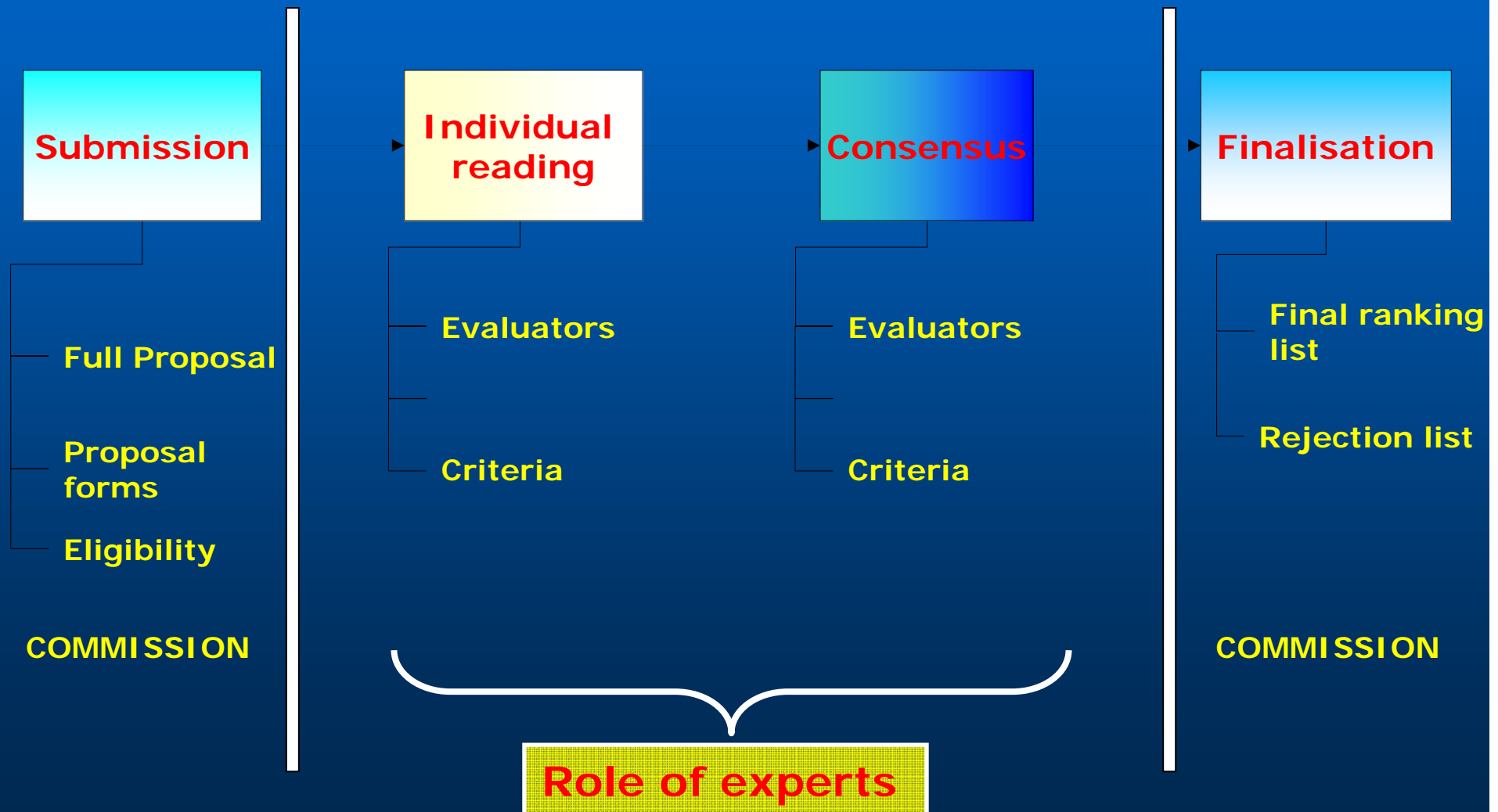


- **Paolo Ceccon, DISA, UNIUD**
- **Agronomist**
- **Research interest: agriculture – environment relationships, modeling of agricultural systems, organic farming**

- **FP5**
- **Quality of Life and Management of Living Resources RTD Programme**
- **QoL-2001/3**
- **Key action 5 (Sustainable Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, and Integrated development of rural areas including mountain areas)**
- **subjects of proposals: Weeds, Inputs, Grassland**
- **evaluation period: 19-23 November 2001**
- **panel : 5 experts (GR, D, UK, E, I)**

- **FP5**
- **Quality of Life and Management of Living Resources RTD Programme**
- **QoL-2001/4 (last call of KA5 → lots of resubmissions)**
- **Key action 5 (Sustainable Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, and Integrated Development of Rural Areas Including Mountain Areas)**
- **subjects of proposals: Sustainable Farming Systems (only concerted actions and thematic network)**
- **evaluation period: 4-9 March 2002**
- **panel: 6 experts (E, F, UK, I, ...)**

Overview of the Evaluation Process



Eligibility checks (EC)

- receipt before deadline
- minimum number of partners (if set out in work programme and the call)
- completeness of proposal (presence of all requested forms)
- "out of scope" (a proposal will only be deemed ineligible in clear cut case)

Independent experts

- **provide independent, impartial and objective advice to the Commission**
- **you represent neither your employer, nor your country!**
- **significant funding decisions will be made on the basis of your advice**
- **you can also add value to projects through your comments and suggestions**
- **the integrity of the process is crucial**

Confidentiality

- do not discuss the content of proposals, or the evaluation results, with anyone (*the sole exception: your fellow experts who are evaluating the same proposal in a consensus group or final panel*)
- do not disclose the names of your fellow experts
- please take nothing from the evaluation building

Conflicts of interest

- you must immediately inform the Commission if you become aware of a conflict of interest
- disqualifying COI:
 - involved in preparation of proposal
 - stands to benefit directly
 - close family relationship
 - director/trustee/partner
 - employee (*but, possible exception...*)
 - member of Advisory Group
 - employed in last 3 years
 - involved in research in previous 3 years

Evaluating a proposal

➤ Objectivity

- each proposal is evaluated as it is written

➤ Accuracy

- you make your judgment against the official evaluation criteria, and nothing else

➤ Consistency

- you apply the same standard of judgment to each proposal

The criteria

- **S&T quality (relevant to the topic of the call)**
 - **concept, objective, work-plan**
- **impact**
 - **contribution to expected impacts listed in work programme**
 - **plans for dissemination/exploitation**
- **implementation**
 - **individual participants and consortium as a whole**
 - **allocation of resources**

Individual reading

- evaluate the proposal individually without discussing with the other evaluators
- check whether the proposal is 'in scope'
- give scores and comments on all criteria
- scores should be in line with comments

Consensus

- based on individual evaluations
- agreement on scores and comments
- usually involves a discussion
- not just a simple averaging exercise
- moderated by a commission staff-member (helps the group reach a conclusion)
- a *rapporteur* is responsible for drafting a consensus report representing a clear assessment of the proposal with justification

Score

➤ FIRST STEP

S&T + impact is scored 0-5

- whole range should be considered
- first step score must exceed 3,5 if a proposal is to be considered for ...

➤ SECOND STEP

implementation is scored 0-5

- whole range should be considered
- second step score must exceed 3,5 if a proposal is to be considered for further evaluation by a different panel

My experience

- proposals must be anonymous
- proposals must strictly address the call
- proposals must allow the evaluator clearly identify the role of the partners as well as the activities they are called to perform
- novelty of approaches
- quality of partners
- usually experts are not expert of the topic they are evaluating
- try to avoid busy calls