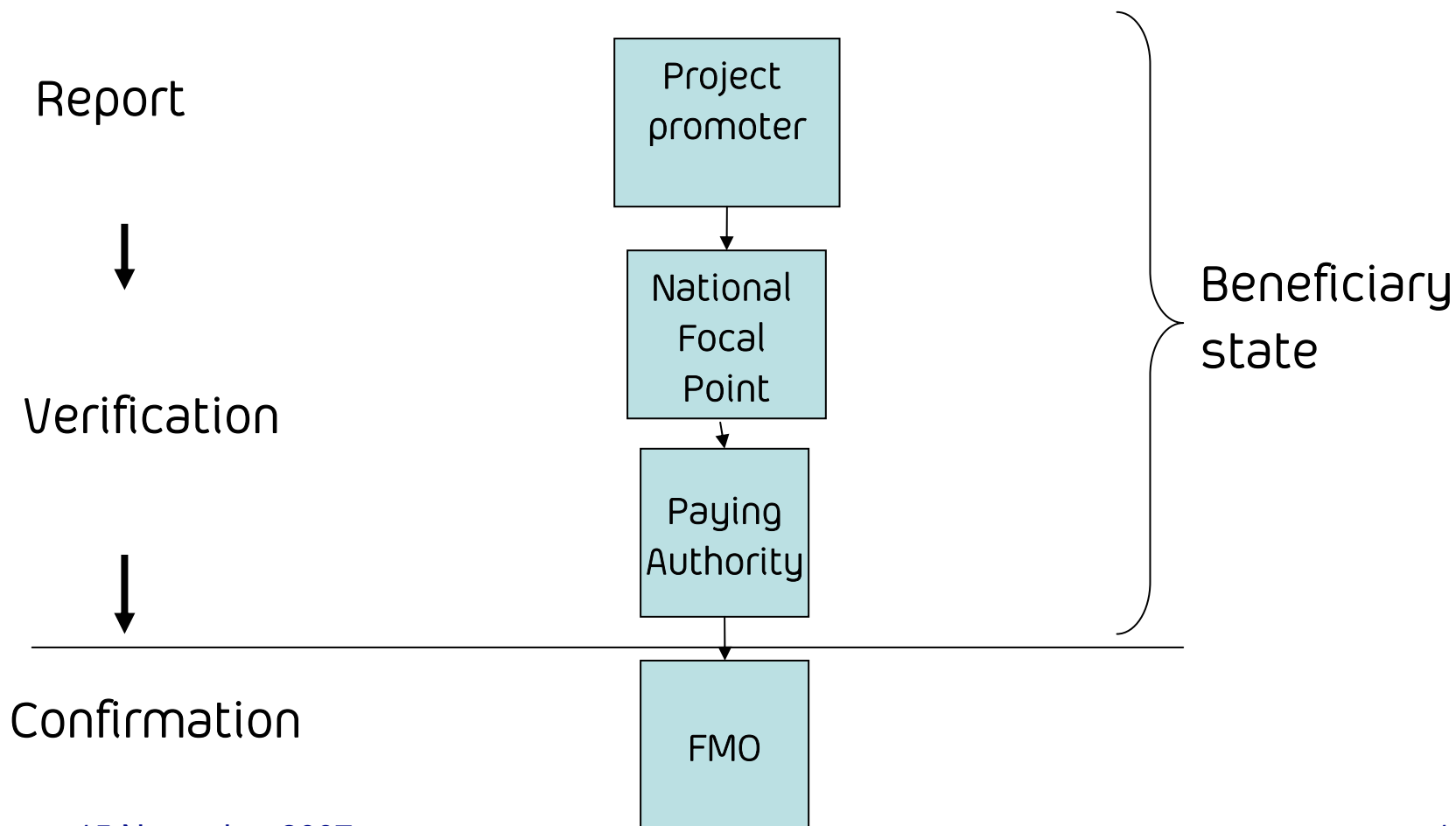
FMO RECOMMENDATION CRITERIA

- Suitability of applicant
- Relevance of operation
- Methodological efficiency
- Risk
- Economic feasibility
- Legal issues
- Cross cutting issues

EXPERIENCE TO DATE – PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

- Start-up delays
- Project planning and reporting process
- Public procurement results and effects on co-financing

REPORTING AND PAYMENT FLOW



FUNDS – PLANS FOR BULGARIA

- NGO Fund – 10% of the net allocation, grants below 250,000 euro, for applicants that are NGOs and social partners
- Scholarship Fund – cooperation programmes for training courses, lecturers and experts of secondary, high schools and universities

ALPHABET SOUP

MEF MF FMO CPO EFTA NMC

RAI DEP RON NFP NMFA APF

PIP PIR BG IP PRG PA SGA TAC

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ADDITIONAL READING

- Memoranda of Understanding
 - Rules and Procedures
 - Guidelines and policy papers (describing individual projects, programmes and block grants, eligibility of expenditures, revenue generation, publicity, reporting and monitoring; gender equality, sustainable development, good governance)
 - Additional beneficiary state documents
- www.eeagrants.org
 - www.norway.info
 - www.norwaygrants.org

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