

WBIF Guidelines for Applicants for TA Round 33 for Technical Assistance



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1. Introduction

These guidelines accompany the WBIF call for proposals TA Round 33 for public sector technical assistance. The main objective of this document is to provide guidance to Beneficiaries and financial institutions applying for funding in this WBIF call for proposals. It presents the eligibility provisions applicable to project proposals, clarifies how they should be submitted under the newly introduced “phased approach”, and what information the WBIF Project Financiers’ Group expects to receive in applications. The guidelines are structured in 3 chapters: 1) Eligibility provisions, 2) Timetable of the call for proposals and 3) Information on the “Phased approach”. The template of the grant application form (GAF) is included in Annex 1. The template contains instructions on the information required in applications, as well as the result framework. To facilitate the completion of application forms, the screening and assessment grids have been included in Annex 2. These generally reflect the assessment carried out by the WBIF Project Financier’s Group and aim to help the applicants double-check that all the relevant information has been provided in the applications.

2. Eligibility criteria for public sector technical assistance grants

The key priorities of the Economic and Investment Plan for the Western Balkans (EIP), now integrated in the Global Gateway, guide the eligibility criteria of the current round. Moreover, to achieve the goals of the New Growth Plan for the Western Balkans, special emphasis is placed on sectors that are likely to function as key multipliers for social and economic development: connectivity, including sustainable transport, decarbonisation, energy, green and digital transitions, as well as education and skills development, with a particular focus to youth.

Applications for public sector TA grant support under the current round are eligible in the following intervention areas: 1) sustainable transport; 2) clean energy; 3) environment and climate; 4) digital future; and 5) human capital development. More detail on eligibility criteria per intervention area is found in sections 2.1-2.6 below.

In addition, with a view to leveraging private sector finance and expertise for public investments – in particular when the investment design is complex, the operation of the infrastructure is challenging, or when the fiscal space of the borrower is limited – TA applications for the preparation of investments to be implemented under Public-Private Partnership (PPP) approach are strongly encouraged under the current round. As such, relevant applications should foresee an option analysis of the benefit and opportunity to develop the infrastructure through a Public Private Partnership. This requirement does not apply to applications concerning investments in advanced stages of preparation; in these cases, a justification for not conducting an option analysis must be provided in the GAF. Guidance on potential for PPP is available on the WBIF website in the library (EPEC studies).

2.1. Sustainable transport

Rationale

The Economic and Investment Plan for Western Balkans sets out that significant investment should be directed towards sustainable transport infrastructure in the Western Balkans. Transport-related measures also feature in the New Growth Plan and in the Reform Agendas contributing to the objective of integrating the Western Balkan economies into the EU Single Market through the so-called Green Lane initiative or measures relative Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS) or e-freight.

Investments in transport infrastructure should be future-proof and sustainable (e.g. through proper climate risk assessments and adequate mitigation and adaptation measures) in line with the Guidelines for the Implementation of the Green Agenda for the Western Balkans embedded in the Economic and Investment Plan: e.g. rehabilitation of the rail network, deployment of intelligent transport systems, multimodal transport solutions and modal shift. These

investments should also be aligned with the Sustainable and Smart Mobility Strategy priorities, the “do no significant harm” principle and the Paris Agreements.

Fast, efficient and sustainable transport links are crucial, both within the region and with the neighbouring EU Member States in the railway sector.

In June 2024, the Council of the European Union adopted a revised Regulation that includes a Rail Freight Corridor for the Western Balkans. After its adoption, the new Rail Freight Corridor has become an essential tool for coordinated cooperation to improve international freight traffic and to enhance and improve multimodality in passenger and freight rail transport.

The Core and Extended Core transport networks, with a deadline of 2030 and 2040 completion, should constitute the foundation of the sustainable multimodal transport network, representing the strategically most important nodes and links of the trans-European transport network according to traffic needs. They should stimulate the development of the entire comprehensive network and enable EU action to concentrate on the Trans-European Transport Network components with the highest European added value, in particular cross-border sections, missing links, multimodal connecting points and major bottlenecks.

The Western Balkans region is affected by the changing climate and has already seen the severe consequences of climate change. The Sustainable and Smart Mobility Strategy for Western Balkans was developed to set common objectives and a list of common measures for making transport greener, sustainable and healthier for citizens.

Progress should be made on both the implementation of technical standards and connectivity reform measures (e.g. aligning/simplifying border crossing procedures, railway reform including unbundling and third-party access, information systems, maintenance schemes, road safety), thus speeding up the completion of the indicative extension of the Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T) to the Western Balkans and accelerating full alignment with the EU acquis, namely as regards digital and clean energy technologies.

The regional action plans on Transport Facilitation, Rail, Road, Road Safety and Multimodality shall act as frameworks for investments.

TA applications in the transport sector should aim at preparing investments to be later funded by EU funds (in particular Sector Operational Programmes/National IPA funds or by WBIF investment grants) and must respect the following eligibility criteria:

Key areas of intervention

Subsector	SOP / national IPA	WBIF
Railways infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Railway TEN-T Comprehensive network, railway stations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Rehabilitation of existing and construction of new resilient and smart transport infrastructure on the TEN-T core and extended core railway network
Road infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Road TEN-T Comprehensive network and others	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Rehabilitation of existing and construction of new resilient and smart transport infrastructure on the TEN-T core roads network

Subsector	SOP / national IPA	WBIF
Maritime/Inland waterways infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inland waterways TEN-T comprehensive network Coastal protection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inland waterways TEN-T Core network Port infrastructure
Intermodality		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Terminals/multi-modal hubs
Urban Mobility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainable urban transport* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rapid urban transit systems

* Priority area(s) for Sector Operational Programmes without the actions eligible under WBIF.

Note: The above table refers to EU funds only. In addition, Bilateral Donors can support small-scale investment projects in all the sectors described above, regardless of the division of sub-sectors into “SOP/national IPA” and “WBIF”.

2.2. Clean energy

Rationale

The Economic and Investment Plan for Western Balkans, together with the Guidelines for the Implementation of the Green Agenda for the Western Balkans, set out that support towards energy transition will be reinforced. Strong emphasis is placed on energy market integration, decarbonisation, clean energy, just transition, increased digitalisation of the system and smart grids, energy efficiency, including modernisation of district heating, and energy security. Clean Energy also features prominently in the New Growth Plan for the region and in the Reform Agendas of each of the economies. Integration and decarbonisation of Energy markets is the main priority. This will take into account also the need for an equivalent carbon price to the EU Emissions Trading System’s carbon price or the application of the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) to allow for the continued electricity market coupling from 2030 onwards.

In December 2022, the Western Balkans partners made commitments under the Energy Community Treaty concerning the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions energy efficiency and renewable energy targets by 2030. On this basis, they have developed their respective National Energy and Climate Plans setting out the steps to achieve these targets. Investments funded under the Reform and Growth Facility shall be in line with the Western Balkans partners’ Energy and Climate Plans, their Nationally Determined Contribution and ambition to reach climate neutrality by 2050. They shall contribute to the mitigation of climate change and to the ability to adapt to its adverse effects, and foster climate resilience. In particular, funding under the Reform and Growth Facility shall promote the transition towards a decarbonised, climate-neutral, climate-resilient and circular economy.

At the same time, there has been progress in the implementation of renewable energy policies in the Western Balkans and investments in renewable energy (conventional solar and wind power plants) have started to flow in. However, further investments and policy measures in decarbonising energy production and/or consumption shall be key to delivering decarbonisation targets, including being able to avoid potentially negative consequences of the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) and ensuring a just energy transition. The mobilisation of the private sector would contribute to the nascent industrial clean energy ecosystems and can be a regional economic game changer. Progress should be made on transposing the new Electricity Integration Package within the Energy Community to ensure full market integration of Contracting Parties, which includes the six Western Balkans partners, into the single European electricity market.

Key areas of intervention

TA applications in the energy sector should aim at preparing investments to be later funded by EU funds (in particular, Sector Operational Programmes/National IPA funds or by WBIF investment grants) and must respect the

following eligibility criteria:

Subsector	SOP / national IPA	WBIF
Electricity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transmission of internal electricity transmission lines, if not on the PECO/PMI lists, that significantly contribute to market integration and/or to the integration of RES 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transmission lines contributing to market integration (between Western Balkans partners and/or with EU Member States), sustainability (integration and transmission of renewable energy) and security of supply. Distribution network upgrade Digitalisation of the network Energy storage: battery storage and pumped hydro storage
Renewable energy production		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rehabilitation of hydropower plants Innovative renewable energy solution projects (if not supported through EFSD+ guarantees and proven not to be revenue-generating)
Energy efficiency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public buildings District heating 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public and private buildings and businesses through REEP Education and health facilities through WBIF: energy efficiency measures for infrastructure in the education sector (from early childhood education to high-level education) and in the health sector (hospitals and health centres)

Note: The above table refers to EU funds only. In addition, Bilateral Donors can support small-scale investment projects in all the sectors described above, regardless of the division of sub-sectors into “SOP/national IPA” and “WBIF”.

2.3. Environment and climate

Rationale

The Economic and Investment Plan for Western Balkans, together with the Guidelines for the Implementation of the Green Agenda for the Western Balkans, set out that significant investment should be directed towards greening the Western Balkans and mainstreaming environmental and climate requirements in other sectors. WBIF support focuses on the implementation of the plan’s flagship on waste and wastewater management.

One of the main goals of the Green Agenda is to reduce water pollution and to address water conservation and flood protection across the region. There is a high share of the population in rural areas (30 to 50%) with only basic sanitary facilities and wastewater collection, while urban areas with collection of wastewater via sewer networks discharge mostly untreated wastewater.

Even though there have been improvements in waste management through the adoption of circular economy principles, there is still much progress to be made in the Western Balkans. Support will be provided to upgrade basic infrastructure in line with relevant EU standards in the area of water and sanitation (including investments in

drinking water treatment and supply and sewerage systems covering multiple agglomerations with a regional coverage or in the major cities) and pollution prevention measures. Moving to a circular economy, addressing waste management, recycling, sustainable production, and efficient use of resources will play a significant role in lowering the carbon footprint.

Key areas of intervention

TA applications in the environment sector should aim at preparing investments to be later funded by EU funds (in particular Sector Operational Programmes/National IPA funds or by WBIF investment grants) and must respect the following eligibility criteria:

Subsector	SOP / national IPA	WBIF
Water management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rehabilitation of existing and construction of new Drinking water and wastewater treatment plant (\leq €15 million (\leq€30 million for Serbia))* River basin management/flood prevention 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rehabilitation of existing and construction of new drinking water and wastewater treatment plants ($>$ €15 million ($>$ €30 million for Serbia))
Waste management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rehabilitation of existing and construction of new of waste management centres (\leq €20 million (\leq€30 million for Serbia))* Closure of non-compliant landfills Equipment* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rehabilitation of existing and construction of new waste management centres ($>$ €20 million ($>$ €30 million for Serbia)) Closure of non-compliant landfills, including rehabilitation according to EU standards (only if in association with waste management centres)
Air quality/noise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Services/ works/ equipment * 	
Nature protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Management of natural resources, resource protection (deployment of reservoirs, irrigation; green and blue infrastructures; ecosystem restoration and resilience; restoration of carbon rich habitats; water retention)* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actions that address water pollution and have co-benefits of improving resilience to extreme climate events or contributing to nature conservation and restoration, such as nature-based solutions or green infrastructure, will be prioritised.
Industrial pollution/ chemicals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Services (studies) Cleaning/remediation of local waste dumpsites 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrated industrial decarbonisation and depollution solutions
Circular economy		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support will be provided to waste management, recycling, sustainable production, and efficient use of resources for the green and climate-neutral economy.

* Priority area/s for Sector Operational Programmes.

Note: The above table refers to EU funds only. In addition, Bilateral Donors can support small-scale investment projects in all the sectors described above regardless of the division of sub-sectors into “SOP/national IPA” and “WBIF”

and without any financial thresholds.

2.4. Digital future

Rationale

The Economic and Investment Plan for Western Balkans calls for the region's digital transition and includes digital infrastructure as one of its ten flagships. Digital transition also features prominently in the New Growth Plan for the region and in the Reform Agendas of each of the economies. Among other reforms, which will be financially supported through the Reform and Growth Facility, the Western Balkan partners are committing to advance on the roll-out of secure and sustainable digital infrastructure in full compliance with the EU's 5G cybersecurity toolbox.

Key areas of intervention

TA applications in the digital sector should aim at preparing investments to be later funded by EU funds (in particular Sector Operational Programmes/National IPA funds or by WBIF investment grants) and must respect the following eligibility criteria:

Subsector	SOP / national IPA	WBIF
Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• e-governance, e-procurement, education, e-health, electronic public services• projects supporting alignment with EU's rules related to data protection• EU practices to mitigate cybersecurity risks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ultra-fast and secure broadband (including 5G) with to governments, households, businesses, education and health, connections with remote areas, connection to EU digital backbones. Full alignment with the EU's 5G cybersecurity toolbox and technology neutrality must be ensured• secure, energy-efficient, trustworthy and AI-ready data centres, edge and cloud infrastructures, as well as linking to EU initiatives on high-performance computers and/or GEANT programme; these efforts must ensure cyber-resilience• Exploring synergies with other connectivity areas, such as transport and energy, in the context of infrastructure sharing• Investments in improving the digitalisation of infrastructures in the fields of education (from early childhood education to high-level education) and health (hospitals and health centres).

Note: The above table refers to EU funds only. In addition, Bilateral Donors can support small-scale investment projects in all the sectors described above regardless of the division of sub-sectors into "SOP/national IPA" and "WBIF".

2.5. Infrastructures for human capital development

Rationale

The Economic and Investment Plan for Western Balkans puts strong emphasis on the investments in infrastructures

that unleash the potential of human capital development among other, in the fields of education and skills, research and innovation, which has been fully taken forward by the new Growth Plan for the Western Balkans and respective national Reform Agendas. Investments in health infrastructure are now included under Clean Energy (energy efficiency measures) or the Digital Future sectors digitalisation in health). Among other reforms, which will be financially supported through the Reform and Growth Facility, the Western Balkan partners are committed to advancing in the areas of education and skills, labour market and employability, research and development.

Key areas of intervention

TA applications in the human capital development sector should aim at preparing investments to be later funded by EU funds (in particular Sector Operational Programmes/National IPA funds or by WBIF investment grants) and must respect the following eligibility criteria:

Subsector	SOP / national IPA	WBIF
Education & Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investments contributing to the Economic and Investment Plan Flagship 10 Youth Guarantee* any other activity in line with IPA III programming framework, EIP, ERP* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Infrastructure investments necessary for implementation of concrete reforms included in Reform Agenda
Social inclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> any activity in line with IPA III programming framework, EIP, ERP* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Infrastructure investments necessary for implementation of concrete reforms included in Reform Agenda
Employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> any activity in line with IPA III programming framework, EIP, ERP* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Infrastructure investments necessary for implementation of concrete reforms included in Reform Agenda
Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> any activity in line with IPA III programming framework, EIP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investments in energy efficiency and digitalisation under the WBIF are covered under the Digital Future and Clean Energy sectors
The above-mentioned investments must be sustainable and comply with clean energy and decarbonisation targets, environmental protection, and disaster resilience.		

* Priority area(s) for Sector Operational Programmes.

Note: The above table refers to EU funds only. In addition, Bilateral Donors can support small-scale investment projects in all the sectors described above regardless of the division of sub-sectors into "SOP/national IPA" and "WBIF".

2.6. Additional eligibility criteria

- The underlying investment projects of technical assistance grant must be endorsed by the Ministry of Finance, unless no financing from the national budget is expected (e.g. projects under the responsibility of a municipality).
- TA applications must support preparatory work for EU-funded eligible investment projects (mostly by WBIF and SOP/National IPA) and/or by Bilateral Donors funds. For example, without limitation, masterplans, (pre)feasibility studies, cost-benefit analyses, environmental and social impact assessments, comprehensive risks assessments, including disasters and climate change risks and vulnerability, preliminary and detailed designs), targeted capacity building and implementation support (including tender documents preparation procurement assistance), sector development studies, and general capacity building.

- Activities related to the technical review, check and verification of any project design(s) as per national legislation, other activities specific to the urban planning and/or land ownership (e.g. the preparation of urban plans, documentation for land expropriation, etc.) that fall under the Beneficiary's responsibility as part of its due diligence and control for the project management are not eligible for grant funding.
- Support for overcoming specific obstacles delaying project preparation or implementation may be accepted, provided that for faltering projects, the grant application provides a thorough analysis of the causes and a clear and logical use of the grant to drive their progress.
- For projects with preparatory studies under development (e.g. the feasibility study is under preparation), grant financing for the next stage will not be provided until those studies are completed and their results are approved by the beneficiary and Lead IFI. Similarly, additional grant financing will not be considered when a grant has already been awarded but not disbursed.
- To ensure efficient use of resources, proposals should reflect the logical sequence of the project cycle and, therefore, should be confined to immediate needs. For example, if a feasibility study is required, assistance for designs and tender documents should not be part of the grant request but rather be applied for in the future if the feasibility study proves positive.
- TA applications for the preparation of investments to be implemented under PPP approach are strongly encouraged under the current round. As such, relevant applications should foresee an option analysis of the benefit and opportunity to develop the infrastructure through a Public Private Partnership. This requirement does not apply to applications concerning investments in advanced stages of preparation; in these cases, a justification for not conducting an option analysis must be provided in the GAF. Guidance on potential for PPP is available on the WBIF website in the library (EPEC studies).

3. Maximum co-financing rates for WBIF technical assistance grants

The WBIF grant can finance 100% of costs for technical assistance.

For clarifications regarding the call for proposals, please contact the WBIF Secretariat at ENEST-WBIF@ec.europa.eu.

4. Timeline of the call for proposals

The European Commission and the Bilateral Donors launch a WBIF call for Technical Assistance (TA) applications for financial support through the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance III and Bilateral Donors contributions to the European Western Balkans Joint Fund (EWBJF) to support the preparation of infrastructure projects to be financed by EU-funds (mostly by WBIF and SOP/National IPA) and/or by Bilateral Donors funds, including the Reform and Growth Facility established under the New [Growth Plan for the Western Balkans](#).

Selected technical assistance grants must support the preparation of investment projects addressing the WBIF Blending Investment Priorities as presented at the 1st Strategic and Operational Board meetings (16 and 17 December 2021), here relevant: 1) sustainable transport; 2) clean energy; 3) environment and climate; 4) digital future; and 5) human capital development.

The tentative timeline for the call for proposals is shown below.

Event	TA Round 33
Launch of the call for proposals	5 August 2025 (written procedure)
Pre-notification deadline	11 September 2025
Submission deadline	25 September 2025

Endorsement deadline	02 October 2025
Screening (until)	24 October 2025
1 st Paris Group	13 November 2025
Assessment (until)	18 December 2025
2 nd Paris Group	16 January 2026
Project Financiers' Group	Written Procedure (February 2026)
Operational Board	Written Procedure (February/March 2026)

5. Guidelines for phased TA submission and GAF

This section provides guidance on the use of the “new phased TA GAF”.

5.1. General overview

New phased approach / additional PG & PFG meetings

The TA GAF is split into 2 phases. There will be more Paris Group (PG) meetings per year. All PG meetings will cover the so-called “1st and 2nd” PG meetings, meaning that in each meeting, both Phase 1 and Phase 2 applications will be deliberated (the same PGs will also serve the purpose of discussing screening and assessment of investment grants for public and private sectors, when these are due).

The first phase GAF contains information required by DG ENEST to enable a meaningful understanding of the application and screening, in line with the policy framework and the eligibility criteria of the call, followed by a first deliberation in a PG meeting. Once the application passes the first phase (PG meeting), the second phase starts. In this second phase GAF, additional sections will open, which applicants must complete during the assessment phase. Once completed, a second deliberation of these “Phase 2” GAFs follows in the next PG meeting. The final GAFs are submitted to the PFG. The second deliberation in a PG meeting can occur at any PG meeting immediately following the previous one or any subsequent PG meeting, depending on the progress of completing the GAF.

While the possibility to carry over one GAF from one PG to another increases flexibility and allows applicants to develop the application at the appropriate pace and in line with the complexity of the required study, this mechanism must not result in an open-ended process, whereby GAFs are submitted and remain open in the system for an undetermined period of time. DG ENEST may therefore decide to remove applications from the system if they have been idle for too long. In addition, if the template for TA GAFs is updated, applications still in the MIS (pre 1st PG, or idle before 2nd PG) will be cancelled and must be resubmitted.

The GAF, once approved, contains the Terms of Reference (ToR). The MIS is programmed in a way that allows relevant GAF components to be extracted, which will then become the ToR, compiled into a single document, which will be uploaded to the MIS under the GAF as a separate document (under the attachments). From this point, the ToR are passed on to the EIB for IPF-implemented TA or to the Lead IFI for Joint Fund financed TA.

The stages for a phased GAF submission and the approval sequence are shown below.

Stage	Author/s	Comment
Pre-notification	NIPAC	No changes compared to the previous TA call for proposals, same MIS fields (N.1 to 14, 17 and 18)

Submission Phase 1	NIPAC	Phase 1 fields open in MIS, shown in green in Annex 1 (include most of the ToR sections)
Endorsement	Lead IFI	Endorsement of Phase 1 GAFs.
Screening	European Commission	Will screen only phase 1 fields, which include part of the ToR fields.
Paris Group	PG members	DG ENEST summarises screening conclusions and which phase 1 GAFs advance to phase 2, are delayed to the next PG (for improvement) or are screened negatively.
Submission Phase 2 & Assessment	NIPAC & Lead IFI	Phase 2 fields open in MIS, shown in blue in Annex 1, also phase 1 fields for improvement, updates, etc.
Paris Group	PG members	DG ENEST presents which GAFs may be submitted to the PFG, are delayed to the next PG (for improvement) or are rejected.
PFG	PFG members	Agrees on the GAFs for submission to the Operational Board, place on hold, or reject.
OB & AoC (where needed)	OB & AoC members (where needed)	Approves GAFs in physical meetings or by written procedure.

5.2. Terms of Reference

The following sections of the GAF will become sections of the ToR, and should, for this reason, be drafted with a view of “becoming parts of the ToR”, this includes both phase 1 and 2 sections. Following approval by the OB, the MIS will automatically generate the ToR and these will be uploaded to the MIS under the grant attachments. DG ENEST will provide technical assistance to the beneficiaries in the preparation of the GAF (and the ToR requirements) on a regular basis.

Section	Title
2	Grant code
7	Beneficiaries
10	Action/Grant Application name
11	Lead IFI
14	Total WBIF grant amount (€)
16	Implementation of TA activities
17	Responsible authority of the Beneficiary
18	Implementing entity(ies)
19.1	Background and context of the Project
19.2	Needs/demand analysis
19.3	Project map
19.4	Project description
19.5	Reference documents
21.1	Alignment with the Economic and Investment Plan for the Western Balkans

Section	Title
21.2	Alignment with the Growth Plan and the Reform and Growth Facility for the Western Balkans
21.3	Alignment with Green Agenda objectives
21.4	Compliance with adopted national/sectoral/regional strategies
23.1	Description of entities involved
23.2	Organisational set-up
28.2	Detailed scope of work and results for TA grant activities (the Action)
31.2	Detailed planning of TA activities

Annex 1: Grant application form for technical assistance for the public sector

The new phased TA GAF is copied below and the split into stage 1 and 2 together with explanatory text in grey italics.

Phase 1 (opens up following pre-notification)
Phase 2 (opens up following PG)

IDENTITY OF THE PROJECT

1	Blending facility	WBIF	2	Grant code	<i>This is the grant code and is communicated to the NIPAC at pre-notification. This section is filled in automatically in MIS when the application is submitted.</i>
3	WBIF approval date	<i>This is the date on which the WBIF approves the grant. This section is filled in automatically in MIS.</i>	4	Flagship	<i>[select flagship] Select the relevant investment flagship from the drop-down list. If the Project does not fall under an investment flagship, select "None" from the drop-down list and justify the application in section 21 - Coherence with the EIP, Growth Plan/RGF, EU policies, and adopted national/sectoral/regional strategies.</i>
5	WBIF intervention area	<i>[select intervention area] Select the intervention area addressed by the Project from the drop-down list.</i>	6	CRS-code	<i>The OECD purpose code (CRS code) relevant to the Project must be entered in this section. The list of CRS codes is available at http://www.oecd.org/dac/financing-sustainable-development/development-finance-standards/dacandcrscodelists.htm. The NIPAC will select the CRS code from the drop-down list available in MIS when it submits the application.</i>
7	Beneficiary(ies)	<i>[select name] Select the name of the Beneficiary from the drop-down list. For regional projects, select all Beneficiaries involved.</i>			
8	Project name	<i>Enter the name of the Project financed by the WBIF grant. Please ensure that it is short (maximum 250 characters) and includes the key elements of the Project, such as the</i>	9	Project code	<i>This code is specific to the WBIF MIS database and is either selected (for existing WBIF projects) or generated (for new projects) at the pre-notification stage.</i>

		infrastructure concerned and location.			
10	Action/Grant Application name	Enter the name of the Action, which must include the key elements of the technical assistance (TA) to be funded with the grant per this structure: Project name (as per section 8) followed by the TA activities to be funded by the WBIF grant requested. For example, "Nis Wastewater Treatment Plant: Feasibility Study, ESIA, Preliminary Design", where "Nis Wastewater Treatment Plant" is the name of the Project for which the WBIF grant is requested, while "Feasibility Study, ESIA, Preliminary Design" are the activities to be funded by the WBIF TA grant.			
11	Lead Financial Institution	[select name] Select the name of the Lead Financial Institution (LFI) from the drop-down list.			
12	Co-financier(s)	[select name] Select the names of other WBIF financial institutions that contribute financial resources to the Project if relevant: AFD, CEB, EBRD, KfW, or WB.			
13	Type of WBIF contribution	Technical Assistance			
14	Total WBIF grant amount (€)	TA amount excl. fee (€)		This is the grant amount without implementation fee for the TA activities funded by the grant. It is the "Grant amount without fees" from section 29.	
		TA fee (€)		This is the implementation fee from section 29.	
		Total WBIF grant amount (€)		This is the "Total WBIF grant amount" from section 29.	
15	Type of WBIF financing source	[select source]	16	Implementation of TA activities	[MM/YYYY - MM/YYYY] This field is filled in automatically in MIS based on the dates provided in subsection 31.1 - Indicative calendar of the Action.
17	Responsible authority of the Beneficiary	Indicate the Beneficiary's authority (e.g. Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Transport, etc.) and its relevant department(s) in charge of the Project (e.g. Department for International Financial Cooperation, Department of Water, etc.) Ensure consistency with section 23 - Institutional framework of the Project.			
18	Implementing entity(ies)	Indicate the entity(ies) responsible for the implementation of the Project (e.g. public transport company, public utility company in cooperation with the Municipality, transmission system operator, etc.) and specify the nature of the implementing entity, i.e. whether it is public, mixed (include ownership structure), or private. Note that in section 23 - Institutional framework of the Project, all the entities involved must be included, while in the section, only the entity in charge of implementing the Project should be listed.			

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

19	<p>Description of the Project</p> <p><i>The following differentiation is made between the Project and the Action in the grant application form:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Project means the overall investment project.</i> ▪ <i>Action means the part of the project for which the Beneficiary seeks grant financing from the WBIF. An Action comprises a set of activities proposed for financing partly or entirely by the WBIF grant.</i> <p><i>This section deals with the investment project for which WBIF TA funding is requested (i.e. the Project), not with the activities proposed to be funded by the WBIF grant (i.e. the Action), which must be addressed in section 28.</i></p> <p><i>Provide a clear description of the overall Project. The description should be by component or phase if the Project has more than one component or phase. The description should include the Project's finality and its main components. Ensure that the information is verifiable; therefore, use summary information from the technical documentation developed for the Project (e.g. feasibility study, ESIA study, preliminary/detailed design, etc.) and document the sources. The description may be complemented by maps, explanatory graphs, tables or pictures, which can be included in the application form using the MIS "Pictures" and "Tables" functionalities.</i></p> <p><i>This section should provide an overview of the context in which the Project will be developed and a summary of the Project's scope, including the main outputs envisaged. The current situation and trends in the sector addressed by the Project should be described. This requires defining the needs within the project area in the relevant sector/thematic area. Therefore, the changes to be achieved through the Project should be clear, as well as who is targeted and who will benefit from the Project's activities. The type of benefits and the final beneficiaries must be quantified as much as possible.</i></p> <p><i>(Indicative max 1,000 words)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Complete this section in cooperation with the LFI.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Present concisely and coherently all the information required in subsections 19.1, 19.2 and 19.4.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Ensure the description focuses on the Project, not the Action for which WBIF grant funding is requested.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Ensure that all main (direct and indirect) beneficiaries are identified and described (i.e. those who will benefit from the Project's implementation).</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Use and quote official sources of information to justify critical problems/primary deficiencies (see subsection 19.5).</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Ensure that a map of the Project's location is included in subsection 19.3.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Avoid using jargon and acronyms.</i>
19.1	<p>Background and context of the Project</p> <p><i>Provide a short description of the Project's background, which should include at least an overview of the current situation and trends in the sector the Project addresses. What is needed? How is it justified? Where does the project idea originate from? What are the market failures or suboptimal investment situations which will be addressed, which may be proven to be financially viable but do not give rise to sufficient funding from market sources? Where relevant, describe the avoidance of the potential crowding out of other sources of finance.</i></p> <p><i>Market failure is traditionally defined as a situation with an inefficient distribution of goods and services, whereby the individual incentives for rational behaviour do not lead to rational outcomes for the group. It is, therefore, a disequilibrium state in which the rational behaviour of the individual does not lead to a rational behaviour for the group. In these situations, donors can support the beneficiary government in intervening to provide public goods and handling both positive and negative externalities of free market economic activities.</i></p> <p><i>Public goods are defined by two distinct aspects: non-excludability and non-rivalrous consumption. "Non-excludability" means that people cannot be excluded from their fruition, while "non-rivalrous" consumption means that the consumption of a good by one person does not reduce the amount available for others. Public goods such as infrastructures, non-toll roads, municipal sewage systems, and energy efficient public buildings are all examples of public goods, along with many others, including well-educated youth. Externalities occur whenever a transaction has a spillover of benefits (positive) or costs (negative) to parties not involved in the original transaction. Thus, a private company's investment in renewable energy facilities has a positive spillover for the general population in terms of air quality, while a chemical plant's continued reliance on old technology has a negative spillover effect due to the pollutants it releases into the environment, which could be avoided if</i></p>

<p>the company was to invest in renewing its equipment.</p> <p>While making the argument of how the proposed action intends to create public goods or manage positive and negative externalities, thus addressing a market failure or a suboptimal investment situation, bear in mind that the European Commission remains an economic actor managing scarce resources in pursuing its policy priorities. It is, therefore, important that you carefully qualify and quantify the public goods and externalities that the action intends to create.</p> <p>Describe any other relevant socio-economic implication of the Project, e.g. relevant information on the social and/or market impact that the Project, if implemented, will have, for instance, a significant and sudden rise in utility tariffs, which may be necessary for the sustainability of the sector and of the Project, but which may have important social consequences.</p> <p>Describe what can be taken as reference programmes or projects in the beneficiary economy/region/sector (e.g. similar programmes carried out in the sector of the Project), what are the defining benchmarks of these programmes/projects, and what are the main lessons learnt.</p> <p>Explain the involvement of the private sector if relevant.</p> <p>Maximum length: 3000 characters.</p>	
19.2	Needs/demand analysis
<p>For early-stage projects (pre-feasibility study, feasibility study, ESIA), please provide one paragraph on expected needs / demand that the Project is expected to address.</p> <p>For more advanced stage projects (PD, Design, etc.), please use quantitative (if available) and qualitative data, describe the problems (including gaps, shortcomings, or deficiencies) the Project addresses to demonstrate <u>why the Project is needed</u>. It is paramount to summarise critical infrastructure deficiencies and needs that the Project (or project component/phase) will address and bring to EU standards.</p> <p>Provide a summary of the demand analysis, including the predicted demand growth rate, in line with the results of the Cost-Benefit Analysis (if available). Minimum information required: (i) assumptions and baseline (e.g. traffic in the past, future traffic without the project); (ii) projections and methodology used for selected options (if applicable); (iii) supply-side aspects, including analysis of existing and expected infrastructure developments; and (iv) network effect (if any). Use and document sources to justify the critical issues the Project targets and the demand analysis. Avoid using jargon and acronyms.</p>	
19.3	Project map
<p>Include a map that clearly shows the project area and its context to allow an understanding of the location of the various facilities of the Project. The map should be easy to read, of high-quality, preferably in colour, and have a clear legend.</p>	
19.4	Description of the Project
<p>Please do not repeat information from 19.1. This description must be structured, concise and focused on crucial aspects: main characteristics (technical specifications) and components and/or phases of the Project (if it has more than one component or phase), justification of the Project's scope and size in the context of the demand forecasted, the rationale for options selected concerning climate change and natural disasters risk assessment conducted (as applicable), primary beneficiaries of the Project (e.g. target population served). Indicate cross-border aspects and impacts (if any).</p> <p>If the Project has several phases or components, present those already completed or under implementation and subsequent phases and/or components chronologically.</p> <p>Briefly describe and quantify the beneficiaries of the Project as much as possible, including any vulnerable, disadvantaged, disabled, and gender-sensitive groups.</p> <p>Maximum length: 3000 characters.</p>	
19.5	Reference documents
<p>List all documents used in drafting section 19 (e.g. studies, statistics, strategies, action plan, etc.). Indicate the document title, author, issue date, and URL if available online.</p>	

20	Indicative project status and planning			
<p><i>Outline the Project's current stage and the envisaged timeline. Include the duration, status, and information about completed, ongoing, and future activities. Indicate the last technical documentation completed, briefly comment on any outstanding or ongoing activities, and specify the expected completion date per the instructions below.</i></p>				
<p><i>The most common activities are pre-listed. Where relevant, add activities to the list. In case of activities that are not relevant, state 'n/a'.</i></p>				
<p><i>The following key aspects should be covered:</i></p>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Technical: status of/planning for the preparation of the masterplan, pre-feasibility study, feasibility study and cost-benefit analysis, environmental and social impact assessment, preliminary and detailed designs, tender documents, etc.;</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Administrative: status of/planning for urban planning, environmental permit, land availability, construction permit, launch of procurement, etc.;</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Financial: status of/planning for loan agreement(s) with the LFI and other IFIs financing the Project (e.g. estimated, under negation, signed, etc.), additional grants, allocation from the national budget, etc.</i> 				
<p><i>The estimated duration of each activity and the overall period must be realistic, and all the factors that may affect the implementation timetable must be considered. It is recommended to consider the following planning principles:</i></p>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Activities must follow the sequential order of the Project's development.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Sequential activities should not overlap.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>The duration of procedures (e.g. review, public consultations, and permitting) should align with the periods defined in applicable regulations.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>The estimated duration of each activity must include a reserve and should not be calculated as the shortest (theoretical) possible duration.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>The impact of foreseeable periods when the Project will be on hold.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>The time when institutions involved operate under a different regime (e.g. vacations, public holidays, etc.) or target groups are engaged in other activities (e.g. election campaign, intensive activity season in agriculture, etc.) should be considered.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Key stages in the development of the Project should be considered, e.g. securing internal approvals for the Project, securing funding, securing ownership/control of sites, planning permissions, completion of design works, procurement launch, appointment of contractors, start of works on site, construction completion, handover and official opening.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Complete this section in cooperation with the LFI.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Ensure that the current stage of the Project reflects its status, e.g. previous stages/phases of the Project are completed and all related conclusions are approved.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Planned activities are logically sequenced and can realistically be implemented within the estimated period. Each activity is designed to be implemented within a suitable period. Where possible, activities are executed (partly) in parallel, e.g. tender documents preparation and procurement pre-qualification.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Ensure consistency with sections 19 and 31.</i> 				
<p><u>Note:</u></p>				
<p><i>(a) If already complete, provide the exact date; if only planned, indicate at least month and year.</i></p>				
<p><i>(b) Select one of the following status options in the table:</i></p>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Completed (C)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Work in progress (WIP)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not started (NS)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not applicable (N/A).</i> 				
<p><i>(c) Describe the current stage and the planning for each activity following the instructions included in the table. Additional activities specific to the Project can be added as separate entries (individual rows) in the table.</i></p>				
Activity	Duration ^(a)		Status ^(b)	Comments ^(c)
	Start date	Completion date		

		[MM/YYYY]	[MM/YYYY]		
	Masterplan and other relevant spatial planning documents	<i>[insert date]</i>	<i>[insert date]</i>	<i>[select status]</i>	Short description of the status, results, main conclusions, outstanding issues and/or conditions. Include the title, author and issue date.
	Definition of the investment project	<i>[insert date]</i>	<i>[insert date]</i>	<i>[select status]</i>	Describe how the Project is a priority for the national authority, e.g. the Project's position and scoring in the SPP. Justify the application if the Project is not ranked or has a low score in the SPP.
	Strategic Environmental Assessment (if applicable)	<i>[insert date]</i>	<i>[insert date]</i>	<i>[select status]</i>	Short description of the status, results, main conclusions, outstanding issues and/or conditions. Include the title, author and issue date if completed.
	Pre-feasibility Study	<i>[insert date]</i>	<i>[insert date]</i>	<i>[select status]</i>	As above
	Conceptual Design	<i>[insert date]</i>	<i>[insert date]</i>	<i>[select status]</i>	As above
	Feasibility Study (including Cost-Benefit Analysis)	<i>[insert date]</i>	<i>[insert date]</i>	<i>[select status]</i>	As above
	Environmental and Social Impact Assessment	<i>[insert date]</i>	<i>[insert date]</i>	<i>[select status]</i>	Short description of the status, milestones, and decisions stemming from the ESIA procedure leading to development consent (e.g. ESIA screening decision, environmental consent decision). Indicate if the ESIA Study meets the applicable national, EU and LFI requirements. Start date: outset of the application for environmental consent. Completion date: end of the ESIA procedure, including appeals and final decision.
	Preliminary Design	<i>[insert date]</i>	<i>[insert date]</i>	<i>[select status]</i>	Short description of the status, results/main conclusions, outstanding issues and/or conditions. Include title, author and issue date if completed.
	Land ownership	<i>[insert date]</i>	<i>[insert date]</i>	<i>[select status]</i>	Short description of the legal ownership of the project site(s) and the land for the new investments, land use planning decision(s) concerning the project sites(s), significant risks of delay and pending decisions on land purchase (e.g. expropriations).

					<p><i>Land availability is critical for infrastructure development; historically, it has delayed many investment projects. During the design phase, the land's availability must be fully acknowledged, and all related issues must be identified, including estimation of acquisition costs and time required for expropriation procedures (if any).</i></p> <p><i>It is common and good practice to consider that a project is mature for co-financing only if the land is already acquired and available because the likelihood of delays in the acquisition plan can be significant, which, in turn, will delay the overall construction period. Such a situation can be avoided only if the land acquisition programme is significantly advanced, or the government has committed to providing unencumbered land.</i></p>
Detailed Design	<i>[insert date]</i>	<i>[insert date]</i>	<i>[select status]</i>		<p><i>Short description of the status, results/main conclusions, outstanding issues and/or conditions. Include title, author and issue date if completed.</i></p>
Construction and other statutory permits	<i>[insert date]</i>	<i>[insert date]</i>	<i>[select status]</i>		<p><i>Short description of the status, development consent decision(s) - i.e. construction permit - or expected decisions, and renewals/updates of authorisations/ approvals. If authorisations have yet to be issued, indicate the estimated completion timeframe.</i></p>
Loan(s) negotiation and signing	<i>[insert date]</i>	<i>[insert date]</i>	<i>[select status]</i>		<p><i>Short description of the status of loan agreements with the IFIs financing the Project, e.g. estimated, under negotiation, terms agreed, signed, etc.</i></p>
Preparation of tender dossier(s)	<i>[insert date]</i>	<i>[insert date]</i>	<i>[select status]</i>		<p><i>Short description of the status and construction contract type (e.g. FIDIC Pink/Red Book, FIDIC Yellow Book, etc.</i></p>
Procurement for works (per phase/component)	<i>[insert date]</i>	<i>[insert date]</i>	<i>[select status]</i>		<p><i>Short description of the status, potential delays (e.g. appeals, retendering), contract(s) signature, and type of contract (e.g. FIDIC</i></p>

					Red/Pink Book or Yellow Book). If the Project has more than one component and/or phase, describe the status of procurement procedures for each component and/or phase.
	Construction of works (per phase/component)	[insert date]	[insert date]	[select status]	Short description of the status. If the Project is divided into phases or components, present each phase and/or component separately. If the Project has already started, indicate the current status of implementation of each phase and/or component and describe executed works and the percentage completed.

21	Coherence with the EIP, Growth Plan/RGF, EU policies, and adopted national/sectoral/regional strategies	
	<p>Consider the following when filling in the sections below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Ensure that the Project addresses the WBIF blending investment priorities, policy objectives and investment flagships of the EIP. <input type="checkbox"/> Ensure that the strategic justification of the Project is reliable and relevant. <input type="checkbox"/> Demonstrate the Project's compliance with relevant national legislation, EU acquis and policies and other donors' strategies. <input type="checkbox"/> Ensure that the Project considers any special needs and responds to challenges related to any forms of discrimination and environmental impact. <input type="checkbox"/> Ensure correlation between the information included in the SSP and the grant application form (e.g. Project title, total project cost). 	
	21.1	Alignment with the Economic and Investment Plan for the Western Balkans
	<p>If a Project is not a "Flagship (Section 4)", please confirm if the Project is nevertheless aligned with any of the following EIP priority area(s):[delete the options which are not relevant] "Transport", "Energy", "Environment and climate resilience", "Digital", "Economic development (incl. private sector, trade and macroeconomic support)", "Human Development (incl. human capital and youth)", "Health resilience", "Migration and Mobility", "Agriculture, food security and rural development", "Rule of law, governance and Public administration reform", "Other", "Not applicable".</p> <p>Briefly justify, if applicable, how the Project addresses the WBIF intervention areas, policy objectives and investment flagships of the Economic and Investment Plan for the Western Balkans. If not applicable, briefly describe why it would still be justified to support the Project with a WBIF TA grant.</p> <p>[maximum length 700 characters].</p>	
	21.2	Alignment with the Growth Plan and the Reform and Growth Facility for the Western Balkans
<p>If the Project is listed under the indicative list of priority investments under the RGF, indicate it here.</p> <p>If the Project is not included in the indicative list of priority investments under the RGF, briefly justify how the Project addresses the Growth Plan and the Reform and Growth Facility for the Western Balkans. [maximum length 700 characters].</p> <p>If the Project falls outside the scope of the RGF, please indicate "Not applicable, the project is not covered by the RGF but is eligible under the WBIF intervention areas".</p>		
21.3	Alignment with Green Agenda objectives	

<p><i>The Project is aligned with the following pillars: [delete the options which are not relevant] (1) climate action, including decarbonisation, energy and mobility, (2) circular economy, addressing in particular waste, recycling, sustainable production and efficient use of resources, (3) biodiversity, aiming to protect and restore the natural wealth of the region, (4) fighting pollution of air, water and soil, (5) sustainable food systems and rural areas, "Not applicable".</i></p> <p><i>Briefly justify how the Project addresses the applicable Green Agenda pillar(s). If none are applicable, please describe briefly why it would still be justified to support the Project with a WBIF TA grant.</i></p> <p><i>[maximum length 700 characters]</i></p>	
21.4	<p>Compliance with adopted national/sectoral/regional strategies</p> <p><i>The Project is compliant with the following adopted national/sectoral/regional strategies: [list all relevant strategies, these could e.g. include]:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>the main national/regional policies for the concerned sector or thematic area (including gender equality strategies or action plans), consistency with the national/regional development strategy, sector strategy, action plan and with the country's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC), National Energy and Climate Plan, or National Adaptation Plan (NAP).</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>The Project's position in the Single Project Pipeline (SPP).</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>The Project's priority from the point of view of national and regional institutions (e.g., the Transport Community, the Energy Community, and similar bodies).</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Coordination/complementarity with related projects (financed by WBIF, national IPA, or other donors/financiers).]</i> <p><i>Briefly justify how the Project addresses the adopted national/sectoral/regional strategies.</i></p> <p><i>[maximum length 700 characters].</i></p>

22	<p>Consultations before submission:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> NIC <input type="checkbox"/> IFIs <input type="checkbox"/> EU Delegation(s)/Office <input type="checkbox"/> Donors <input type="checkbox"/> Regional/international organisations <input type="checkbox"/> Other stakeholders 	<p><i>Consultations took place with the following stakeholders [Indicate "Yes" or "No" after each option and date of consultation]:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>National Investment Committee (NIC) (or equivalent body): Yes/No; meeting(s) took place on DD/MM/YY.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>LFI and co-financiers: Yes/No; meeting(s) took place on DD/MM/YY.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>EU Delegation(s): Yes/No; meeting(s) took place on DD/MM/YY.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Geographical unit(s) of DG NEAR: Yes/No; meeting(s) took place on DD/MM/YY.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Other donors: Yes/No; meeting(s) took place on DD/MM/YY.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>International and regional organisations: Yes/No; meeting(s) took place on DD/MM/YY.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Other relevant stakeholders (e.g. civil society organisations: Yes/No; meeting(s) took place on DD/MM/YY.</i> <p><i>From consultations, it can be concluded that: [add main conclusions]</i></p>
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23	<p>Institutional framework of the Project</p>	
23.1	<p>Description of entities involved</p> <p><i>Present the list of entities involved in the implementation of the project, including:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Beneficiary(ies) authority(ies) (responsible Ministry(ies) and specific department(s)): please indicate</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Entity that is/will be the beneficiary of the construction permit(s) for the Project: please indicate</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Implementing agency (or equivalent): please indicate</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Project Management Unit (PMU)/Project Implementation Unit (PIU) or equivalent: please indicate</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>In case of involvement of a privately-owned company, indicate the contractual structure (e.g. concession, private-public partnerships).</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Other entities.</i> 	
23.2	<p>Organisational set-up</p>	

	<p><i>This section should provide a comprehensive account of the organisational structure for implementing the Project and the Action, especially for the Action. It must also clearly present how the activities proposed for WBIF grant funding will be managed, which institutions will provide the required input and support, and which institutions will monitor and approve deliverables.</i></p> <p><i>Describe the role (tasks, responsibilities, relations between the different bodies) of the LFI (local/regional offices, sector manager in the Beneficiary), the co-financiers and other entities involved (institutions/authorities of the Beneficiary, implementing entity(ies), other donors, etc.) to demonstrate the exiting capacity for implementing the Project and the Action effectively.</i></p> <p><i>Clarify whether the Project involves creating an implementation unit (e.g., a Project Implementation Unit (PIU)) and describe its setup, role, and responsibilities.</i></p> <p><i>Indicate if the beneficiary/PIU can define the investment plan, procure and implement the Project, or if additional technical assistance is needed.</i></p> <p><i>Provide a brief description of in-country coordination arrangements, including with EU Delegations/Office.</i></p> <p><i>If relevant, provide a comprehensive description of the organisational structure for operating the investment project. Include existing institutional structure (e.g. ownership of infrastructures, contractual obligations to the new infrastructure, the evolution of tariffs, etc.)</i></p> <p><i>Indicate whether the WBIF contribution will be pooled in a joint Project account with funds from the LFI and other co-financing institutions or whether the WBIF grant will be kept in a separate account.</i></p> <p><i>Describe the flow of the WBIF contribution to involved entities down to the final beneficiaries/recipients.</i></p> <p><i>Add a chart illustrating the institutional framework of the Project.</i></p> <p><i>[This section will be included in the ToR for the TA assignment; please ensure the information provided is exhaustive and complete]</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Complete this section in cooperation with the LFI.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Clearly define the specific roles of the institutions involved in the Project.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Ensure the institutional aspects of the Project's implementation are duly described.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Include a chart illustrating the institutional framework of the Project.</i>
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24	<p>Project budget and financing plan</p> <p><i>For <u>early-stage projects</u> (pre-feasibility study, feasibility study), this information can be kept brief with regard to the <u>Project Budget</u>. For example, for pre-feasibility study applications, cost breakdowns can be limited to the main items; for the other cost components, provide best estimates [if data are unavailable, "not available" will become an option in MIS].</i></p> <p><i>For <u>more advanced stage projects</u>, this section should provide the <u>Project Budget</u> (cost breakdown structure) and <u>Financing Sources</u> (sources and corresponding contributions). Include the main cost components of the Project, their description (related activities), and the corresponding amount in the budget matched against sources of funds and their contributions in the financing plan. The costs should not include VAT.</i></p> <p><i>The prefilled cost components listed in the grant application form are indicative; their final composition is left to the applicant's appreciation. The budget should provide a detailed indication of the Project's main costs and budget resources.</i></p> <p><i>The costs for works and supplies without contingencies must be listed separately from those for TA for project preparation and implementation. Costs associated with ensuring EU visibility are eligible and can be budgeted. However, rather than being included in a standalone visibility line, visibility costs should be factored into the budget under the relevant activity to which they relate. The budget should also include contingencies. If the Project has more than one component/phase, the costs must be presented by project component and/or phase (i.e. in individual rows as in the table below).</i></p> <p><i>The financing plan should contain the actors (i.e. the sources of funds) that provide financing to the Project, the amount of their contribution and the cost components financed by each contribution: WBIF, LFI, co-financiers, Beneficiary's contribution (national contribution), EU national IPA, other private (e.g. commercial banks) and public financiers (e.g. other donors). Please indicate the type of contributions of each source of funds: investment grant, technical assistance grant, loan, guarantee, equity, interest rate subsidies, or other. Create separate entries (i.e. individual rows in the table) for each source and type of funds (e.g. loan, grant), and differentiate between sovereign and non-sovereign loans and private sector finance.</i></p>
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The fields for sums and percentages are filled in automatically in MIS. The "Total project cost" and "Total financing available" must be identical to apply.

For infrastructure projects, the feasibility study and preliminary design usually account for about 1–2% of the estimated investment costs (i.e., works, supplies, and contingencies), while the detailed design (with final cost estimates and tender documents) accounts for around 4–5% of the estimated investment costs. Construction supervision adds another 4–5% to the estimated investment.

While it is understood that the figures provided in this section are indicative, the applicant should put all the effort into ensuring that the amounts reflect the expected amounts involved in the Project as much as possible.

As a rule, the following costs are not eligible:

- Costs incurred before the date on which the Contribution Arrangement is signed between the Commission and the Managers of the European Western Balkans Joint Fund. Exceptionally, the grant may be awarded for an Action which has already begun only if the applicant can demonstrate and justify the need to start the Action before the Contribution Arrangement is signed. Retroactive financing is an exception, and such a request will be assessed case-by-case.
- Expenditure outside the implementation period, as defined in the relevant Contribution Arrangement;
- Expenditure ineligible under national rules;
- Cost of purchase of land or buildings;
Planning/design (permits) fees;
- Technical review, check and verification of project design(s) as per national legislation and other activities specific to urban planning and land ownership, e.g. preparation of urban plans and documentation for land expropriation;
- Communication costs;
- Debts and debt service charges;
- Any duties, taxes and charges, including but not limited to value-added tax (VAT), that are recoverable/deductible;
- Fines, financial penalties, and litigation expenses;
- Second-hand equipment;
- Bank charges, cost of guarantees and similar charges;
- Contributions in kind.
 - ☐ Complete this section in cooperation with the LFI.
 - ☐ Include all cost components of the Project in the budget;
 - ☐ Present the costs by component and/or phase of the Project in the budget;
 - ☐ Duly budget all cost components and keep with thresholds;
 - ☐ Ensure that national sources have been secured to cover all non-eligible costs required for timely completion of the technical documentation (e.g. planning/design (permits) fees, the cost for project design review/checks/verification by the revision committee, etc.);
 - ☐ Match the cost components with the sources of funds in the financing plan.

Indicative total project budget (cost breakdown)

Cost component number	Cost component description	Total costs (€) (A)	Non-eligible costs (€) ^(a) (B)	Eligible costs (€) ^(a) (C)=(A)-(B)
1	Planning/design (permits) fees	[insert amount]	[insert amount]	[filled automatically in MIS]
2	Land purchase	[as above]	[as above]	[as above]
3	Technical assistance for project preparation (e.g. masterplan, pre-feasibility study, feasibility study, environmental and social impact assessment, detailed design, tender	[as above]	[as above]	[as above]

		<i>documents, procurement procedures)</i>			
4	Technical assistance for project implementation (e.g. supervision of works, project management)		<i>[as above]</i>	<i>[as above]</i>	<i>[as above]</i>
5	Works (Building & construction) ^(b)		<i>[as above]</i>	<i>[as above]</i>	<i>[as above]</i>
5.1.	<i>Works – Component/Phase 1</i>		<i>[as above]</i>	<i>[as above]</i>	<i>[as above]</i>
5.2.	<i>Works – Component/ Phase 2</i>		<i>[as above]</i>	<i>[as above]</i>	<i>[as above]</i>
5.n	<i>Works – Component/ Phase n</i>		<i>[as above]</i>	<i>[as above]</i>	<i>[as above]</i>
6	Supply (Plant & machinery) ^(b)		<i>[as above]</i>	<i>[as above]</i>	<i>[as above]</i>
6.1.	<i>Supply – Component/Phase 1</i>		<i>[as above]</i>	<i>[as above]</i>	<i>[as above]</i>
6.2.	<i>Supply – Component/Phase 2</i>		<i>[as above]</i>	<i>[as above]</i>	<i>[as above]</i>
6.n	<i>Supply – Component/Phase n</i>		<i>[as above]</i>	<i>[as above]</i>	<i>[as above]</i>
7	Contingencies ^(c)		<i>[as above]</i>	<i>[as above]</i>	<i>[as above]</i>
8	Other (e.g. project design review/ verification by review committee) ^(d)		<i>[as above]</i>	<i>[as above]</i>	<i>[as above]</i>
Total Project Costs			<i>[filled in automatically in MIS]</i>	<i>[filled in automatically in MIS]</i>	<i>[filled in automatically in MIS]</i>
Financing plan					
Sources of funds		Cost component(s) financed	Amount (€)	% / total	Remarks (i.e. Code/ Ref. of financing)
National contribution		<i>[insert the number of cost component(s) financed]</i>	<i>[insert amount]</i>	<i>[filled in automatically in MIS]</i>	<i>[indicate the budget in which the Project is included]</i>
IFI Loan 1 <i>[insert IFI name]</i>		<i>[as above]</i>	<i>[as above]</i>	<i>[as above]</i>	<i>[indicate if the loan is sovereign or non-sovereign and its status, e.g. estimated, terms agreed upon, signed, etc.]</i>
IFI Loan 2 <i>[insert IFI name]</i>		<i>[as above]</i>	<i>[as above]</i>	<i>[as above]</i>	<i>[as above]</i>
Grant amount requested without fees ^(e) <i>[insert the code of the requested WBIF TA grant]</i>		<i>[as above]</i>	<i>[as above]</i>	<i>[as above]</i>	<i>[current grant request]</i>
Other WBIF grant(s) ^(f) <i>[insert grant code]</i>		<i>[as above]</i>	<i>[as above]</i>	<i>[as above]</i>	<i>[code/reference number of the financing agreement, financed activities]</i>
Other grants ^(f) <i>[insert donor name]</i>		<i>[as above]</i>	<i>[as above]</i>	<i>[as above]</i>	<i>[as above]</i>
Other sources ^(f) <i>[insert source name]</i>		<i>[as above]</i>	<i>[as above]</i>	<i>[as above]</i>	<i>[as above]</i>
...	
Total Financing available			<i>[filled in automatically in MIS]</i>	<i>[filled automatically in MIS]</i>	

- (a) Eligible and non-eligible cost categories are listed above.
- (b) Excluding contingencies. If the project has more than one component or phase, the costs for works and supplies must be broken down by component or phase.
- (c) Should be taken from the technical documentation developed for the Project and should be at most 10% of the costs for works and supplies net of contingencies. The utilisation of contingency funds during the implementation of the Action needs to be pre-authorised by the European Commission and can also be used to cover other eligible costs, such as negative interest, in accordance with the applicable General conditions.
- (d) Costs not included under cost components 1-7 should be listed here, e.g. project design review/check/verification by the revision committee. Technical review, check and verification of project design(s) as per the national legislation and other activities specific to urban planning and/or land ownership (e.g. preparation of urban plans, documentation for land expropriation, etc.) fall under the Beneficiary's responsibility for due diligence and control for project management. These costs are not eligible for WBIF grant support.
- (e) Must be identical to the "Grant amount without fees" (i.e. grant without implementation fee) from section 29 - WBIF grant amount calculation and justification.
- (f) Other WBIF grants must be listed as separate entries (i.e. in individual rows) by code. Grants from other donors and funds from other sources must be presented as separate entries (i.e. in individual rows) by donor and source.

25	<p>Project sustainability</p> <p><i>This section is not required for TA applications for pre-feasibility study, feasibility study and ESIA. [in this case, please add "Not applicable"]</i></p> <p><i>Complete this section in cooperation with the LFI. Describe under which conditions the Project will be sustainable when the grant support expires. Describe any incentives that could be necessary to enhance the sustainability of the Project. Refer to how the Project leads to investment and whether its results can be replicated in other sectors or geographical areas.</i></p> <p><i>Describe the Project's sustainability in relation to its economic and financial viability and environmental, social and institutional features.</i></p> <p><i>Ensure that this section addresses the following sustainability aspects:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>The economic viability of the Project is confirmed with reasonable certainty, i.e. the net benefits are expected to be positive, there are no better ways of achieving the Project's purpose, and the public financial resources used for the Project are unlikely to be employed better elsewhere.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>The Project proves to be accessible, i.e. all financing sources are secured, and it will be financially and fiscally sustainable once in operation.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Environmental and social impacts are acceptable, or if negative impacts are foreseen, appropriate mitigation measures are proposed.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Satisfactory project management arrangements will be put in place to deliver the Project to specifications on time and within budget.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Organisational arrangements for the operation of the Project will be adequate for the sustainable delivery of the proposed services.</i> 		
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="193 1550 432 1621">Economic/ Financial viability</td><td data-bbox="432 1550 1497 1767"><i>Does the Project guarantee an acceptable economic (and financial, where applicable) return level? Describe future revenue flows expected from the Project, operation and maintenance costs and their expected sources of finance. → The Project's economic viability is confirmed with reasonable certainty (i.e. net benefits are expected to be positive; there are no better ways of achieving the Project's purpose; the public financial resources used for the Project are unlikely to be better employed elsewhere).</i></td></tr> </table>	Economic/ Financial viability	<i>Does the Project guarantee an acceptable economic (and financial, where applicable) return level? Describe future revenue flows expected from the Project, operation and maintenance costs and their expected sources of finance. → The Project's economic viability is confirmed with reasonable certainty (i.e. net benefits are expected to be positive; there are no better ways of achieving the Project's purpose; the public financial resources used for the Project are unlikely to be better employed elsewhere).</i>
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	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="193 1774 432 1845">Environmental aspects</td><td data-bbox="432 1774 1497 1912"><i>Has the Project considered the environmental implications so that adverse environmental impacts are avoided or mitigated during its life? Has a public consultation process taken place? → Environmental and social impacts are acceptable, or where negative impacts are foreseen, appropriate mitigation measures are proposed.</i></td></tr> </table>	Environmental aspects	<i>Has the Project considered the environmental implications so that adverse environmental impacts are avoided or mitigated during its life? Has a public consultation process taken place? → Environmental and social impacts are acceptable, or where negative impacts are foreseen, appropriate mitigation measures are proposed.</i>
Environmental aspects	<i>Has the Project considered the environmental implications so that adverse environmental impacts are avoided or mitigated during its life? Has a public consultation process taken place? → Environmental and social impacts are acceptable, or where negative impacts are foreseen, appropriate mitigation measures are proposed.</i>		
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="193 1919 432 1991">Social aspects</td><td data-bbox="432 1919 1497 2060"><i>Has the Project incorporated mechanisms that guarantee equitable access and continuous distribution of the Project's benefits? Describe the affordability approach if the Project will generate revenue (e.g., through tariffs, etc.). → The Project proves to be accessible, meaning that all financing sources are secured; the Project will be financially</i></td></tr> </table>	Social aspects	<i>Has the Project incorporated mechanisms that guarantee equitable access and continuous distribution of the Project's benefits? Describe the affordability approach if the Project will generate revenue (e.g., through tariffs, etc.). → The Project proves to be accessible, meaning that all financing sources are secured; the Project will be financially</i>
Social aspects	<i>Has the Project incorporated mechanisms that guarantee equitable access and continuous distribution of the Project's benefits? Describe the affordability approach if the Project will generate revenue (e.g., through tariffs, etc.). → The Project proves to be accessible, meaning that all financing sources are secured; the Project will be financially</i>		

		<i>and fiscally sustainable once in operation.</i>
	Institutional aspects	<i>Has the Project received the necessary support (both budgetary and institutional) to maintain and operate the facilities over their lifetime? → Satisfactory project management arrangements will be put in place to deliver the Project to specifications, on time and within budget; organisational arrangements for the operation of the Project will allow for sustainable delivery of the proposed services.</i>

26	<p>Risk assessment</p> <p><i>This section is not required for TA applications for pre-feasibility study, feasibility study and ESIA. [in this case, please add "Not applicable"]</i></p> <p><i>Complete this section in cooperation with the LFI. The project promoters should understand Project implementation risks from the outset (e.g., potential changes to project planning, delays in delivery due to external factors influencing project implementation, difficulties in decision-making, need for additional expertise, etc.). The applicants must provide an assessment of the main potential risks to mitigate the risks to the successful delivery of the Project.</i></p> <p><i>Identify the Project related risks and the way these risks will be mitigated. Assess how seriously the identified risks can influence the Project: high (H), medium (M) or low (L). Keep in mind that:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Risks are factors that might hinder the achievement of the desired outcomes and are out of the promoter's sphere of control.</i> ▪ <i>Refer to any impact assessment carried out, including ESIA (if applicable), climate risk and vulnerability assessment, and recommended mitigation measures. If such assessments have not yet been completed but are required, please indicate them and why.</i> ▪ <i>Indicate the applicable environmental and social standards/safeguards and provide the URL link to where these can be found.</i> <p><i>Address the following risk categories:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i><u>Political risks</u>: including but not limited to the gap between the legislation and/or standards of the Beneficiary and the EU, pace of convergence, and policy and administration structure changes.</i> ▪ <i><u>Economic risks</u>: describe how macroeconomic conditions or policy changes may affect the Project, energy poverty, etc.</i> ▪ <i><u>Financial risks</u> (this should be linked to both the financing plan and the entities involved in the implementation of the project as detailed in sections 24 and 23): The description should focus on the following elements: lack of funds for co-financing; improper handling of financing requests; payment delays; credit and currency risk of the beneficiaries; risks linked to partner financial institutions (intermediaries); the risk-sharing operations.</i> ▪ <i><u>Social risks</u>, including gender equality and access to education, the risk of creating barriers to the participation of some groups, public opposition, affordability issues, discriminatory reasons, evictions, etc.</i> ▪ <i><u>Environmental risks</u>, including climate change and biodiversity loss, air pollution, and environmental injustice towards minority/vulnerable groups. This section must indicate the applicable environmental and social standards and safeguards that will be applied.</i> ▪ <i><u>Implementation risks</u>, including (i) <u>Planning risks</u> (e.g. the implementation of the Project fails to adhere to the terms of the planning permission or the detailed planning cannot be obtained, or if obtained, can only be implemented at higher costs than initially budgeted; (ii) <u>Technical/design risks</u> (e.g. the quality of the project designs/site investigations is likely to impact on the likelihood of unforeseen problems occurring; the use of non-optimal/obsolete technologies leads to substandard services, etc.); (iii) <u>Procurement risks</u> (e.g. delay in procurement procedures, possible re-tendering, appeals, contractual disputes, etc.); and, (iv) <u>Construction risks</u> (e.g. site unavailability, the construction of physical assets is not completed on time, budget and specification, etc.); v) <u>Risks related to project outputs not leading to intended outcomes and impact.</u></i>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Operation risks</u>: The risk that operating costs vary from the budget, performance standards slip, or services cannot be provided; the demand for a service does not match levels planned, projected or assumed levels; etc. ▪ <u>Human rights risks</u> ▪ <u>Other risks</u>: Risks that do not fit in the above classification should be described in this subsection (e.g. force majeure, adverse publicity on the construction or operation of the new infrastructure, etc.) <p>(Indicative max 500 words)</p>				
	Type of risk	Description	Risk likelihood	Risk impact	Mitigation measure(s)
	Political		[select likelihood]	[select impact]	
	Economic		[select likelihood]	[select impact]	
	Financial		[select likelihood]	[select impact]	
	Social		[select likelihood]	[select impact]	
	Environmental		[select likelihood]	[select impact]	
	Implementation		[select likelihood]	[select impact]	
	Operation		[select likelihood]	[select impact]	
	Human rights		[select likelihood]	[select impact]	
	Other		[select likelihood]	[select impact]	

27	Addressing climate mitigation and adaptation	<p><i>This section is not required for TA applications for pre-feasibility study, feasibility study and ESIA [in this case, please add "not applicable"]</i></p> <p><i>For advanced stage projects, please complete this section in cooperation with the LFI; the LFI assesses climate finance contributions (mitigation and adaptation). Address the Project's potential contribution to GHG emissions reduction and/or climate adaption, climate risk assessments conducted, and considerations and measures to improve the Project's resilience to current and future climate risks. Elaborate on the Project's alignment with the Paris Agreement and the Beneficiary's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC). Include project-specific climate markers (primary/secondary dimension, reduced emissions /carbon footprint).</i></p> <p><i>Describe the climate finance components of the Project (if any) for adaptation and/or mitigation. The Rio Markers methodology should be used to determine whether climate change is the principal objective, one of the objectives (significant), or not an objective of the Project. Please consult the OECD guidelines for identifying the Rio markers.¹ Based on its methodology, the LFI may propose a specific percentage of the project budget as a climate change contribution.</i></p>
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¹ A fuller list of examples, by sector, is available in OECD's Handbook for climate marking https://www.oecd.org/dac/environment-development/Revised%20climate%20marker%20handbook_FINAL.pdf

			<i>The information for this section must be adapted to the sector and the maturity of the Project (e.g. pre-feasibility, feasibility study, detailed design, supervision of works, etc.)</i>		
	Rio Markers	<i>Mitigation</i>		<i>Adaptation</i>	
		<i>Project [M€]</i>	<i>WBIF co-financing grant</i>	<i>Project [M€]</i>	<i>WBIF co-financing grant</i>
	RM0 (no objectives)		<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
	RM1 (significant objective)		<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
	RM2 (the principal objective)		<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>

DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

28	Scope of work and results for TA grant activities (the Action)	
28.1	Summary of the scope of work and results for TA grant activities (the Action)	<p><i>Provide a brief description of the TA activities foreseen to be financed by the WBIF grant request and the deliverables. Summarise the content of the deliverables and describe their purpose. Describe the existing project documentation that provides the starting point for the foreseen TA activities and to which extent the findings in these documents can be followed or need to be revisited.</i></p> <p><i>Please note the following:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>The justification of the Action's necessity must closely relate to fulfilling the eligibility criteria. Technical review, check and verification of project design(s) as per national legislation and/or other activities specific to urban planning and/or land ownership (e.g. preparation of Urban Plan(s), documentation for land expropriation, etc.) are not eligible. These fall under the Beneficiary's responsibility as part of its due diligence and control for project management.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>All activities financed by the grant request must be adequately budgeted and justified in section 29.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Grants may be used exclusively for the Project and the activities for which they are approved.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>If relevant, provide for an option analysis to develop the infrastructure through a Public Private Partnership. This requirement does not apply to applications concerning investments in advanced stages of preparation; in these cases, a justification for not conducting an option analysis must be provided.</i> <p><i>[This section will be relevant for the determination if, according to Annex V (now called Annex IV in the current version) of the Vademecum, approved by the WBIF Steering Committee by written procedure WBIFWP: 010_27/06/17, a future change in scope will be considered "minor" (and should only be reported by IFIs via the AIR) or "substantial" (requiring an Operational Board opinion, either in a Operational Board meeting or via Written Procedure).]</i></p>
28.2	Detailed scope of work and results for TA grant activities (the Action)	<p><i>Provide the following information developed at the ToR level with sufficient detail to efficiently monitor the implementation of the activities by the TA-implementation consultant and to have all elements defined to review and approve the quality and timely provision of the (draft) deliverables:</i></p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Describe the objective, purpose and expected results of the activities; <input type="checkbox"/> Describe critical risks that should be considered in implementing the activities; <input type="checkbox"/> Provide a detailed and precise description of the scope of work of the TA activities financed by the WBIF grant request, list all the deliverables of the activities and summarise their contents; <input type="checkbox"/> Specify standards, norms, regulations and guidelines applicable to the activities financed by the grant request. Include requirements of the national laws, EU and Financial Institutions. Briefly describe the differences between the national standards, legal provisions and the EU/IFIs rules. <input type="checkbox"/> Define the required surveys with a cost estimate for the incidental budget; <input type="checkbox"/> Present the core team, matching required expertise with the activities financed by the grant and, in case of a fee-based TA contract, the indicative number of working days for carrying out the activities; <input type="checkbox"/> Define the reporting procedures and requirements, including the review and approval process, especially regarding the national requirements. <input type="checkbox"/> Elaborate on the PPP option analysis, provide cornerstones, opportunities and limitations of a potential PPP approach. <p><i>[This section will be included in the ToR for the TA assignment; please ensure the information provided is exhaustive and complete.]</i></p> <p><i>Changes/amendments to the scope of work presented in this section can be made without the need for an Operational Board opinion, provided these are within the boundaries of the scope of work as set out in subsection 28.1.]</i></p>
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29	<p>WBIF grant amount calculation and justification</p> <p><i>List the activities and their corresponding amounts that the WBIF grant will fund. Provide detailed information on the assumptions made in calculating the WBIF grant to ensure that all the activities are feasible in terms of scope, timing, and cost-effectiveness (human and material resources employed).</i></p> <p><i>All costs must be duly detailed, eligible and appropriate for the Action. All cost estimates should be based on those of similar projects (financed by IFI loan(s) or donor grants). Specify indicative working days used in calculations.</i></p> <p><i>It is essential to list the types of activities to be funded by the WBIF grant, listing the cost categories and their corresponding amounts. For technical assistance, this should include a breakdown of planned activities and corresponding costs. All the costs considered in calculating the WBIF grant should be duly detailed, eligible and appropriate for the Action.</i></p> <p><i>Demonstrate that own funding sources are correctly allocated and secured to cover all non-eligible costs required for the timely completion of the technical documentation (e.g. planning/design (permits) fees, costs of technical design review and approval (for example, the state revision committee(s), etc.).</i></p> <p><i>In justifying the grant amount, please also consider the needs of the macro-economic situation of the Beneficiary, the economic and financial viability of the Project, the additionality of the WBIF grant, envisaged</i></p>
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<i>impacts, affordability concerns, impact on tariffs (e.g. for revenue-generating projects generating by user charges).</i> <i>[This section will be relevant for the determination if, according to Annex V (now called Annex IV in the current version) of the Vademecum, approved by the WBIF Steering Committee by written procedure WBIFWP: 010_27/06/17, a future change in scope will be considered “minor” (and should only be reported by IFIs via the AIR) or “substantial” (requiring an Operational Board opinion, either in a Operational Board meeting or via Written Procedure).]</i>		
Type of activity/cost categories		Grant amount requested [€]
Pre-feasibility Study		
Feasibility Study including Cost-Benefit Analysis		
Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Study		
Preliminary Design		
Detailed Design		
Preparation of tender dossiers		
Project management assistance (support to PIU)		
Contingencies		
Other		
Grant without fees		<i>[SUM (1:10) filled in automatically in MIS]</i>
Implementation fee		<i>[filled in automatically in MIS]</i>
Total WBIF grant amount		<i>[filled in automatically in MIS]</i>
<i>[Justification of the grant amount]</i>		

30	Additionality of WBIF grant <i>This section deals with the additionality of the WBIF TA grant, i.e., what it will achieve, in terms of benefits or positive results, over and above what would be achieved without the grant. (Grant funding is justified only when significant additionality is shown to the financing itself).</i> <i>Please complete this section in close cooperation with the LFI.</i> <i>For early-stage projects (pre-feasibility study, feasibility study), this section can be kept brief.</i> <i>For advanced stage projects, identify the categories of additionality applicable to the WBIF TA grant. Some types of additionalities are quantifiable, and the applicants should make every effort to quantify the additionality of the grant as far as possible. Others may not be quantifiable and should be addressed qualitatively. Evidence should be provided to support claims of additionality as far as possible.</i> <i>Include also elements that will lead to additional benefits related to cross-cutting aspects, such as the environment, gender equality and equal opportunities, the needs of people with disabilities, the rights of minorities and vulnerable groups, innovation and best practices, etc.</i>	
	Economic and financial	<i>What are the economic benefits of the proposed WBIF TA grant? Why is the proposed grant funding necessary for the Project? What are the financial benefits of the WBIF TA grant to the Project? How will this impact the end beneficiaries?</i>
	Project scale	<i>How will the WBIF TA grant increase the scale of the Project? Will it widen the results of the Project, or will it extend the benefits to more people? (for example, would the WBIF TA grant support more comprehensive studies, covering a broader scale than would be the case if the studies were financed from (limited) other sources.)</i>

	Project timing	<i>In what way does the WBIF TA grant positively affect the timing of the (planning of the) Project?</i>
	Project quality and standards	<i>How will the WBIF TA grant improve the quality of the expected outcomes of the Project? How will the WBIF TA grant improve the Project's chances of success? How will the WBIF TA grant enable the promotion of higher standards, including social and environmental and more substantial social or global public good returns than would otherwise be possible? Does the WBIF TA grant contribute to better address gender equality and equal opportunities, the needs of people with disabilities, and the rights of minorities and/or vulnerable groups?</i>
	Innovation	<i>What innovative aspects could not be generated by or within the target environment of the Project without the WBIF TA grant support? Why is the proposed innovation important?</i>
	Sustainability	<i>Does the WBIF TA grant help support further or parallel activities to ensure that benefits continue beyond the life of the Project? For example, does the WBIF TA grant contribute to structural reforms or support legislative, regulatory, and policy changes? Does the WBIF TA grant enable demonstration effects to other participants in the marketplace?</i>
	Other benefits	<i>Other benefits/positive externalities that the supported Project may realise (or negative externalities avoided) and would not happen without the WBIF TA grant. Are there any significant benefits outside the main/primary objectives of the loan operation that the WBIF TA grant brings?</i>

31	Indicative calendar of the Action <i>This section should be completed in cooperation with the LFI.</i> <i>Summarise the key milestones of the Action in the form of the year and month of the year during which the milestone is expected to be reached, e.g. 06/2026. The milestones listed in the table in subsection 31.1 are mandatory. Additional milestones specific to the Action can be added without limitations in MIS.</i> <i>Ensure that planned activities of the Action are realistically implementable within the foreseen period and logically sequenced, and each activity is designed to be implemented within a suitable period.</i>		
31.1	Indicative calendar of the Action	Expected start date [MM/YYYY]	Expected completion date [MM/YYYY]
	TA grant signature		
	Implementation of TA activities		
31.2	Detailed planning of TA activities		
	Indicative calendar of the Action	Expected start date [MM/YYYY]	Expected completion date [MM/YYYY]
<i>[This section will be included in the ToR for the TA assignment; please ensure the information provided is exhaustive and complete.]</i>			

32	Monitoring	<p><i>The Beneficiary and the IFI will monitor the Action efficiently, overseeing with appropriate detail and frequency all relevant implementation elements, including quality, time (progress) and use of resources (budget, working days of experts, incidental cost). The Beneficiary and the IFI will ensure that throughout the Action the use of resources will be in balance with the progress and the quality of the activities and deliverables.</i></p> <p><i>Monitoring will be done in line with the requirements in the ToR concerning the organisation set-up, reporting, meetings and review and approval procedures and all applicable requirements of the EWBJF General Conditions and the IPF conditions of the contract.</i></p> <p><i><Add additional information where relevant></i></p> <p><i>Effective cooperation with the Commission and the relevant EU Delegation (s)/Office will be ensured.</i></p>
33	Visibility	<p><i>The Action will meet the EU visibility requirements for EU-funded external actions. To that end the implementing partners comply with the instructions given in the 2022 guidance document Communicating and raising EU visibility: Guidance for external actions (or any successor document).</i></p> <p><i>Implementing partners will keep the Commission and the relevant EU Delegation(s)/Office informed of the planning and implementation of specific visibility and communication activities before the implementation.</i></p> <p><i>In line with requirements set out in the 2022 “Communicating and Raising EU Visibility: Guidance for External Actions”, implementing partners have a general obligation to acknowledge the origin and ensure the visibility of any EU funding received. The costs associated with ensuring EU visibility (emblem and funding statement) count as eligible costs and should be factored into the budget under the relevant activity to which they relate.</i></p> <p><i>Beyond ensuring EU visibility by prominently featuring the EU emblem and funding statement on any material and activity which relates to the Project, implementing partners are not required to undertake communication activities. Thus, implementing partners are not required to include a specific budget and communication and visibility plan as part of the grant application form. However, the implementing partners will ensure that the EU is regularly informed sufficiently in advance of any planned communication activity which directly relates to the Project, particularly those activities related to key implementation milestones. Whenever requested by the EU, the recipients of EU funding should support the EU’s own communication actions (e.g. by providing content or supporting access to the Project for campaigns or media actions managed by the EU).</i></p> <p><i>The WBIF Communication and Visibility Plan and Guidelines further detail the roles and responsibilities of the WBIF’s main stakeholders.</i></p>

34	Contacts				
	<i>Provide contact details for the LFI, representative of the Beneficiary's authority, reference person in the EU Delegation/Office, co-financier(s), private partner (if applicable), taking into account any restrictions imposed by banking regulations, confidentiality and compliance issues, etc.</i>				
	<i>The drafters of this section (provision of personal data below) confirm that the below listed individuals are aware of the European Commission's data protection rules, and have seen and are aware of the applicable privacy statement available in this link (https://ec.europa.eu/dpo-register/detail/DPR-EC-02847.2)</i>				
	Institution	Contact person	Function	Phone	Email

	Lead Financial Institution				
	Beneficiary authority				
	EU Delegation/Office				
	Co-financier(s)				
	Private partner(s)				

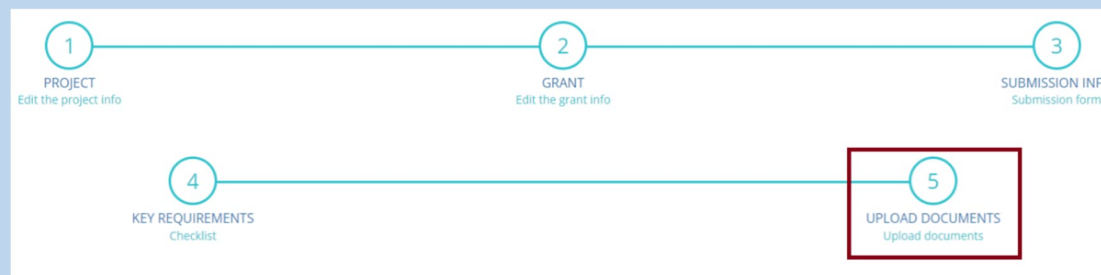
35	Date of submission by the NIPAC	<i>This section is filled in automatically in MIS.</i>	NIPAC Details	<i>This section is filled in automatically in MIS.</i>
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Annex 1: Result Framework Template TA

Please delete this box after filling in the section below.

The Result Framework constitutes the basis for monitoring and reporting on the Action.

This completed Result Framework (e.g. including baselines/targets) must be presented as “Annex 1 – Result Framework” to the GAF. It must be uploaded under the heading “Upload documents” to MIS when the GAF is submitted:



- In line with OECD/DAC terminology, the term ‘results’ is understood to cover Outputs, Outcomes (Specific Objectives) and Impact(s) (Overall Objective(s)). For technical assistance (TA) applications, the results are limited to Outputs and Outcomes of the Action funded by the TA grant request.
- How to develop the Results chain column:

The Indicative Result Framework should contain relevant Outputs and Outcomes of the activities funded by the TA grant (e.g. pre-feasibility study, feasibility study, ESIA, designs, etc.)

The Outputs and Outcomes depend on the scope of the Action (TA activities funded by the grant request) and must be defined by the applicant.

Outcome(s)	Definition: An Outcome is a short to medium-term change in the behaviour of the target groups and/or effects on the political, social, economic and/or environmental areas targeted by the WBIF Action – the Action will contribute to change at this level (it is under its influence but not direct control).
	How many? There can be both short- and medium-term outcomes. Please try to limit the number of Outcome(s) to 2-3 at the most.
	Please use past participle for the formulation (enhanced, increased, improved, adopted...).

	Please avoid using causal links ('by', 'in order to'...).
Outputs	Definition: Outputs are direct deliverables or benefits of TA activities – under the direct control of the Action.
	Please use past participle for the formulation (strengthened, increased, improved...)
	Outputs are NOT activities.

➤ How to draft Indicators:

- Please use indicators that are most relevant and pertinent.
- Please include at least one indicator for each result. Indicators should be formulated to measure progress towards the relevant result.
- Indicators should be numbered so that they can be linked to the results they measure (see example in the Result Framework below).
- Indicators must start with a unit of measure, either quantitative ('number of professionals/staff trained', 'percentage of', 'index') or qualitative ('status of', 'level of', 'extent to which'). Formulation of the indicators must be neutral, i.e. not include elements of the target such as 'increase', 'improvement', or 'better'.
- Please disaggregate by sex, age and disability status when referring to and counting individuals, by urban/rural location, or any other relevant disaggregation reflecting the mainstreaming issues when relevant and possible.
- Each indicator must have one reliable and accessible source of data. (In some cases, more than one source of data per indicator may be needed).
- Baselines and targets are mandatory and must always be included.
- Avoid repeating indicators for different results.
- Please ensure that indicators relevant to the Action are used.

➤ External assumptions

- Assumptions are external necessary and positive conditions – not under intervention management or entity control – that must hold in order for the result chain to be valid. They should be formulated based on the context analysis and the risk analysis.

Results	Results chain: Main expected results	Indicators [At least one indicator per expected result]	Unit of measure	Baselines (values and years)	Current values (Applicable at reporting stage)	Targets (values and years)	Sources of data	Assumptions
Outcome 1	1 (past tense)	1.1 1.2	1.1 1.2	1.1 1.2	1.1 1.2	1.1 1.2	1.1 1.2	
Outcome 2	2 (past tense)	2.1 2.2	2.1 2.2	2.1 2.2	2.1 2.1	2.1 2.2	2.1 2.2	
	...							
Output 1 related to Outcome 1	1.1 (past tense)	1.1.1 1.1.2	1.1.1 1.1.2	1.1.1 1.1.2	1.1.1 1.1.2	1.1.1 1.1.2	1.1.1 1.1.2	
Output 2 related to Outcome 1 [and 2, 3... if applicable]	1.2 (past tense)	1.2.1 1.2.2	1.2.1 1.2.2	1.2.1 1.2.2	1.2.1 1.2.2	1.2.1 1.2.2	1.2.1 1.2.2	
Output 1 related to Outcome 2	2.1 (past tense)	2.1.1 2.1.2	2.1.1 2.1.2	2.1.1 2.1.2	2.1.1 2.1.2	2.1.1 2.1.2	2.1.1 2.1.2	
Output 2 related to Outcome 2	2.2 (past tense)	2.2.1 2.2.2	2.2.1 2.2.2	2.2.1 2.2.2	2.2.1 2.2.2	2.2.1 2.2.2	2.2.1 2.2.2	
	...							

Annex 2: Screening and Assessment Grid

Disclaimer: This screening and assessment grid shown below is for information only and may be subject to amendments and updates.

Phase 1 sections are marked in green underlay; Phase 2 sections are marked in blue underlay / ToR relevant sections both in Phase 1 and 2 are **marked in red**.

1	Public blending	WBIF	2	Grant code	<i>[This section is filled in automatically in MIS.]</i>
3	WBIF approval date	<i>[This section is filled in automatically in MIS.]</i>	4	Flagship	<i>[This section is filled in automatically in MIS.]</i>
5	WBIF intervention area	<i>[This section is filled in automatically in MIS.]</i>	6	CRS-code	<i>[This section is filled in automatically in MIS.]</i>
7	Beneficiary	<i>[This section is filled in automatically in MIS.]</i>			
8	Project title	<i>[This section is filled in automatically in MIS.]</i>	9	Project code	<i>[This section is filled in automatically in MIS.]</i>
10	Action/Grant application title	<i>[This section is filled in automatically in MIS.]</i>			
Summary of Recommendation Screening – Phase I <i>[to be filled by all screeners/assessors]</i>		<i>[Select Yes or No] for advancing the GAF into Phase 2</i>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	
			<i>[If yes, please list the conditions for advancing GAF into Phase 2]</i>		
Summary of Recommendation Assessment – Phase 2 <i>[to be filled by all screeners/assessors]</i>		Recommendation of submission to the OB <i>[Select Yes or No]</i>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	
		Conditionality for the approval of the Project	<i>[Please list the conditions that should be met before submitting the project to the WBIF Operational Board.]</i>		
General Comments Screening – Phase I <i>[Please assess the aspects pertinent to your role]</i>		<i>[Please list the main conclusions, covering the key aspects of the application:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>▪ The information presented for Phase 1 must be relevant, brief, clear and concise, and should allow a good understanding of the Project and the Action foreseen to be financed from the Grant.</i> <i>▪ The Project status must be clear and the Project mature for Action foreseen to be financed from the Grant</i> <i>▪ There should be commitment from the IFI, the status of loan must be clear.</i> <i>▪ The application must be coherent with WBIF investment priorities, the Economic and Investment Plan for the Western Balkans, the Growth Plan for the Western Balkans and the Reform and Growth Facility, and other relevant EU policies/principles.</i> <i>▪ The Project budget and Grant calculation must be clear and detailed;</i> <i>Overall conclusion and outstanding issues, i.e. clarifications, required corrections and improvements to the information presented for Phase 1 .]</i>			

<p>General Comments – Screening Phase 2</p> <p><i>[Please assess the aspects pertinent to your role]</i></p>	<p><i>[Please list the main conclusions, covering the key aspects of the application:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>▪ The screening comments for the information presented during Phase 1 must have been properly addressed.;</i> <i>▪ The information presented for Phase 2 must be relevant, brief, clear and concise, and should allow a good understanding of the Project and the Action foreseen to be financed from the Grant</i> <i>▪ The Project budget and Grant calculation must be clear and detailed;</i> <i>▪ The institutional framework must be appropriate for the implementation of the Project;</i> <i>▪ Project sustainability, results and risks should be properly defined t</i> <p><i>Overall conclusion and outstanding issues, i.e. required clarifications, corrections and improvements to the information presented for Phase 1 and Phase 2.]</i></p>
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Part 2

No.	Section in the grant application form	Screening / Assessment Organisation					
		DG ENEST (incl. geographical teams)	EU Delegation	Line DGs	International / regional organisations	Lead IFI	IFICO IPF
		<i>[Please provide detailed comments, in particular if a specific aspect is unclear or not well addressed in the application form]</i>					
1 – 18	<p>Identity of the project (<i>ToR inputs: sections 2, 7, 10, 11, 14, 16, 17, 18</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>▪ Is the information provided in each section consistent and in coherence with the information filled in the other sections of the grant application form?</i> <i>▪ Are all the sections of the grant application form completed with the information requested therein?</i> 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Partially <i>[comments]</i> <i>[These sections are optional for Line DGs and international / regional organisations.]</i>					
19.	<p>Description of the project (<i>ToR input</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>▪ Is all the information required in the subsections (19.1, 19.2, 19.3, 19.4 and 19.5.) concisely and coherently presented?</i> <i>▪ Is the description focused on the Project, not the Action for which WBIF grant funding is requested? (information on the Action must be provided in section 28).</i> <i>▪ Are all main (direct and indirect) beneficiaries identified and described (i.e. those who will benefit from the Project's implementation)?</i> <i>▪ Have official sources of information been used and quoted to justify critical problems/primary deficiencies? (see subsection 19.5).</i> 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Partially <i>[comments]</i>					

No.	Section in the grant application form	Screening / Assessment Organisation					
		DG ENEST (incl. geographical teams)	EU Delegation	Line DGs	International / regional organisations	Lead IFI	IFICO IPF
		<i>[Please provide detailed comments, in particular if a specific aspect is unclear or not well addressed in the application form]</i>					
19.1	Background and context of the Project (ToR input) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is the description concise and clear to allow a good understanding the context of the Project? Is there a clear ownership/support of the Project from national/regional authorities? Are the objectives measurable? Will it be possible to measure their achievement at the end of the Project? Is there any synergy with existing complementary operations? 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Partially <i>[comments]</i>					
19.2	Needs/demand analysis (ToR input) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is the need of carrying out the Project well defined and justified? What evidence is there of real demand for the Project? Are the objectives specific enough and do they cover the needs to be satisfied/fulfilled? <i>Have the beneficiaries of the Project been properly identified, described and quantified?</i> <i>Has a summary of the demand analysis, including the predicted demand growth rate, in line with the results of the Cost-Benefit Analysis (if available), been provided?</i> To what extent is the Project expected to provide a significant and sustainable contribution to solving the targeted problem? Is the issue focused enough? 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Partially <i>[comments]</i>					
19.3	Project map (ToR input) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Has a map been included that clearly shows the project area and its context to allow an understanding of the location of the various facilities of the Project?</i> 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Partially <i>[comments]</i>					

No.	Section in the grant application form	Screening / Assessment Organisation					
		DG ENEST (incl. geographical teams)	EU Delegation	Line DGs	International / regional organisations	Lead IFI	IFICO IPF
		[Please provide detailed comments, in particular if a specific aspect is unclear or not well addressed in the application form]					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is the map in English, easy to read, of high-quality (preferably in colour), and has a clear caption? 						
19.4	Description of the Project (ToR input) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is the description structured, concise and focused on crucial aspects? In case the Project has several phases or components, have the phases/components already been completed or are under implementation and the subsequent phases/components have been chronologically explained? Is the requested support appropriate at this stage and can the sequencing be justified at the time of this application? Are the location, main technical parameters, dimensions and capacity of the foreseen infrastructure defined? 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Partially [comments]					
19.5	Reference documents (ToR input) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has the List all documents used in drafting section 19 (e.g. studies, statistics, strategies, action plan, etc.) been included? Have the documents title, author, issue date, and URL if available online, been specified? 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Partially [comments]					
20.	Indicative project status and planning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does the provided technical and financial information demonstrate that the Project fulfils the eligibility criteria? Are the planned activities presented in a logical sequence? Is the preparatory time adequately planned for each activity? 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Partially					
		[comments]					
21.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coherence with the EIP, Growth Plan/RGF, EU policies, and adopted national/sectoral/regional strategies (ToR input) Is the Project coherent with the WBIF strategic orientations and intervention areas, the priorities and/or flagships of the Economic and Investment Plan for the Western Balkans, the Growth Plan for the Western Balkans and the Reform and Growth Facility, and EU policies/priorities? 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Partially					
		[comments]					

No.	Section in the grant application form	Screening / Assessment Organisation					
		DG ENEST (incl. geographical teams)	EU Delegation	Line DGs	International / regional organisations	Lead IFI	IFICO IPF
		[Please provide detailed comments, in particular if a specific aspect is unclear or not well addressed in the application form]					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is the Project coherent with the IPA III key priorities? Is the project proposal coherent with the National/Regional Development Strategy? Is there compliance with the main national/regional policies in the concerned sector or thematic area? Is the Project listed in the SPP? Is there compliance with social standards, including the promotion of gender equality, non-discrimination and equal opportunity? Are there similar planned or ongoing projects in the country/sector? If so, are the coordination mechanisms to be used explained? 						
21.1	<p>Alignment with the Economic and Investment Plan for the Western Balkans (ToR input)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is it explained how the Project addresses the policy objectives and investment flagships of the Economic and Investment Plan for the Western Balkans and the compliance with the WBIF intervention areas, to justify the WBIF TA support? 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Partially					
		[comments]					
21.2	<p>Alignment with the Growth Plan and the Reform and Growth Facility for the Western Balkans (ToR input)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is the Project included in the indicative list of priority investments under the RGF? In case the Project is not included in the indicative list of priority investments under the RGF, has a justification, on how the Project addresses the Growth Plan and the Reform and Growth Facility for the Western Balkans, been included? In case the Project is not covered by the RGF, has the eligibility of the Project under the WBIF intervention areas been demonstrated? 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Partially					
		[comments]					
21.3	<p>Alignment with Green Agenda objectives (ToR input)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have the Green Agenda pillars, with which the Project is aligned, been indicated? Has a brief justification on how the Project addresses the applicable Green Agenda pillar(s) been provided? In case the Project is not aligned with any Green Agenda pillars, has a brief justification for WBIF support been included? 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Partially					
		[comments]					

No.	Section in the grant application form	Screening / Assessment Organisation					
		DG ENEST (incl. geographical teams)	EU Delegation	Line DGs	International / regional organisations	Lead IFI	IFICO IPF
		[Please provide detailed comments, in particular if a specific aspect is unclear or not well addressed in the application form]					
21.4	Compliance with adopted national/sectoral/regional strategies (ToR input) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Have the adopted national/sectoral/regional strategies to which the Project is compliant with been listed? ▪ Has the Project's position in the Single Project Pipeline (SPP) been indicated? ▪ Has the coordination and complementarity with other related projects financed by WBIF, national IPA, or other donors/ financiers been presented? ▪ Has the Project's priority from the point of view of national and regional institutions (e.g., the Transport Community, the Energy Community, and similar bodies) been indicated? 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Partially					
		[comments]					
22.	Consultations before submission <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How were the LFI and the EU Delegation involved in the project preparation? ▪ What consultations were conducted with national authorities (NIC or similar body), international and/or regional organisations and other stakeholders? ▪ Was the underlying investment Project endorsed by the Ministry of Finance? 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Partially					
		[comments] [This section is optional for Line DGs.]					
23.	Institutional framework of the project	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Partially					
		[comments] [This section is optional for Line DGs.]					
23.1	Description of entities involved <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Has the list of entities involved in the implementation of the Project been included in the section? The Beneficiary(ies) authority(ies) (responsible Ministry(ies) and specific department(s)) should be nominated. 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Partially					
		[comments] [This section is optional for Line DGs.]					

No.	Section in the grant application form	Screening / Assessment Organisation					
		DG ENEST (incl. geographical teams)	EU Delegation	Line DGs	International / regional organisations	Lead IFI	IFICO IPF
		[Please provide detailed comments, in particular if a specific aspect is unclear or not well addressed in the application form]					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has the beneficiary which is foreseen to obtain the construction permit(s) for the Project been nominated? Has the Implementing agency (or equivalent) been nominated? Has the Project Management Unit (PMU)/Project Implementation Unit (PIU) or equivalent been nominated? In case of involvement of a privately-owned company, has the contractual structure (e.g. concession, private-public partnerships) been defined and explained? 						
23.2	Organisational set-up (ToR input) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is the organisational set-up, the implementation scheme and financial structure clear? Does the proposed core team of the Beneficiary have adequate experience for managing the Project? Are the management structures and procedures clear, transparent and fair? Are the management structures appropriate to the Project's size, duration and needs? Are the roles of the institutions involved in the Project clearly defined? Are the institutional aspects of the Project's implementation duly described. Has a chart illustrating the institutional framework of the Project been included? 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Partially [comments] [This section is optional for Line DGs.]					
24.	Project budget and financing plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are the indicative budget and the financing plan sufficiently detailed? Are the costs included in the budget realistic and acceptable? Are any of the costs excessive? Are they justified in the application? Does the project financing plan present the appropriate mix of funding and leverage between loans and grants? Is the financing plan well described, including all the sources of funds identified? 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Partially					
		[comments] [This section is optional for Line DGs.]					
		[comments] [These sections are optional for Line DGs and international / regional organisations.]					

No.	Section in the grant application form	Screening / Assessment Organisation					
		DG ENEST (incl. geographical teams)	EU Delegation	Line DGs	International / regional organisations	Lead IFI	IFICO IPF
		[Please provide detailed comments, in particular if a specific aspect is unclear or not well addressed in the application form]					
25.	Project sustainability <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has the project considered its environmental implications so that the negative impacts are either avoided or mitigated during its lifetime? Is the economic and financial viability sufficiently substantiated and justified? What measures are foreseen to achieve sustainability? Has the Project incorporated mechanisms that guarantee equitable access to and distribution of the project benefits on a continuous basis? 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Partially [comments]					
26.	Risk assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are the mitigation measures for the identified risks sufficient? Are there any additional risks that are not identified in the application? If so, please enumerate. 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Partially [comments]					
27.	Addressing climate mitigation and adaptation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is the Project's contribution to climate change mitigation/adaptation clearly demonstrated? Was the LFI involved in allocating the Rio Markers? 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Partially [comments] [This section is optional for Line DGs and international/regional organisations.]					
28.	Scope of work and results for the TA grant activities (the Action):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Partially [comments]					
28.1	Summary of the scope of work and results for TA grant activities (the Action) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is the Action properly justified and fulfilling the eligibility criteria. Is the relevant information presented briefly, clearly and does it allow a good understanding of the Action at the first reading? Has the scope of work of the TA activities foreseen to be financed by the WBIF grant been precisely defined? Are the deliverables of the Action, their purpose together with a summary of their content presented? 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Partially [comments]					

No.	Section in the grant application form	Screening / Assessment Organisation					
		DG ENEST (incl. geographical teams)	EU Delegation	Line DGs	International / regional organisations	Lead IFI	IFICO IPF
		[Please provide detailed comments, in particular if a specific aspect is unclear or not well addressed in the application form]					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are all activities foreseen to be financed by the WBIF grant consistently and adequately budgeted and justified in section 29? 						
28.2	<p>Detailed scope of work and results for TA grant activities (the Action) (ToR input)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is the information presented in general (1) following the WBIF Guidelines (2) good enough quality to be included in the ToR, (3) allow for efficient monitoring of the implementation of the Action, and (4) sufficient for review and approval of the (draft) deliverables? Are the objective, purpose and expected results of the TA activities precisely described? Have the deliverables, to be developed by the Action, been clearly defined, and have the summaries of their content been presented? Are the critical risks associated with the implementation of the Action clearly described and the appropriate mitigation measures detailed? Are the standards, norms, regulations and guidelines applicable to the activities presented in detail? Are the requirements of the national laws, EU and Financial Institutions presented for all deliverables? Is there a description of the differences between the national standards, legal provisions and the EU/IFIs requirements and how these will be addressed? Are the required surveys clearly described, and the correspondent cost estimate accurately defined? Are the reporting procedures and requirements presented, together with the review and approval process, especially regarding the national requirements? Have the key experts and the required qualifications been presented and are the indicative number of working days specified for the experts? <p>Are the costs of activities foreseen to be financed by the WBIF grant clearly justified</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Partially [comments]					

No.	Section in the grant application form	Screening / Assessment Organisation					
		DG ENEST (incl. geographical teams)	EU Delegation	Line DGs	International / regional organisations	Lead IFI	IFICO IPF
		[Please provide detailed comments, in particular if a specific aspect is unclear or not well addressed in the application form]					
	<p>and consistently budgeted in section 29, and in correlation with subsection 28.1?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Has a PPP option analysis been elaborated, and have the associated risks been analysed?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Have the main cornerstones, opportunities and limitations of a potential PPP approach been detailed?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> If a PPP option analysis will/has not been elaborated, has an adequate justification been provided?</p>						
29.	<p>WBIF Grant amount calculation and justification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is the WBIF grant amount accurately defined? Have the activities and their corresponding amounts been listed in coherence with section 28? Is detailed information provided on the calculation of the WBIF grant (previous technical studies, standards of costs, similar projects, market costs, assumptions made from good practices in the sector) to demonstrate that the costs are realistic and justified? 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Partially					
		<p>[comments]</p> <p>[This section is optional for Line DGs and international/regional organisations.]</p>					
30.	<p>Additionality of the WBIF grant</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are the expected impact and results of the Project, and more specifically of the WBIF grant contribution, clearly defined for the types of additionalities identified in the application form? Is it explained why the proposed WBIF grant funding is necessary for the Project? Could the Project go ahead without the WBIF grant? Is the positive impact of the WBIF grant relevant and well justified? Is the impact on gender equality, equal opportunities and non-discrimination clearly demonstrated? If the Action does not contribute to gender equality and/or equal opportunities & non-discrimination, is the justification reasonable and convincing? 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Partially					
		<p>[comments]</p> <p>[This section is optional for international / regional organisations.]</p>					
31.	Indicative calendar of the Action	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Partially					

No.	Section in the grant application form	Screening / Assessment Organisation					
		DG ENEST (incl. geographical teams)	EU Delegation	Line DGs	International / regional organisations	Lead IFI	IFICO IPF
		<i>[Please provide detailed comments, in particular if a specific aspect is unclear or not well addressed in the application form]</i>					
		<i>[comments]</i>					
31.1	Indicative calendar of the Action	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Partially					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are the planned activities associated with the Action realistically implementable within the foreseen period? Are the main activities presented in their logical time sequence? 	<i>[comments]</i> <i>[This section is optional for international / regional organisations.]</i>					
31.2	Detailed planning of TA activities (ToR input)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Partially					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are the activities sufficiently detailed to reflect the foreseen implementation of the Action? Is the duration of the activities adapted to the complexity of the operations to be developed? Is the sequencing of the activities realistic and logical? Are the durations related to obtaining the administrative authorisations, the checking and approval of the technical documents included in the detailed planning? 	<i>[comments]</i> <i>[This section is optional for international / regional organisations.]</i>					
		<i>[comments]</i>					
32.	Monitoring, reporting and evaluation	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Partially					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are the monitoring, reporting and evaluation clearly described and sufficient? 	<i>[comments]</i> <i>[This section is optional for Line DGs and international / regional organisations.]</i>					
33.	Visibility	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Partially					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do the visibility measures comply with the EU requirements, and do they provide sufficient and clear visibility? 	<i>[comments]</i> <i>[This section is optional for Line DGs and international / regional organisations.]</i>					
34.	Issues to be clarified before WBIF grant approval	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Partially					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are the issues (if any) clear? Is a timeline for their resolution indicated? 	<i>[comments]</i>					

No.	Section in the grant application form	Screening / Assessment Organisation					
		DG ENEST (incl. geographical teams)	EU Delegation	Line DGs	International / regional organisations	Lead IFI	IFICO IPF
		<i>[Please provide detailed comments, in particular if a specific aspect is unclear or not well addressed in the application form]</i>					
		<i>[comments]</i>					
Annex 1	Result framework <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Are the indicators sufficiently reflecting the Action's expected outputs and intended outcomes?</i> ▪ <i>Are the expected results in line with the objectives of the Action?</i> ▪ <i>Are the outputs and outcomes clearly defined, realistic (achievable) and quantified?</i> ▪ <i>Are the indicators defined accurately (description, measurement, baseline, and target value)?</i> 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Partially					
		<i>[comments]</i>					

Screening conclusion
<i>[Filled in by DG ENEST Programme Managers based on comments provided by screening organisations, including clarifications, corrections and/or improvements to the application form that need to be resolved during the assessment.]</i>

Review and acceptance by the European Commission of changes made to the grant application form during the assessment
<i>[European Commission's review and acceptance of changes made to the application form against screening conclusion. Filled in by DG ENEST Programme Managers based on the application form revised during the assessment and the LFI's assessment of the application.]</i>