



# **New methodology for infrastructure investment projects in Western Balkans 2014-2020**

**WBIF Steering Committee  
Berlin, 11 June 2014**



## Overall context

- End 2013 – March 2014: **detailed review** of procedures and projects pipeline for WBIF
- November 2013: **High level meeting** with EC and EIB, KFW, EBRD, CEB, WB, IMF
- February 2014: **EBRD Conference** on Western Balkans with EC and 7 PMs
- May 2014: EU Western Balkans ministerial **conference in Thessaloniki**
- June 2014: **WBIF Steering Committee** in Berlin



## Key lessons

- Need for a **single sector projects pipeline** (transport, energy, environment, social)
- **Ownership**: investments should fit in sector strategies and policies at country level
- **Enhanced cooperation** of all stakeholders
- **36%** of projects funded from National IPA have regional dimension; **only 43%** of projects funded from IPA Multi-country have a regional dimension!



# New methodology - Key principles 1

- **Strategic approach:** projects should fit in sector development plans
- **Ownership and political commitment:** set-up NICs where appropriate
- **Efficient project preparation:** cover both regional and national projects with FI support



## **New methodology - Key principles 2**

- Clear **distinction between national** (or local) **and regional projects**: focus of IPA Multi-country on projects with regional dimension (see 36/43)
- **Grant co-financing of projects' implementation**



## **New methodology - Key principles 3**

- **Full respect of WBIF governance structures** for revision of WBIF structures and funding documents
- Key role of **NIPACs**
- Stronger involvement of **EU Delegations**



# Modalities for financing

- **Direct management**
  - EC HQ or EUDEL signs agreement with beneficiary, project promoter or FI
- **Indirect management** - EC entrust budget implementation tasks to:
  - Beneficiary country (Financing Agreement)
  - FI (IMDA)...following successful "pillar assessment"



## Work ahead

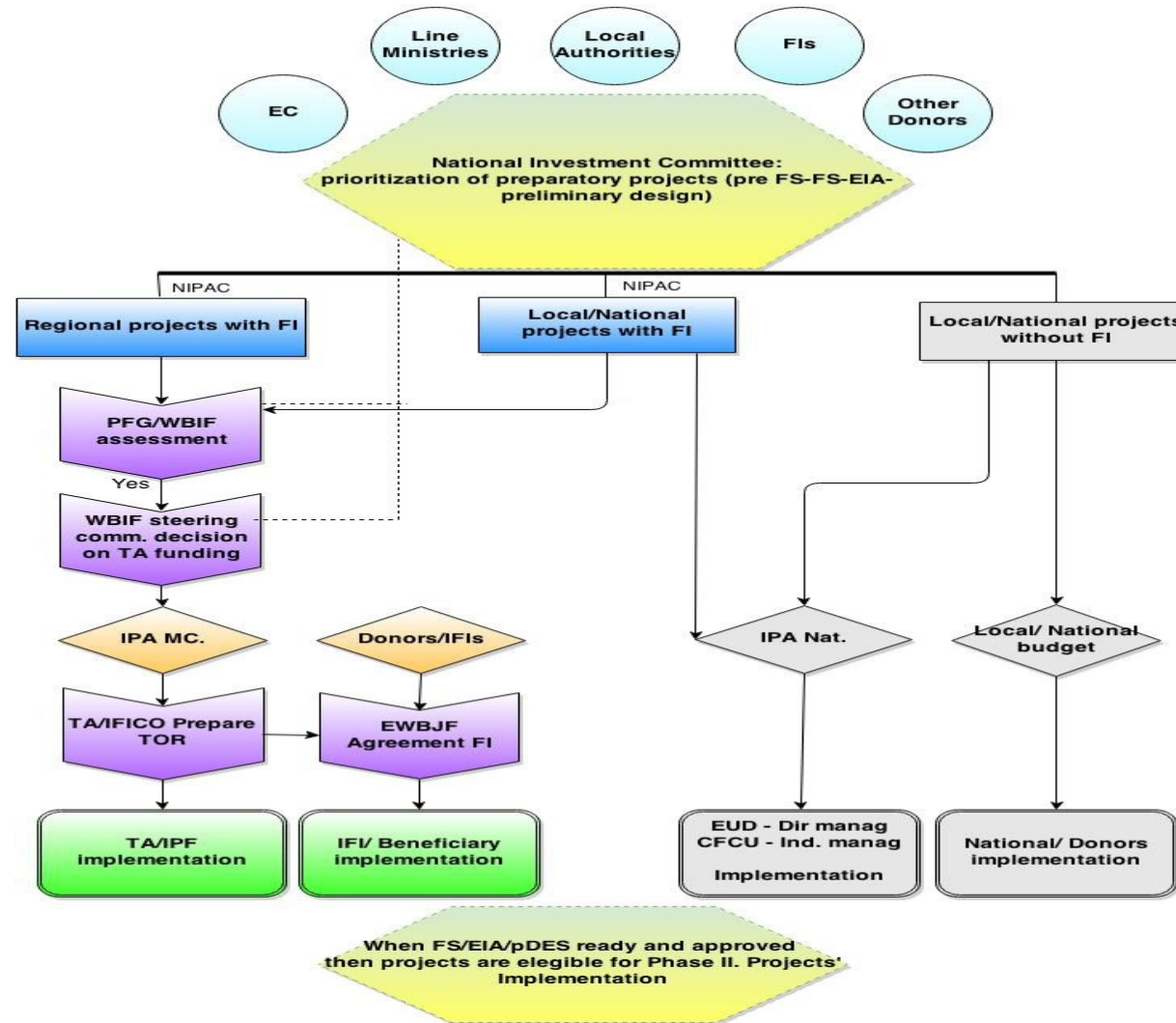
- **Technical Assistance** to beneficiaries for NICs
- Definition of **national vs regional** projects
- **Methodology for co-financing** project implementation
- Development of appropriate **contractual arrangements** (EWBJF, IPF, IMDA, etc.) ...in accordance with new EU Financial Regulation (reporting, eligibility, sub-delegation, etc.)





European  
Commission

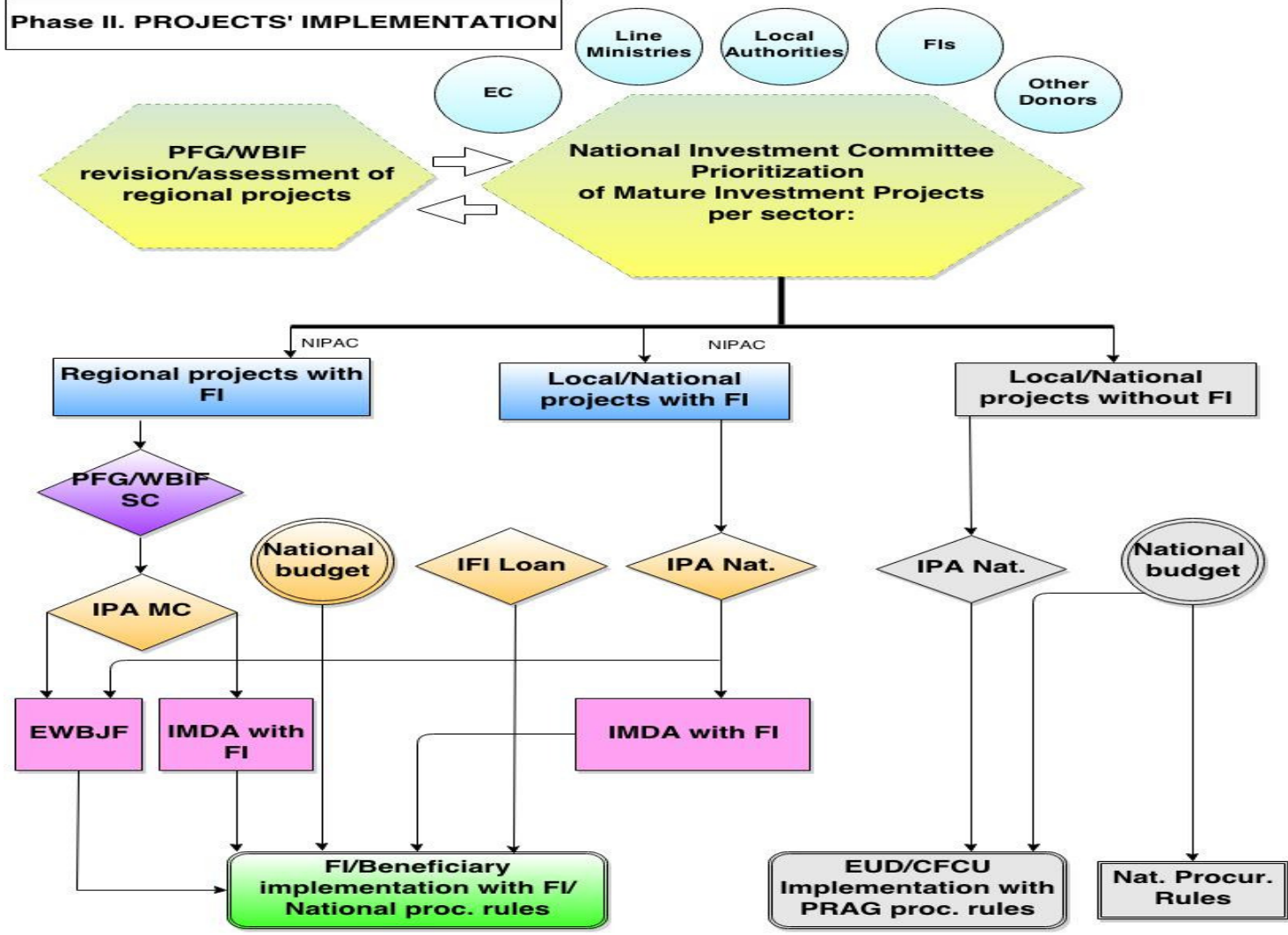
### Phase I. PROJECTS' PREPARATION





European Commission

**Phase II. PROJECTS' IMPLEMENTATION**



Enlargement