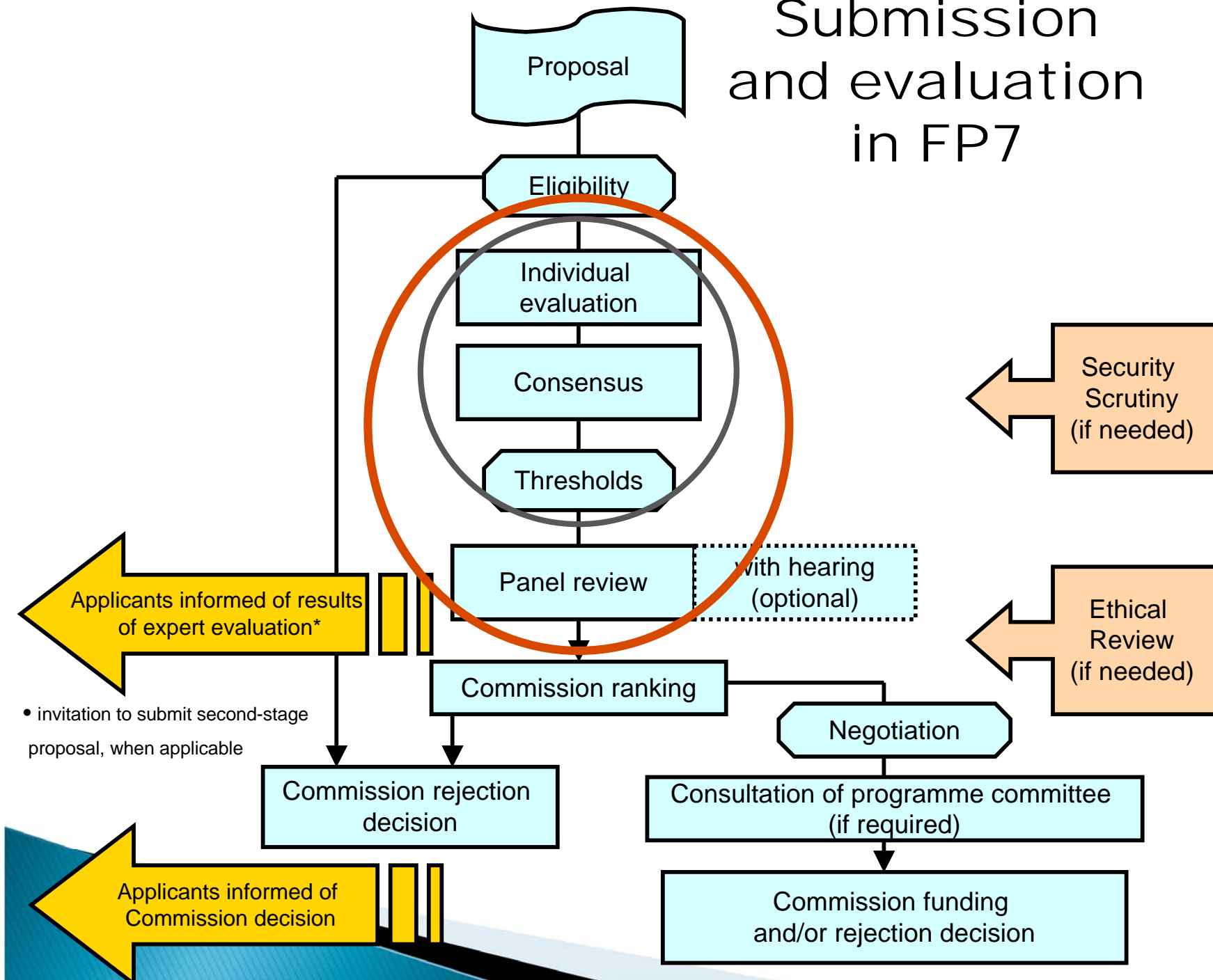


# An Expert Evaluator's Observations

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# Submission and evaluation in FP7



# Criteria for Evaluation

- ▶ Criteria adapted to each funding scheme and each thematic area
  - specified in the work programme
- ▶ Divided into three main criteria:
  - S&T Quality (relevant to the topic of the call)
    - Concept, objective, work-plan
  - Implementation
    - Appropriateness of management structure
    - Individual participants and consortium as a whole
    - Allocation of resources
  - Impact
    - Contribution to expected impacts listed in work programme
    - Plans for dissemination/exploitation
- ▶ Criteria generally marked out of 5
  - Individual threshold = 3; overall threshold = 10

# Criteria

		1. Scientific and/or technological excellence <i>(relevant to the topics addressed by the call)</i>  (award)	2. Quality and efficiency of the implementation and the management  (selection)	3. The potential impact through the development, dissemination and use of project results  (award)
All funding schemes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Soundness of concept, and quality of objectives</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appropriateness of the management structure and procedures</li> <li>• Quality and relevant experience of the individual participants</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contribution, at the European (and/or international) level, to the expected impacts listed in the work programme under relevant topic/activity</li> </ul>
Collaborative projects		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Progress beyond the state-of-the-art</li> <li>• Quality and effectiveness of the S/T methodology and associated work plan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quality of the consortium as a whole (including complementarity, balance)</li> <li>• Appropriateness of the allocation and justification of the resources to be committed (budget, staff, equipment)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appropriateness of measures for the dissemination and/or exploitation of project results, and management of intellectual property.</li> </ul>
Networks of Excellence		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contribution to long-term integration of high quality S/T research</li> <li>• Quality and effectiveness of the joint programme of activities and associated work plan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quality of the consortium as a whole (including ability to tackle fragmentation of the research field, and commitment towards a deep and durable integration)</li> <li>• Adequacy of resources for successfully carrying out the joint programme of activities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appropriateness of measures for spreading excellence, exploiting results, and disseminating knowledge, through engagement with stakeholders and the public at large.</li> </ul>
Co-ordination & support actions	CA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contribution to the co-ordination of high quality research</li> <li>• Quality and effectiveness of the co-ordination mechanisms, and associated work plan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quality of the consortium as a whole (including complementarity, balance) [for SA: only if relevant]</li> <li>• Appropriateness of the allocation and justification of the resources to be committed (budget, staff, equipment)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appropriateness of measures for spreading excellence, exploiting results, and disseminating knowledge, through engagement with stakeholders, and the public at large.</li> </ul>
	SA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quality and effectiveness of the support action mechanisms, and associated work plan</li> </ul>		
Research for the benefit of specific groups		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Innovative character in relation to the state-of-the-art</li> <li>• Contribution to advancement of knowledge / technological progress</li> <li>• Quality and effectiveness of S/T methodology and associated work plan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quality of the consortium as a whole (including complementarity and balance)</li> <li>• Appropriateness of the allocation and justification of the resources to be committed (budget, staff, equipment)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appropriateness of measures for the dissemination and/or exploitation of project results, and management of intellectual property</li> </ul>

# Scoring

5	The proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion in question. Any shortcomings are minor
4	The proposal addresses the criterion well, although certain improvements are possible.
3	While the proposal broadly addresses the criterion, there are significant weaknesses that would need correcting.
2	There are serious inherent weaknesses in relation to the criterion in question.
1	The criterion is addressed in a cursory and unsatisfactory manner.
0	The proposal fails to address the criterion under examination or cannot be judged due to missing or incomplete information

*Individual threshold = 3*  
*Overall threshold = 10*

# YOU CAN LOSE OUT ON FUNDING BY 0.5%

How to lose marks – and how to avoid  
losing marks...



# Losing Marks

- ▶ **Not knowing the reader**
  - Mix of academic and industry.
  - Not necessarily exact scientific expert for area.
    - Requires clear explanation of project objectives and science.
    - Mind your language – be clear, concise and simple.
- ▶ **Fail to divide effort over the evaluation criteria**
  - Must provide ALL information requested.
  - Proposers often concentrate on the scientific element, but lose marks on project planning or impact description.




# Losing Marks

- ▶ **Fail to show how project will deliver impact**
  - The impact section should be elaborated and covered very well.
  - Relate project impact to the objectives of the work programme.
  - Role of consortium members delivering impact – role of non-research partners.
  - Expert evaluator is not an expert on the work programme.
    - Clearly show using quotes and references from work programme and official documents justification for project.



# Losing Marks

- ▶ **Not explaining collaboration**
    - Which consortium member will provide which skills?
    - Explain how members will work together – clear management structure.
  - ▶ **Fail to be ambitious**
    - Project is too low risk – no excitement.
    - Scope must be right.
  - ▶ **Ignoring value for money**
    - Allocation of resources to be appropriate and reasonable.
- 

# Losing Marks

- ▶ **Fail to add finishing touches**
  - Clear language.
  - Well-organised contents.
  - Useful and understandable diagrams.
  - No typos, no inconsistencies, no obvious paste-ins, no numbers which don't add up, no missing pages
- ▶ **MAKE IT EASY FOR EVALUATOR**
  - ▶ **TELL THE EVALUATOR WHY YOUR PROPOSAL IS EXCELLENT.**
- ▶ *Always remember you can lose by 0.5 marks.*



# Evaluator Experience: Benefits

- ▶ Ideal training programme
  - Insight into evaluation process
  - Learning from peers
  - Access to quality proposals
  - Involvement in critical breakdown of proposals
  - Opportunity to explore work programme
- ▶ Networking opportunity
- ▶ Partner search opportunity
- ▶ Encouraging and motivating
  - Winning proposals are achievable
  - Myths of FP undone
- ▶ Pays quite well!



# Becoming an Expert Evaluator

- ▶ Register details
  - <https://cordis.europa.eu/emmp7/>
  
- ▶ Optimise chances of being called
  - No short cuts completing online fields
  - Have your updated CV on hand
  - Review forthcoming work programme
    - Identify keywords that relate to your experience and expertise
  - Update your profile!



**BEST OF LUCK**

