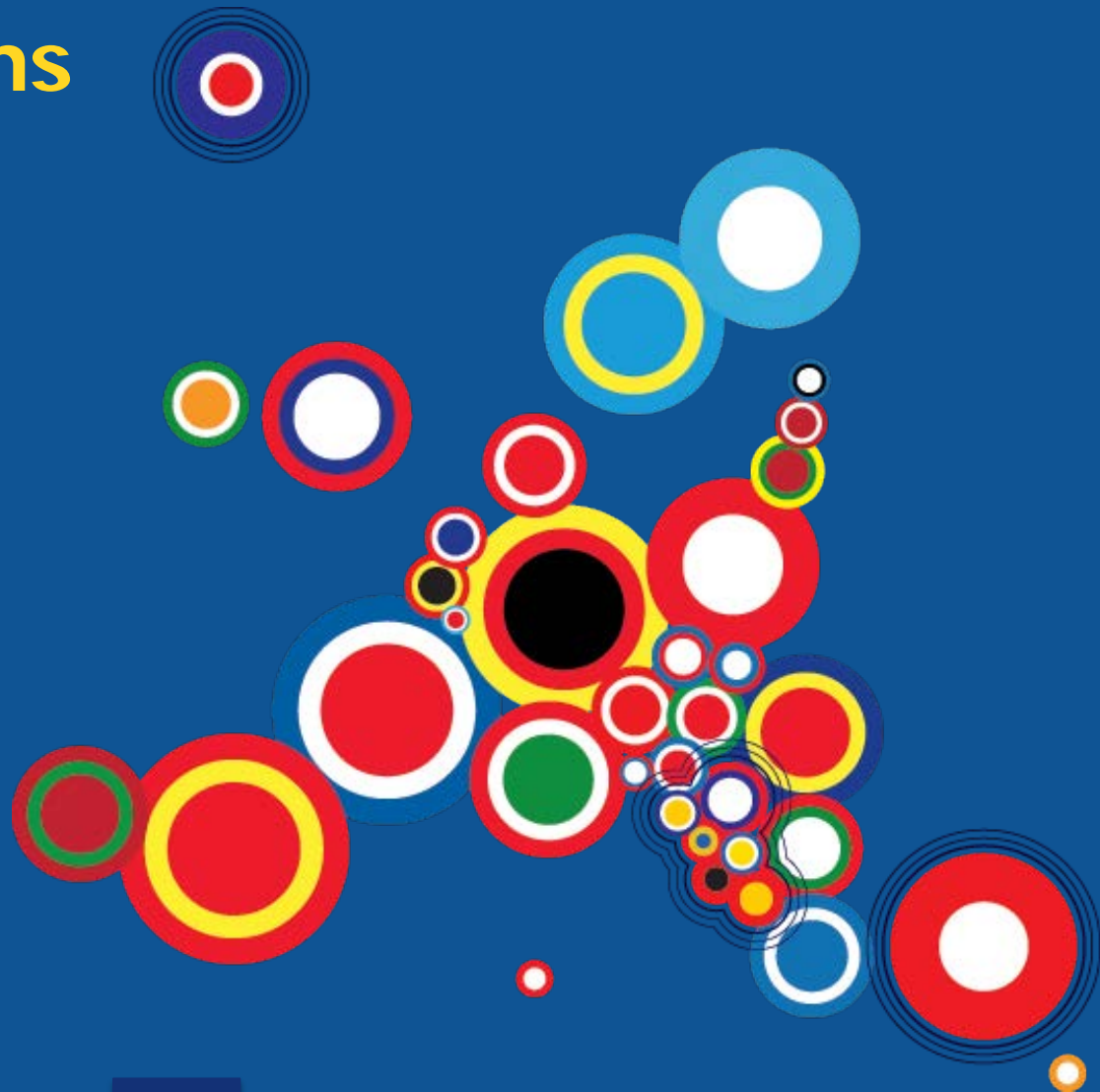




# Western Balkans Investment Framework (WBIF)

## Update on WBIF Evaluation Report

WBIF 21<sup>st</sup> PFG, 18-19 May 2015,  
Brussel



## Background & Brief

- *The WBIF Evaluation was conducted by AETS Consultants during the first half of 2015;*
- *The Report was submitted in November 2015 (cut-off date June 2015);*
- *The Conclusions & Recommendations of the Report are:*
  - *already implemented;*
  - *under implementation.*

# WBIF Evaluation Report: Conclusions

- *The WBIF is a relevant and highly important response to development needs of Western Balkans;*
- *Pooling of grants and leverage is largely effective;*
- *Management, coordination, monitoring are adequate / very good (room for improvement);*
- *Investment projects show substantial and sustainable impacts.*

# Strategic Recommendations

| Recommendation                                                               | Status / Action                                                                                                                |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Simplified framework strategic objectives.                                   | Strategic objectives embedded in RoP (Art.2).                                                                                  |
| IFICO to assist in defining and fine tuning of strategic priorities.         | IFICO provides TA to the NICs.                                                                                                 |
| NICs should cover (also) IPA II national projects.                           | NICs & SPPs cover <u>all</u> types of projects, national, regional, mature and not mature, independent of financing sources.   |
| Initiation of dialogue COM, IFI, bi-lateral donors to increase fiscal space. | The GAF, SPP prioritisation methodology & soft measures address fiscal space. Inv Grants will support prudent national policy. |

# Implementation Recommendations I

| Recommendation                                                                  | Status / Action                                                                                              |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Solution needed for ENV and SOC infrastructure projects.                        | All sectors eligible for all WBIF mechanisms. Reliance on bilateral contributions .                          |
| Better definition of additionalities.                                           | Funding architecture is being finalised, finalised GAF covers additionalities & sustainability (indicators). |
| Simplification & more efficient project preparation and implementation pathway. | WBIF programming is under revision.                                                                          |
|                                                                                 |                                                                                                              |

# Implementation Recommendations II

| Recommendation                                               | Status / Action                                                                                             |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Involvement of regional organisations (at NIC + WBIF level). | ECS and SEETO are invited to all (main) WBIF meetings and set criteria. NIC involvement is national matter. |
| Complementarity:<br>NIC regional cooperation                 | Firmly encouraged.                                                                                          |
| NIC evaluation                                               | Can be considered in future.                                                                                |
| IFI participation                                            | NIC requirement.                                                                                            |



**Thank You!**