PPF4Ukraine Project Selection and Evaluation Criteria

From Project Ideas to Bankable Infrastructure Investments

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Municipal Project
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Why do we need project selection criteria?

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A structured pipeline — from many ideas to a few well-prepared, financeable projects



DREAM · Priority lists · Municipalities & Swiss partners · MDBs · PPU-UA

Pass the four mandatory eligibility criteria

Weighted evaluation of quality & relevance (/100)

Highest-ranked within the available budget

Advanced toward IFI financing

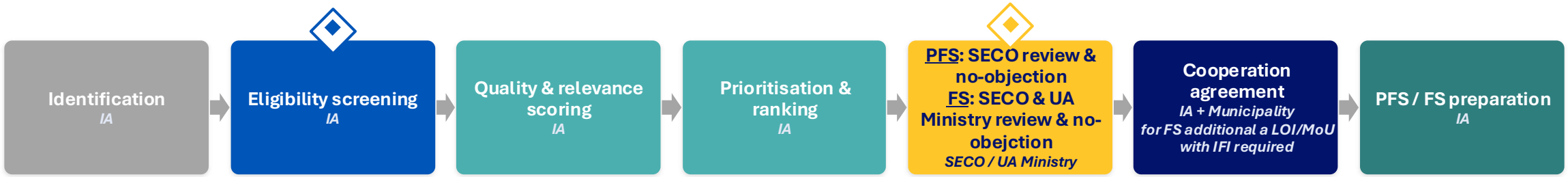
A transparent framework ensures scarce preparation resources go to the projects most likely to be built:

- Transparency & consistency
- Strategic alignment
- Efficient use of preparation funds
- Technical & financial feasibility
- Investment readiness
- Attract IFI financing

From project identification to approval

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Technical evaluation by the Implementing Agency · formal decisions by SECO



◇ **Formal decision gate — a project advances only after a positive decision at this point**

Implementing Agency (IA)	SECO	Municipality / utility	MDB / IFI
Identifies, screens, scores & ranks projects; prepares the studies; presents them to the banks; monitors. NIRAS (lead), Implenia, Egis — with SURA & MDI.	Donor and approving authority. Reviews the IA's recommendation and gives its no-objection within a fortnight; approves each study proposal.	Submits the project and its data; signs the cooperation agreement; later implements the investment.	Signals financing interest; no-objects the feasibility-study scope; finances implementation (with SECO co-financing).

Eligibility: the first decision gate

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Four mandatory pass / fail criteria — Operations Manual, Table 2 (Section 4.1)

#	Criterion	Requirement	Result
1	**Strategy alignment**	Part of the municipality's mid-term priority investment plan (SPP inclusion)	**Yes / No**
2	**Sector eligibility**	Water / Wastewater Facilities // Public Urban transport // Energy	**Yes / No**
3	**Project readiness**	At least an initial proposal, or a pre-feasibility / feasibility study (national standards accepted)	**Yes / No**
4	**Project cost**	≥ €10M (water, district heating, waste, transport) · ≥ €5M (lighting & local energy)	**Yes / No**

Sector limits

Greenfield PV / BESS and fossil-fuel generation are excluded. Gas generation only case-by-case, against the NEAT criteria (Need, Efficiency, Additionality, Transition). Transport rolling stock: advisory support only.

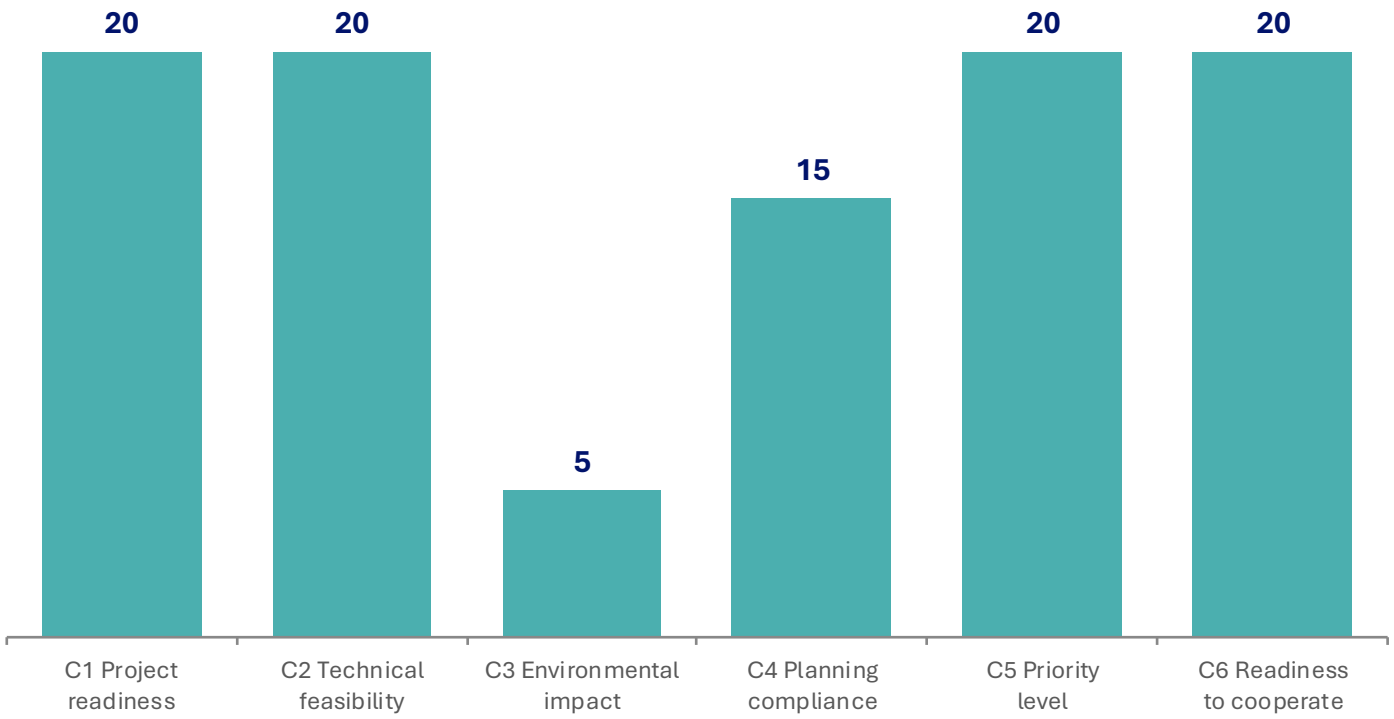
Eligibility is a prerequisite — not an approval

All four criteria must be met. Where information is missing, a project is "potentially eligible" and the municipality is asked to supply it by a set deadline. Passing the gate only earns a project the right to be evaluated.

Evaluation & prioritisation criteria

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Eligible projects are scored on quality & relevance — OM Table 3, scored per Annex 10



A-type (PFS) projects — weighted score out of 100

Eligibility ≠ Evaluation

Eligibility is pass / fail (Table 2). Evaluation is a comparative, weighted score that ranks projects against one another.

What the score rewards

Readiness and maturity · sound technical solutions and strong Swiss-expertise potential · measurable environmental gains · fit with the planning framework and the SPP · priority for reconstruction · willingness to cooperate.

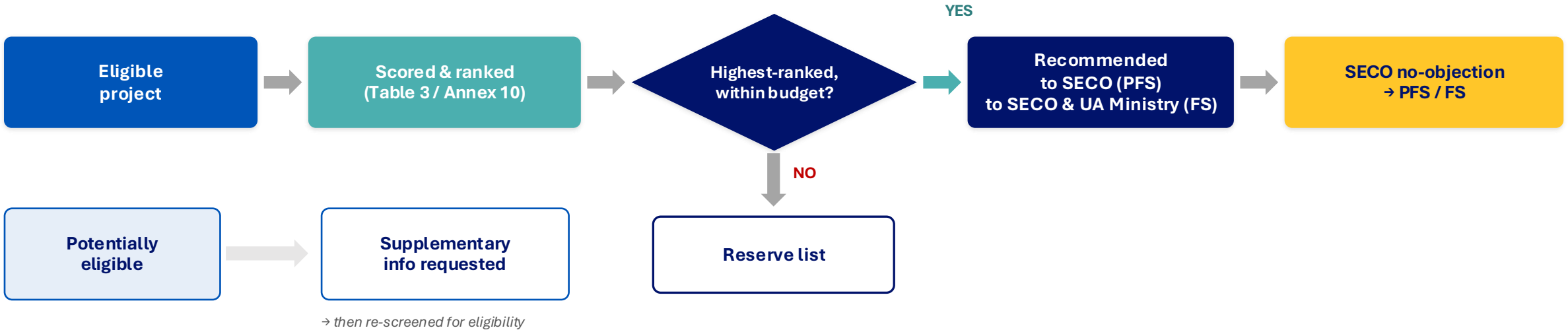
B-type (FS) projects

Where a bank has requested our help, scoring instead weights **financing readiness (50) and "Swissness" (50):** the use of Swiss equipment and Swiss technical expertise.

How are the evaluation results used?

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Scores guide the recommendation — they do not guarantee financing



The evaluation also shapes the work itself:

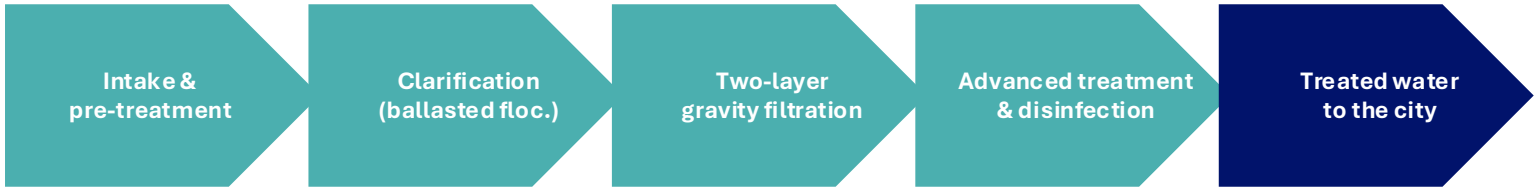
It flags the critical information gaps the study must close, and sets the scope — whether a pre-feasibility study (A-type) or a full feasibility study (B-type) is needed.

A completed PFS is then shared with the development banks; their interest can turn a project into a B-type feasibility study. Approval remains SECO's, on a no-objection basis — and a high score never, by itself, guarantees financing or implementation.

Case 1 — Vinnytsia: new water treatment plant

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VIN-WAT-01 · Water supply · A-type (PFS) · Rank #2 — Recommended



Full multi-barrier treatment scheme proposed by the preliminary study (Institute of Municipal Infrastructure with City of Zurich experts)

Why the project: The existing plant on the Southern Bug River is badly deteriorated and raw-water quality has declined; a new plant was judged more viable than rehabilitation. An earlier World Bank concept lapsed for lack of a sovereign guarantee.

Why it advanced: High municipal priority and a major public-health benefit. Its gap — no pre-feasibility study yet, and in the "old" / DREAM platform. The PFS is exactly what unlocks that next step.

The PFS must still confirm:

- Design capacity — the title states 100,000 m^3/day;
- Refined CAPEX, OPEX and affordability (tariffs)
- Technology choices under the multi-barrier scheme

Evaluation (A-type)

Rank #2	Total 68.62 /100

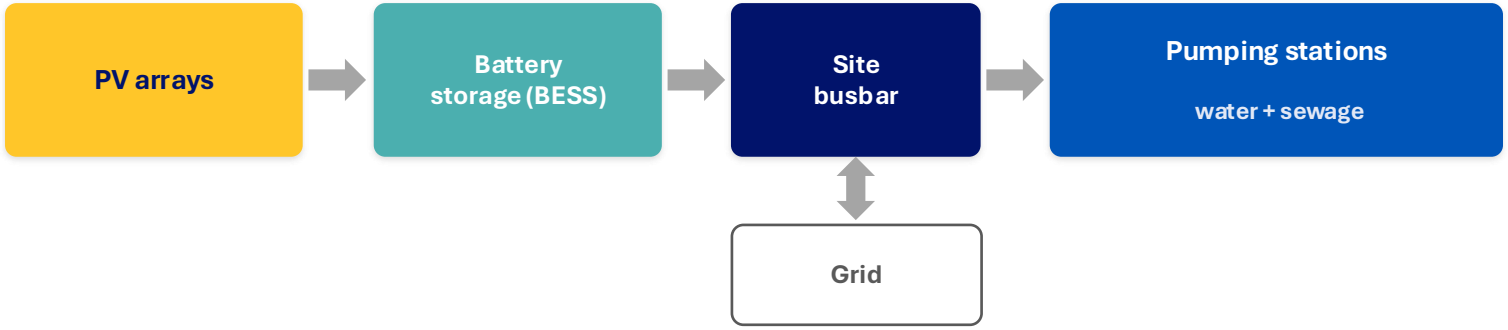
C1 Readiness	9.25 / 20
C2 Technical	15.62 / 20
C3 Environment	3.00 / 5
C4 Planning	6.75 / 15
C5 Priority	14.00 / 20
C6 Cooperation	20.0 / 20

✓ Eligible — all four criteria met (maturity assessed Medium)

Case 2 — Kryvyi Rih: solar + storage for the water utility

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DNP-ENE-01 · Kryvbasvodokanal · Energy efficiency · A-type (PFS) · Rank #1 — Recommended



~4.46 GWh/yr	~1,330 t CO_2/yr	~€10M	21 stations (36% of city)
solar generation	emissions avoided	cost (UAH 500M)	in SPP & DREAM

Objectives & findings

Keeps water & wastewater pumping running through grid outages caused by attacks; cuts grid-electricity use and cost; shifts load off peak tariffs.

Eligibility: eligible — classified as energy efficiency (self-consumption at existing water facilities), so the greenfield-PV exclusion does not apply. Maturity High.

Open for the PFS: PV and battery sizing not yet fixed; no full FS to national standards yet.

Evaluation (A-type)

Rank #1	Total 74.25 /100

C1 Readiness	8.25 / 20
C2 Technical	17.75 / 20
C3 Environment	5.00 / 5
C4 Planning	15.00 / 15
C5 Priority	14.50 / 20
C6 Cooperation	13.75 / 20

✓ Eligible — in programme, SPP & DREAM

Lessons from the two subprojects

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One common framework — two sectors, two maturity levels

Dimension	Vinnytsia — WTP	Kryvyi Rih — PV + BESS
Sector	Water supply	Energy efficiency (water utility)
Primary objective	Safe, reliable drinking water	Energy security & service resilience
Technical focus	Multi-barrier treatment & capacity	Solar generation + battery storage
Maturity at entry	Medium — no PFS yet	High — PFS done; in SPP & DREAM
Main preparation challenge	Confirm capacity, cost & affordability	Fix PV & battery sizing
Evaluation outcome	Rank #2 — Recommended	Rank #1 — Recommended

Key messages & next steps

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1

Transparent selection

Every project is assessed against one established framework — eligibility, then a weighted evaluation.

2

Eligibility first

Four mandatory criteria must be met before a project can advance. A pipeline listing is not an approval.

3

Evidence-based evaluation

Technical, environmental, financial, institutional and strategic factors inform the ranking.

4

From ideas to investments

PPF4Ukraine turns eligible projects into well-prepared, financeable investment proposals.

Working with PPF4Ukraine

Municipalities can engage by preparing a sound project proposal, aligning it with their mid-term investment plan, and where possible, advancing it into the local Single Project Pipeline and onto DREAM. Our team is available to discuss eligible projects.

More information: **www.ppf4ukraine.ch**