



The Single Project Pipeline: What it is or should be?

Single project pipeline?



Multiple sectoral pipelines?



Or a pool?



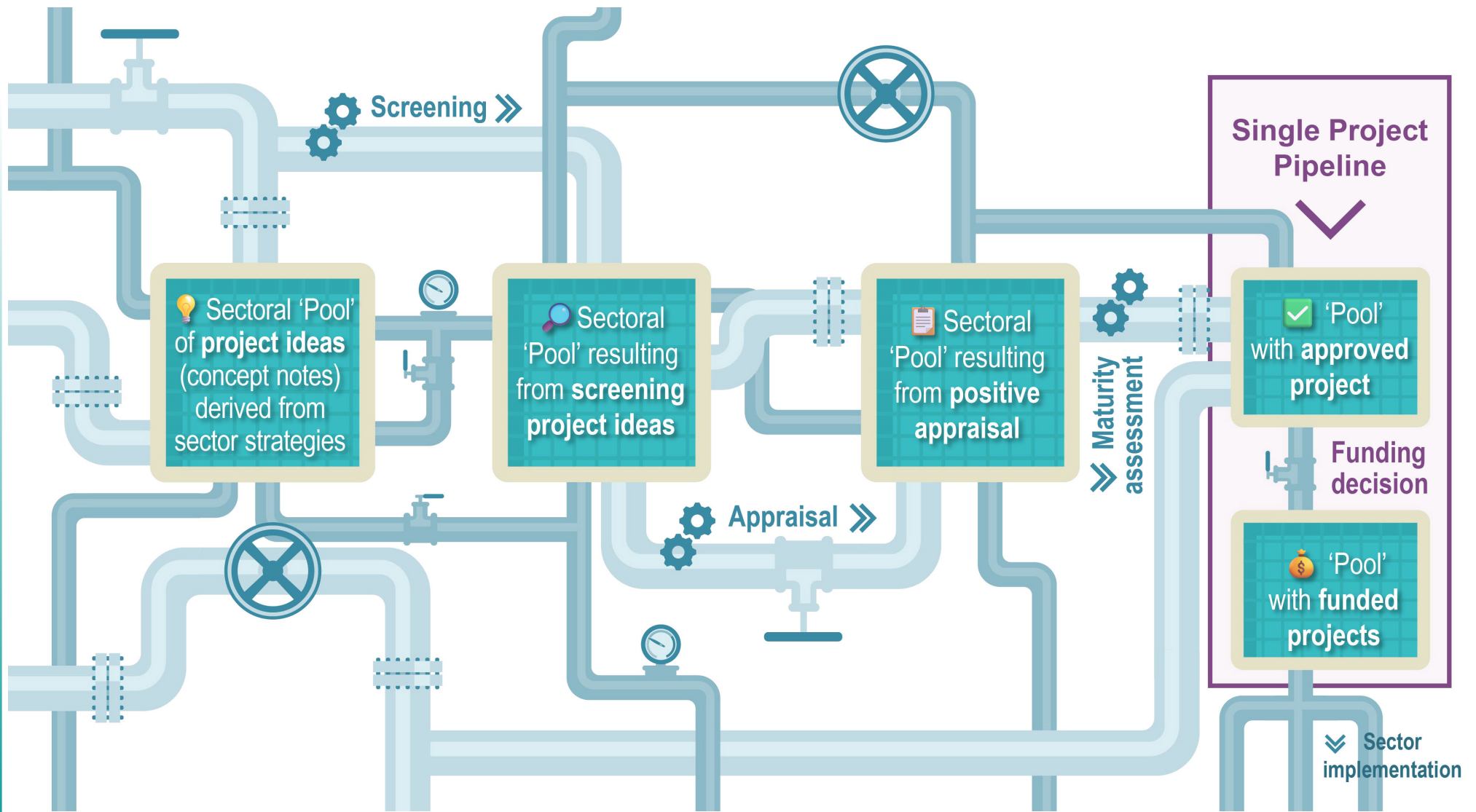


Upcoming SIGMA Guidance: Upcoming JUNE 2026

A joint initiative of the OECD and the EU,
principally financed by the EU.



The image shows the cover of a SIGMA guidance document. At the top left is the SIGMA logo with the tagline 'Creating Change Together'. At the top right are the logos for the European Union and the OECD, with the text 'A joint initiative of the OECD and the EU, principally financed by the EU'. Below the logos is a small icon of a cross with four arrows pointing outwards. The main title is 'Guidance for EU candidate countries and potential candidates'. Below this is a vertical line, followed by the subtitle 'The Single Project Pipeline:'. Underneath the subtitle is a bulleted list: 'Principles', 'Do's and', and 'Don'ts'. Below the list is the text 'WORK IN PROGRESS'. At the bottom, it says 'PUBLICATION EXPECTED JUNE 2026'. There is a small square icon in the bottom right corner of the cover. The word 'Re' is partially visible at the bottom left of the cover.

















SIGMA proposed definition

***“The SPP is the ‘pipeline’ by which a ‘pool’ of projects, encompassing all sectors and all funding modalities, that have been subject to positive appraisal, are selected for financing through the multi-annual budget.*”**





12 Principles or Good Practice in SPP implementation

-  Principle 1: projects originate from strategies and plans
-  Principle 2: project ideas are screened
-  Principle 3: project design and preparation are robust and not rushed
-  Principle 4: optimism bias and strategic misrepresentation are explicitly addressed in project design and approval
-  Principle 5: project appraisal is thorough and quality assured
-  Principle 6: mechanisms exist to ensure proportionality of appraisal, independent review, and approval requirements
-  Principle 7: projects demonstrate sufficient 'maturity' before entering the SPP
-  Principle 8: project funding decisions are made as part of the medium-term budget process
-  Principle 9: public procurement rules based on internationally recognised principles are established and consistently enforced
-  Principle 10: project implementation problems are addressed through timely and effective senior management action
-  Principle 11: projects can be cancelled, deferred, or redesigned at any point in the investment cycle
-  Principle 12: project evaluation recommendations are systematically recorded and used to improve future project design and SPP decisions





Food for thought for Albanian practice (1)

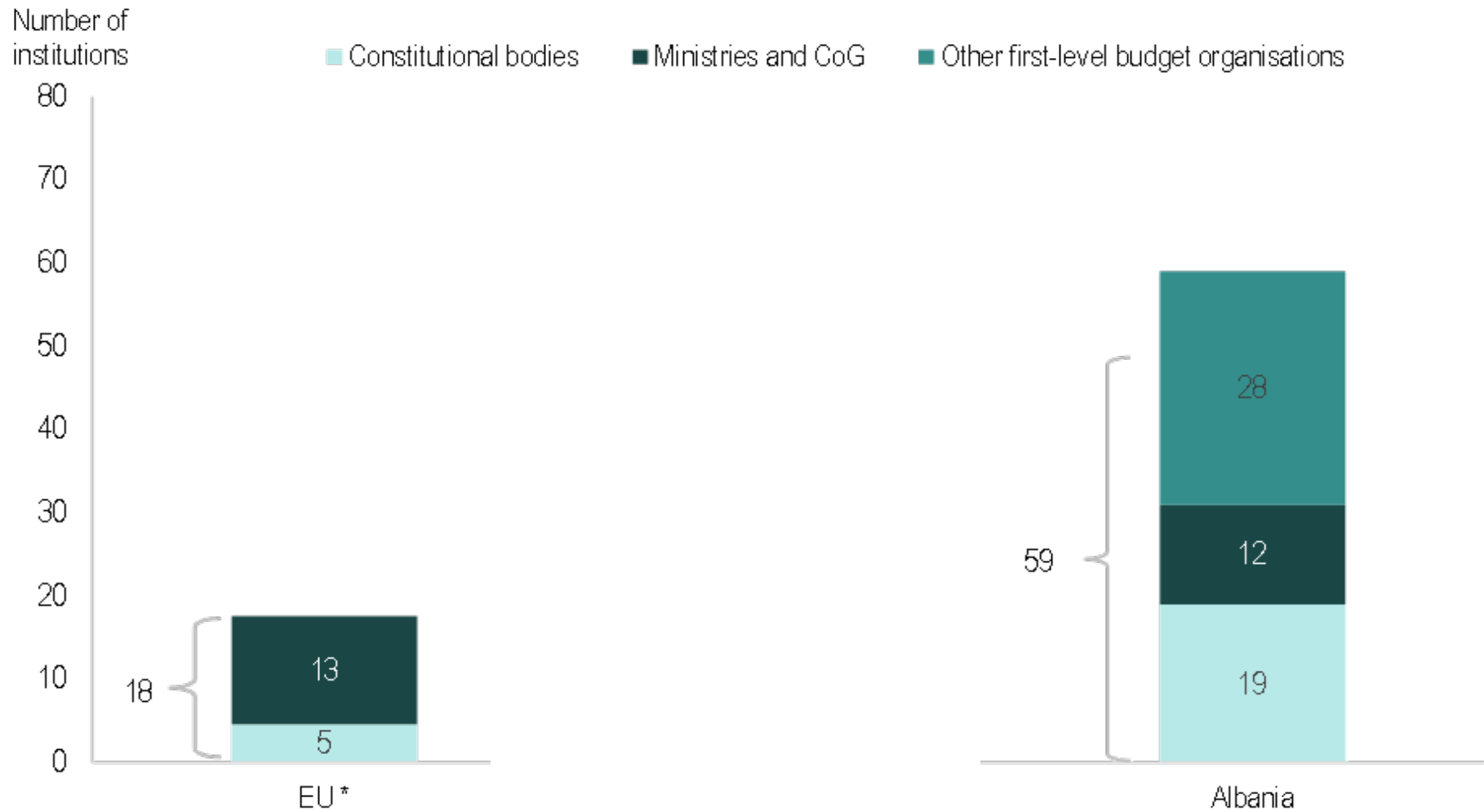
Principle 3: project design and preparation are robust and not rushed

DOs	DON'Ts
<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Develop and apply relevant project preparation guidelines, and ensure that first level budget organisations are adequately staffed and trained to use them.✓ Establish institutional oversight to ensure that preparation guidelines remain up to date and are consistently followed.✓ Base cost estimates on reliable expenditure baselines, explicitly including projected recurrent costs such as operations and maintenance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✗ Do not rush or shortcut project preparation because a project is perceived as 'critical', 'urgent', or 'politically important'.✗ Do not omit future running costs from the total project cost estimates.





High number of first level budget organisations fragments capacity for preparation of public investment projects



Restricted Use - A usage restraint





Food for thought for Albanian practice (2)

Principle 7: projects demonstrate sufficient ‘maturity’ before entering the SPP

DOs	DON'Ts
<ul style="list-style-type: none">✔ Ensure that all key aspects of project design are finalised and that the project has undergone full technical, financial, and economic appraisal before advancing to the SPP.✔ Confirm that the project meets all relevant approval criteria, including alignment with national priorities, affordability, and value for money.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✘ Do not allow projects to enter the SPP on the basis of political pressure, urgency, or perceived strategic importance if they are not fully appraised and designed.✘ Do not by-pass critical preparation and appraisal stages, even under time constraints or resource pressure.

