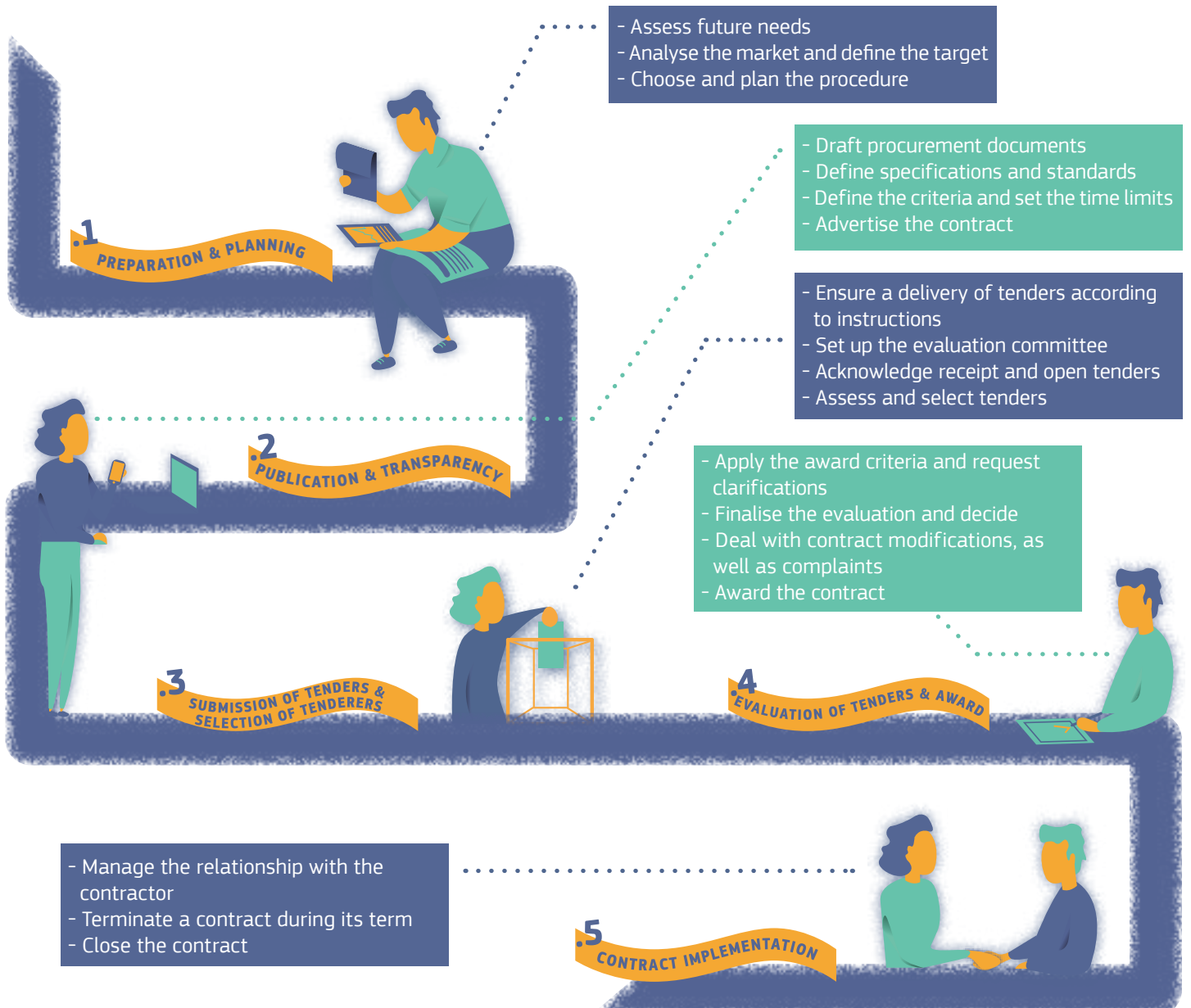




NEW COMMISSION GUIDANCE HELPS MEMBER STATES ORGANISE SOUND TENDER PROCEDURES FOR EU-FUNDED PROJECTS

USING TAX PAYER'S MONEY EFFICIENTLY AND TRANSPARENTLY FOR THE BEST IMPACT OF EU INVESTMENTS

The guidance helps Member States public officials avoid the most common errors in public procurement. Designed to help practitioners avoid errors in EU funds investments, the guidance is a useful tool in any public investment procurement. The guidance is structured around the main stages of a public procurement process:



EXAMPLES OF DO'S & DON'TS



- Divide in lots when possible, or explain why it is not possible.
- The selection and award criteria, must be stated in the procurement documents.
- Be clear about the date and time of delivery.
- Anticipate possible risks, even for small and simple contracts (e.g. contractor being unable to deliver, or not delivering the expected quality).



- Artificially splitting the contract value is illegal.
- Never amend the award criteria during the procurement process.
- Don't treat tenderers inequally.
- Do not modify the contract unless strictly in line with the rules on modifications.

DID YOU KNOW?

The **EUROPEAN STRUCTURAL AND INVESTMENT (ESI) FUNDS** channel over €450 billion into the EU real economy over the 2014-2020 funding period, half of which is invested through public procurement.

WHAT'S NEW?

The second edition of the guidance is updated in accordance with the 2014 Directives on public procurement:



Facilitating SME participation in public contracts by cutting red tape



More clarity on exclusion grounds and award criteria



Improved safeguards against corruption



Introduction, on a voluntary basis, of environmental, social and innovation goals in procurement procedures



Promotion of the use of online procedures