

Definition of a Business

(Proposed amendments to IFRS 3 and IFRS 11)

Contacts: Michael Stewart, mstewart@ifrs.org
Jawaid Dossani, jdossani@ifrs.org

The views expressed in this presentation are those of the presenter, not necessarily those of the International Accounting Standards Board (the Board) or IFRS Foundation.

Copyright © IFRS Foundation. All rights reserved

- Purpose of this session
- Background
- Our proposed solutions and questions for GPF members
 - Amendments to key concepts
 - Two-stage assessment
 - Screening test
 - Assessing substantive processes
 - Illustrative examples

Purpose of this session

- The exposure draft *Definition of a Business and Accounting for Previously Held Interests* (proposed amendments to IFRS 3 and IFRS 11) (the 'ED') was published in June 2016.
- Comment period ended 31 October 2016
- Purpose is to understand and discuss GPF members views on the proposed amendments

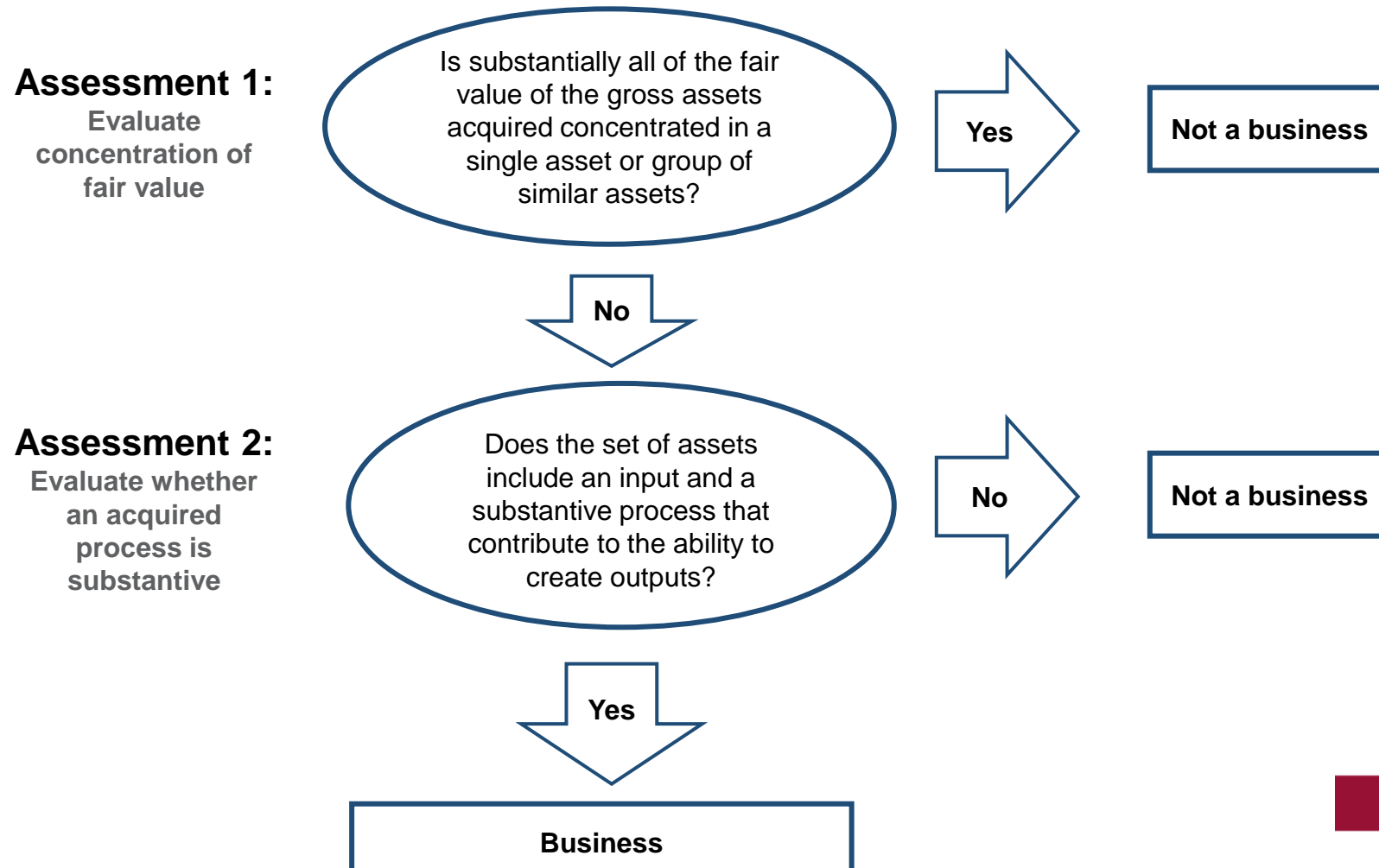
- The challenge of applying the definition of a business is a primary concern with IFRS 3 raised in the post-implementation review (PIR):
 - the definition of a business is broad;
 - preparers have difficulty assessing the relevance of processes acquired;
 - applying the definition of a business is especially challenging when the entity acquired generates no revenue;
 - the Standard provides little or no guidance on when a set of assets does not constitute a business; and
 - the Standard does not define the term ‘market participant’.

Our proposed solutions – amendments to key concepts

- An acquisition must include:
 - an **input** and a **substantive process** that together **contribute** to the entity's ability to create outputs.
 - '**contribute**' means that to be defined as a business, the set of assets acquired need not include all inputs and processes necessary for creating outputs.
 - A **market participant's ability** to integrate the acquired set of assets is **no longer a consideration**.
- The new definition of outputs:
 - focuses on goods and services provided to customers (like IFRS 15 *Revenue from Contracts with Customers*);
 - includes investment income and other revenue;
 - excludes other economic benefits provided to investors, other owners, members or participants;
 - excludes returns in the form of lower costs.

Our proposed solutions – Two-stage assessment

New assessments to simplify applying IFRS 3



Assessment 1—evaluate the concentration of fair value

- Is substantially all of the **fair value** of the gross assets acquired **concentrated** in a single asset or group of similar assets?
 - substantive process likely to have more than an insignificant fair value.
 - if substantially all of the fair value of the gross assets acquired is concentrated in a single asset, or group of similar assets, it is unlikely that a substantive process has been acquired.
- **Gross assets acquired** include any acquired input, contract, process, workforce and any other intangible asset that is not identifiable.
- The **fair value** of the **gross assets acquired** may be determined by adding the fair value of the **liabilities assumed** to the fair value of the **consideration paid**.

Assessment 1—evaluate the concentration of fair value

Single asset:

- any items that would be recognised as a single asset in a business combination; and
- a tangible asset that cannot be physically removed and used separately from other tangible assets.

The following are not groups of similar assets:

- tangible and intangible assets;
- different classes of tangible assets;
- different classes of intangible assets;
- financial assets and non-financial assets; and
- different classes of financial assets.

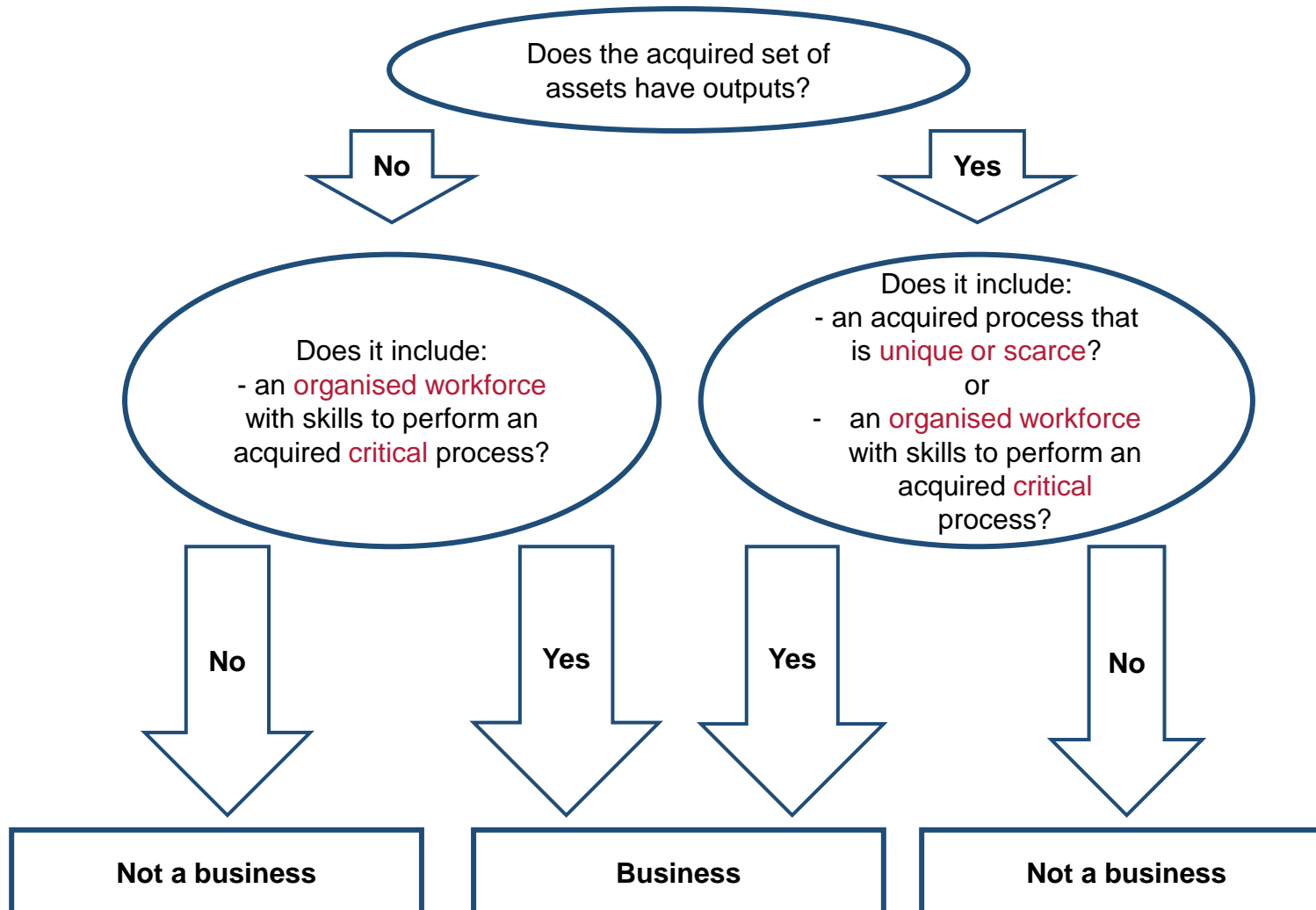
Questions for GPF members – Screening test

- Do you think the screening test is practical and helpful? Why or why not?
- Do you have any concerns about the operationality of the screening test?

Our proposed solutions – Assessing substantive processes

- Does the set of assets include an input and a **substantive process** that contributes to the ability to create outputs?
- Why provide guidance on evaluating whether an acquired process is substantive?
 - acquiring a substantive process that contributes to the ability to create outputs is necessary for a transaction to be a business combination.
 - assessing whether such a process has been acquired is one of the main challenges in applying the definition of a business.

Our proposed solutions – Assessing substantive processes



Our proposed solutions – Assessing substantive processes

12

Assessment 2—evaluate whether an acquired process is substantive

- If the set **does not have outputs**, the set is a business only if it includes:
 - an organised **workforce** with the necessary skills to perform an acquired substantive process; **and**
 - the acquired **substantive process** that is **critical to converting** another **acquired input** into outputs.
- A process is not **critical** if it is ancillary or minor within the context of all the processes required to create outputs.
- **Inputs** that the workforce can convert into outputs include:
 - intellectual property;
 - other economic resources that can be developed to create outputs;
 - rights to access materials that allow the creation of outputs.

Our proposed solutions – Assessing substantive processes

13

Assessment 2—evaluate whether an acquired process is substantive

- If the set **has outputs**, the set is a business if it includes:
 - an organised **workforce** with the necessary skills to perform an acquired process that is **critical** to continue producing outputs; **or**
 - a **process**:
 - that contributes to the ability to continue producing outputs; and
 - is **unique or scarce, or cannot be replaced** without significant cost, effort, or delay in the ability to continue producing outputs (ie a workforce is not required)

Questions for GPF members – Assessing substantive processes

14

- Do you think having different criteria depending on whether the acquired set has outputs is helpful? Why or why not?
- Do you have any concerns about the operationality of this assessment?

Our proposed solutions – Illustrative examples

Add examples

- The ED includes 11 examples to illustrate the proposed guidance.
- The examples cover different industries, including:
 - real estate
 - pharmaceutical
 - broadcasting
 - manufacturing
 - technology
 - oil & gas
 - banking

Contact us

16

Keep up to date



@IFRSFoundation



IFRS Foundation



www.ifrs.org



IFRS Foundation

Comment on our work



go.ifrs.org/comment