

**EVALUATION PROCEDURES FOR THE PROGRAMME  
“COMPETITIVE AND SUSTAINABLE GROWTH”**

**1. The Evaluation process**

- **Pre-Registration:** Not envisaged for paper submission, but pre-notification is obligatory in the case of electronic submission.
- **Pre-proposal check:** Pre-screening will be offered.
- **Remote or postal evaluation:** All evaluations will normally be performed within the premises controlled by the Commission.
- **Anonymity:** The programme will conduct the evaluation of the scientific, technological excellence and innovation aspects as described in part B of the RTD proposal respecting strict anonymity. The scientific and technical part of the RTD proposal should therefore be written in an anonymous manner. Identity of partners might be revealed in the other part of the proposal. Anonymity is however not requested for co-ordination activities, support to research infrastructure or accompanying measures, although the whole evaluation will be conducted without regard to identity of the applicants except insofar as the characteristics of the proposer(s) are relevant to the criteria.
- **The Evaluation Procedure:** The evaluation process will consider two main parts:
  - the evaluation of the scientific, technical and managerial part
  - the evaluation of the socio-economic aspects.

The recommendation of experts will be based on marks allocated, comments given and programme priorities. If there is more than one group of experts, these should agree independently on the recommendation of the proposals. In a subsequent step, extended groups will revise the consolidated evaluation results, examine possible doubtful cases, and discuss the ranking.

- **Marking:** To be recommended, a proposal should receive more than 18.0 points out of a total of 25. Marks will normally be averaged between evaluators to the first decimal point.
- **Ranking:** Proposals recommended will usually be ranked according to the marks, per key action or generic activity. Final recommendation will however not be based only on marks but also on justified comments. The relative importance of some proposals in expressing the priorities as defined in the call may also be used as input for the setting up of the final list.
- **Procedure for the Specific Measures for SMEs:** The evaluation procedure, criteria and weightings concerning the above will be defined in the specific annex to the “Innovation and Participation of SMEs” programme.

**2. Specific interpretation of evaluation criteria:** RTD actions and related activities have to be selected according to criteria reflecting the overall objectives of the programme. These criteria are grouped in five categories described in pages 13, 14 and 15 of the general part of this manual (scientific / technological quality and innovation, Community added value and contribution to EU policies, contribution to

Community social objectives, economic development and S&T prospects, management and resources).

For most activities within this programme, and referring to the five evaluation criteria, particular attention would be given to projects which facilitate cross-sectoral exchanges and consider multi-disciplinarity as well as participation of all relevant stakeholders in consortia, including industrial and related service enterprises, effective participation of SMEs wherever possible, and/or links and access by SMEs to RTD results.

**3. Weighting of the evaluation criteria and thresholds:** For this programme equal weighting will be given to the five selection criteria.

The thresholds proposed for **shared-cost RTD activities** are as follows:

<i>Minimum mark (scale 0 - 5)</i>	KA1	KA2	KA3	KA4	Mat	M&T
<b>S&amp;T excellence</b>	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	4.0	3.0
<b>Community added value <sup>(1)</sup></b>	3.0	4.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
<b>Societal needs</b>	3.0	4.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
<b>Economic prospects</b>	4.0	3.0	4.0	4.0	3.0	3.0
<b>Partnership &amp; management<sup>(2)</sup></b>	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0

(1) 4.0 in the case of dedicated calls

(2) 4.0 in the case of large scale proposals (e.g. technology platforms) with more than €10 million total cost.

{KA1= “innovative products, processes and organisation”; KA2=“sustainable mobility and intermodality”; KA3=“land transport and marine technologies”; KA4=“new perspectives for aeronautics”; Mat=“materials and their technologies for production and transformation” including steel research; M&T= “measurements and testing”}

For the other activities the thresholds are as follows:

<i>Minimum mark (scale 0 - 5)</i>	Co-ordination activities	Support to Research Infrastructure	Accompanying measures
<b>S&amp;T excellence</b>	3.0	3.0	3.0
<b>Community added value</b>	4.0	4.0	3.0 <sup>(3)</sup>
<b>Societal needs</b>	3.0	3.0	3.0 <sup>(3)</sup>
<b>Economic prospects</b>	3.0	3.0	3.0
<b>Partnership &amp; management</b>	4.0	4.0	3.0

(3) For policy driven research studies in KA2 the thresholds are increased to 4.0