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# Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Horizon Europe

Postdoctoral Fellowships and Doctoral Networks 2021

Galicia, 17th June 2021

Jesús ROJO

# CONTENT

- MSCA Support in Spain
- MSCA General Aspects and features
- From Horizon 2020 to Horizon Europe
- Postdoctoral Fellowships Call 2021
- Doctoral Networks Call 2021
- Staff Exchanges introduction

# SPANISH NATIONAL CONTACT POINTS



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# NCPs MSCA SUPPORT: HORIZON EUROPE



- **on-line** meetings
- **Proposal Reviews:**
  - ✓ Doctoral Networks
  - ✓ Staff Exchange
  - ✓ COFUND
  - ✓ MSCA Citizens
- Support Activities on Project management to granted COFUND Projects

# GENERAL ASPECTS



## GENERAL ASPECTS MSCA



- Gender friendly and inclusive
- Focus not only on dissemination, but on public outreach
- Synergies with European Policies, such as Green Deal, bridging ERA and EEA

# FROM HORIZON 2020 TO HORIZON EUROPE

## Horizon 2020

Innovative Training Networks (ITN)  
Individual Fellowships (IF)  
Research and Innovation Staff Exchanges  
COFUND  
European Researchers' Night

## Horizon Europe

Doctoral Networks (DN)  
Postdoctoral Fellowships (PF)  
Staff Exchanges (SE)  
COFUND  
MSCA and Citizens



- Streamlined actions, clearer identity
- Simpler rules
- Demand management to maintain high quality
- Guidelines on supervision <https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2766/508311>
- MSCA Green Charter <https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2766/720690>

NEW

## MSCA PF 2021: AIM

- Support **excellent researchers** and **foster excellence** through the implementation of research projects.
- Focus on **I3** (international, inter- sectoral, interdisciplinary) mobility.
- Improve **employability** and **career prospects** within academia and beyond.
- Enhance the **creative and innovation potential** of researchers holding a PhD.
- Bridges and exposure to the **non- academic sector**.

### *WHO?*

An individual postdoctoral researcher and a host organisation

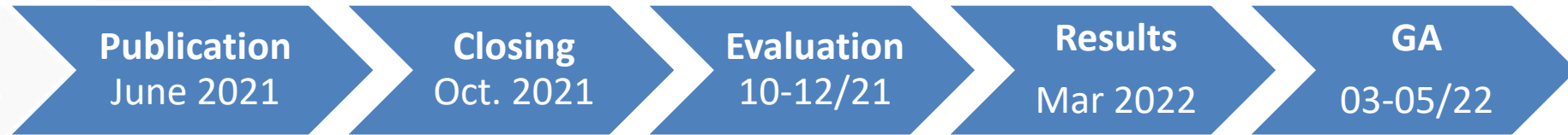
### *HOW?*

An excellent research deployed to the scientific proposal



# MSCA PF 2021: TIMELINE

Call ID	Opens	Closes	Budget
TMA-MSCA-PF-2021	22/06/2021	12/10/2021	242M€ (205 EF + 36,30 GF) + 1M€ Euratom



Call ID	Opens	Closes	Budget
TMA-MSCA-PF-2022	13/04/2022	14/09/2022	257 M€ (218M€ EF + 38,5M€ GF) + 1M€ Euratom

PROVISIONAL INFORMATION SUBJECT TO CHANGES

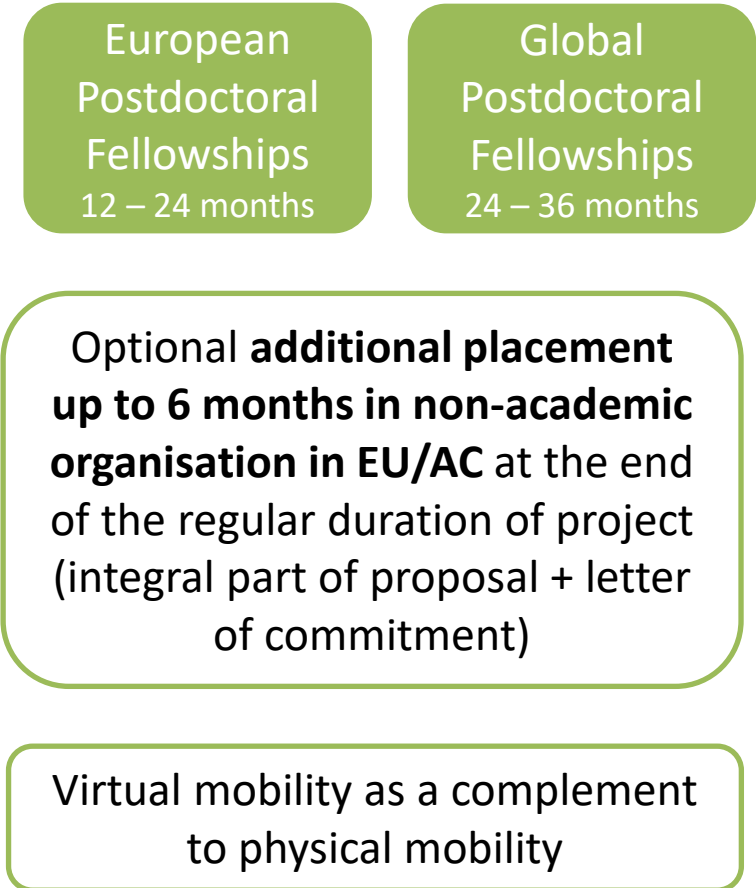
# MSCA PF 2021: FROM HORIZON 2020 TO HORIZON EUROPE



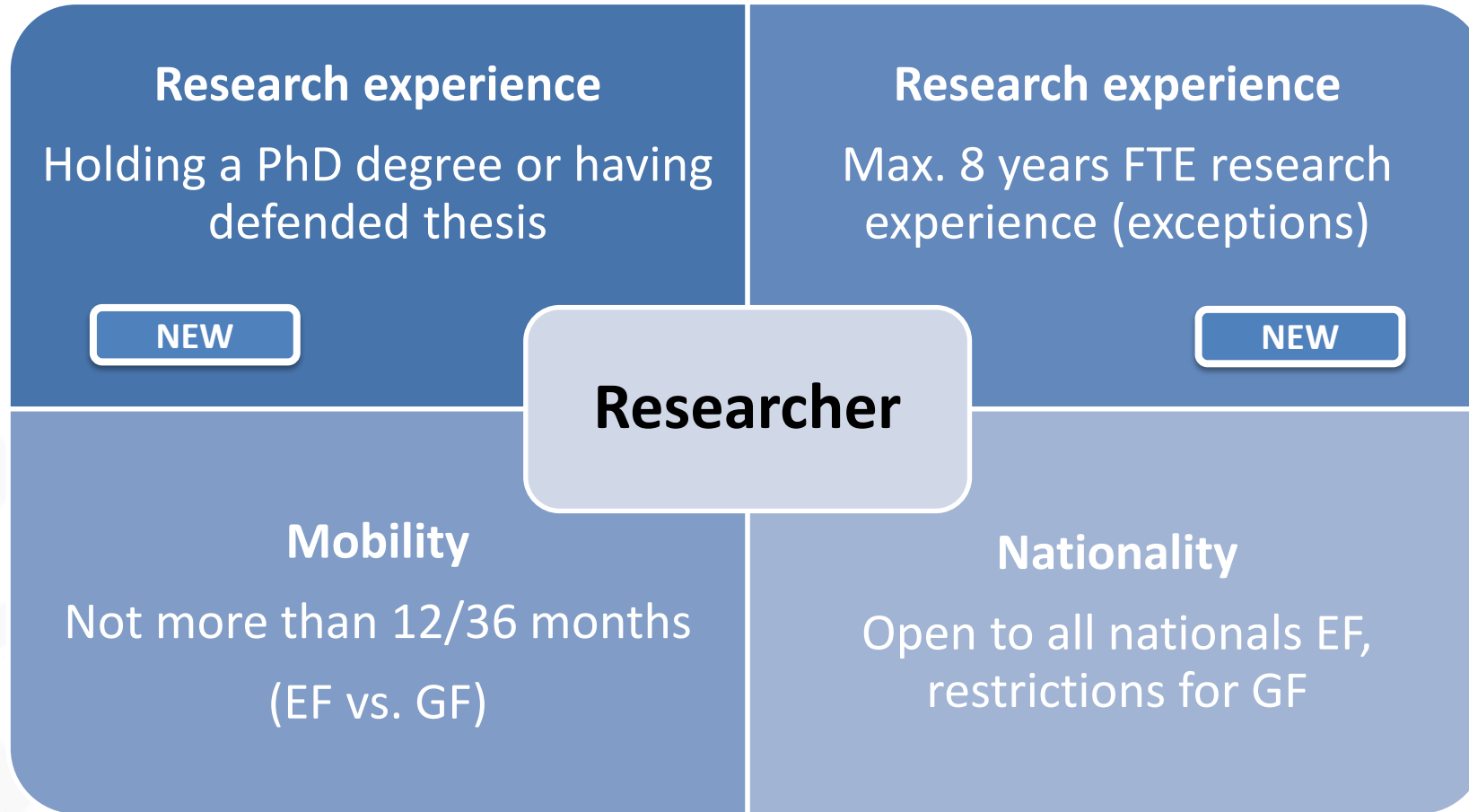
## HORIZON 2020



## HORIZON EUROPE



# MSCA PF 2021: WHO CAN APPLY



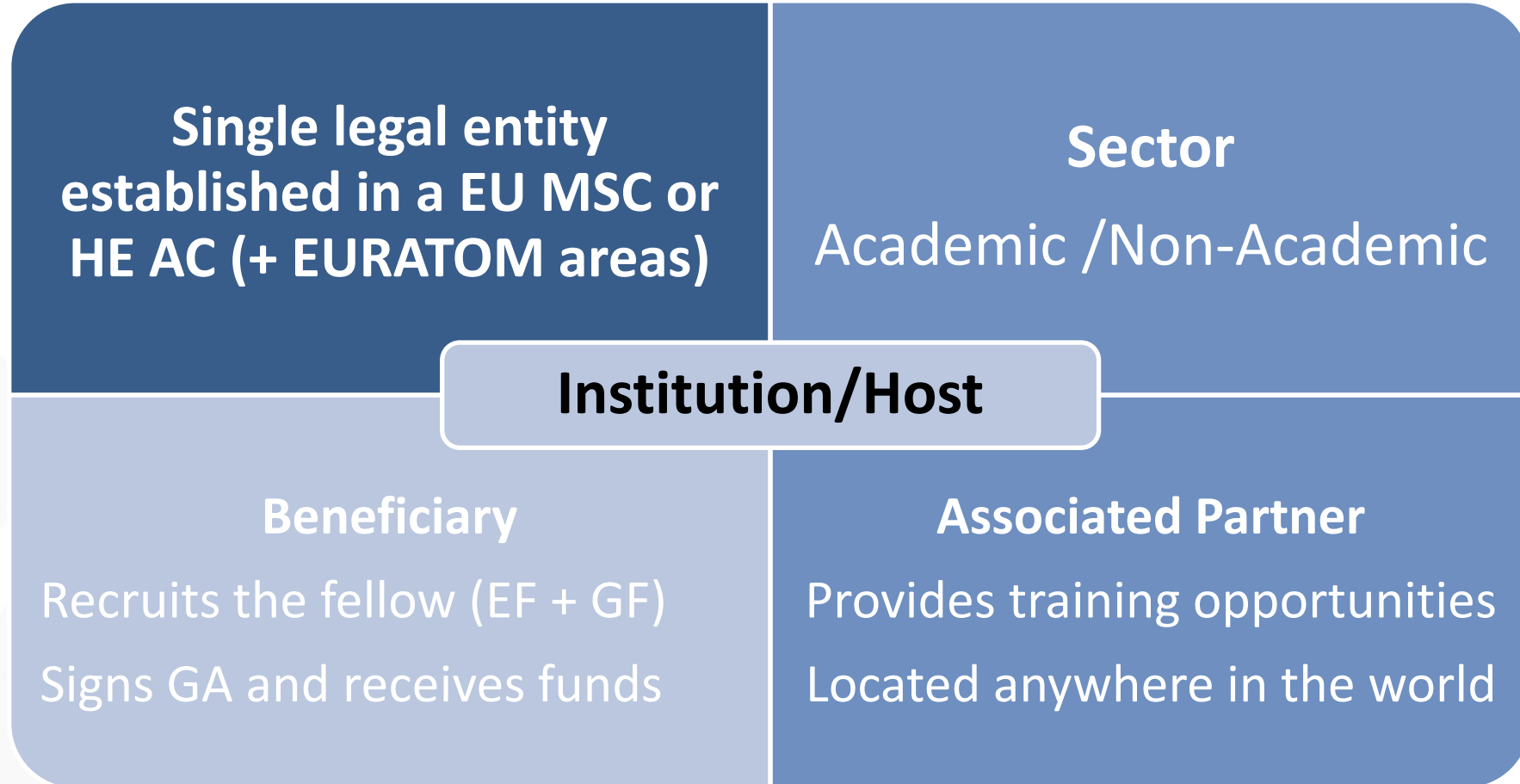
**Eligibility aspects measured at call deadline**

# MSCA PF 2021: WHO CAN APPLY

## Research experience

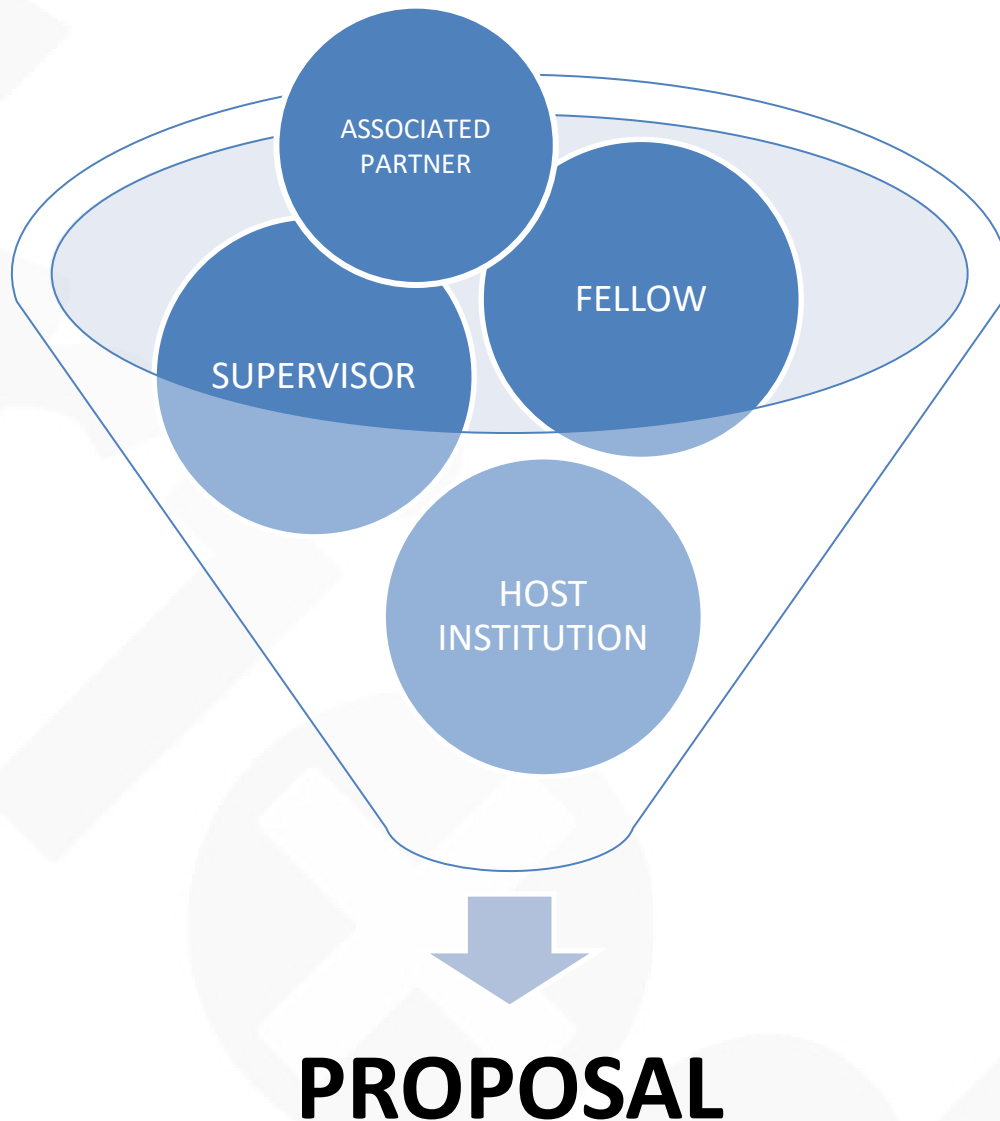
- Maximum of 8 years full-time equivalent experience in research, measured from the date of award of the doctoral degree.
- **Years of experience outside research and career breaks will not count towards the amount of research experience.**
  - Maternity: for each child born within the above mentioned eligibility period of 8 years, **18 months** will be deducted from the experience in research unless the applicant can document a longer parental leave prior to the call deadline.
  - Paternity: the documented time of parental leave taken until the call deadline will be deducted from the experience in research.
- For nationals or long-term residents of EU MS or HE AC who wish to reintegrate to pursue their research career in EU MS or HE AC, **years of experience in research in third countries will not be considered in the above maximum** (mobility rule applies: must either be based in a third country at the call deadline, or have moved directly from a third country to an EU MS or HE AC within the last 12 months before the call deadline)

# MSCA PF 2021: WHO CAN APPLY



**Letters of commitment will apply for Placements (EF) and outgoing phases (GF)**

## MSCA PF 2021: HOW DOES IT WORK?



- Individual project supported by Host Institution
- Ensure the supervisor and European Project Office (EPO) participation in the process

**PROPOSAL**

## MSCA PF 2021: HOW DOES IT WORK?

### Knowledge exchange

- Between the fellow and host and any partner organisations

### Career development (training)

- **Research Skills:** These are core skills relating to your project. Training Through Research
- **Additional Research Skills:** These are research skills that will advance your competencies in the research areas.
- **Transferable & Complementary Skills:** Transferable skills are the skills you acquire and transfer to future employment settings. Training Through Research or additional courses.
- **Training Through Research:** detail the core & advanced research skills you will develop and how your supervisor/host environment/partner organisations/short visits will enable you to develop them

### Brings together

- Research and Training
- Researcher and Supervisor/host

# MSCA PF 2021: EUROPEAN FELLOWSHIPS

## EUROPEAN FELLOWSHIPS

MS/AC



- For fellows coming to or moving within European countries.
- **Panels are discontinued**, new incentives apply
- **EURATOM** areas now included

- Open to all nationalities
- Mobility rule applies
- 12-24 (+6 months) duration
- For EU nationals or long-term residents who wish to reintegrate time outside of EU will not count towards scientific age
- Possibility to carry out **secondments worldwide**
- Possibility to have a **placement** at the **end of the fellowship**



# MSCA PF 2021: GLOBAL FELLOWSHIPS

## GLOBAL FELLOWSHIPS

TC  
MS/AC



- National or long term residents of EU MS/AC to do a **research in a Third Country**
- Transfer of knowledge, through a **Return Phase to Europe** is mandatory.

- Open to EU/AC nationals or long-term residents
- **Mobility rule** applies in Third Country
- 24 - 36 months duration
- Possibility to carry out **secondments** in the **outgoing phase**
- Possibility to have a **placement** at the **end of the fellowship** (+6 months)

# MSCA PF 2021: SECONDMENTS AND PLACEMENTS

	SECONDMENT		NON-ACADEMIC PLACEMENT
<b>Maximum Duration</b>	EF: Up to 1/3 of the normal project duration	GF: Up to 1/3 of the duration of the outgoing phase	Up to 6 months duration
<b>Timing</b>	EF: At any time during the duration during the standard project duration	GF: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>up to three months possible at the start of the outgoing phase, to be included within the 1/3 maximum duration.</li> <li>not allowed during the mandatory 12 month return phase</li> </ul>	Additional period after the standard duration of the fellowship
	Can be divided in several smaller periods		
<b>Mobility</b>	Any country worldwide		EU Member State or Horizon Europe Associated Country
<b>Sector</b>	Any sector		Non-academic sector only
<b>Encoding in Part A</b>	Yes. In "Call Specific Questions" - complete all required information.		Yes. The associated partner must be encoded as a participating organisation.
<b>Description in part B1</b>	Yes. Its relevance and quality will be assessed by the evaluators.		Yes. Its relevance and quality will be assessed by the evaluators.
<b>Supporting Doc in part B2</b>	None		Yes. A letter of commitment is required.

- Not obligatory, must be well defined in the project
- Supervisors are needed in both cases

# MSCA PF 2021: UNIT COSTS

Contributions for recruited researchers Per person-month					Institutional unit contributions Per person-month	
Living allowance	Mobility allowance	Family allowance (if applicable)	Long-term leave allowance (if applicable)	Special needs allowance (if applicable)	Research, training and networking contribution	Management and indirect contribution
EUR 5 080	EUR 600	EUR 660	EUR 5 680 x % covered by the beneficiary	Requested unit x (1/number of months)	EUR 1 000	EUR 650

- Budget pre- calculated by EC, base on unit costs
- 100% financing

# MSCA PF 2021: UNIT COSTS

MSCA	Researcher Unit Cost (person/month)			Institutional Unit Cost (P/M)	
	Living Allowance*	Mobility Allowance	Family Allowance	Research, training and networking	Management and overheads
IF	5.080	600	660	1.000	650
IF ES	4.638,04	600	660	1.000	650
IF 24 months ES	111.312,96	14.400	15.840	24.000	15.600
TOTAL IF 2 years	181.152,96€				

## RESEARCHER UNIT COST

### Living Allowance:

- CCC: country correction factor applies (host country) **91,3**
- Gross EU contribution living allowance (- cuota patronal, - taxes, - S.S...) before taxes!

## INSTITUCIONAL UNIT COST

### Research, training and networking costs:

- Purchase of material, organisation and travel to events, payment of conferences fees, etc.

### Management and overheads:

- Indirect costs for institutions

## MSCA PF 2021: ALLOWANCES NOVELTIES

- **Family Allowance** – increases from 500€ to 660€ - paid during the Project life-time.
- **Long-term allowance** – personnel cost incurred by the beneficiaries in case of researchers' leave, including maternity, paternity, parental, sick or special leave – during the Project life-time.
- **Special needs allowance** – additional costs for the acquisition of special needs items and services for researchers with disabilities (up to 60.000 € per researcher) – during the project life-time.



# MSCA PF 2021: EVOLUTION, NOT REVOLUTION

Unique mobility rule

Eligibility of  
researcher

Bottom up  
+  
Euratom

European and Global  
Fellowships

Worldwide  
secondments up to  
1/3 of the duration

Additional placement  
to the EU/AC non-  
academic organisation  
for 6 months

Increased budget  
categories

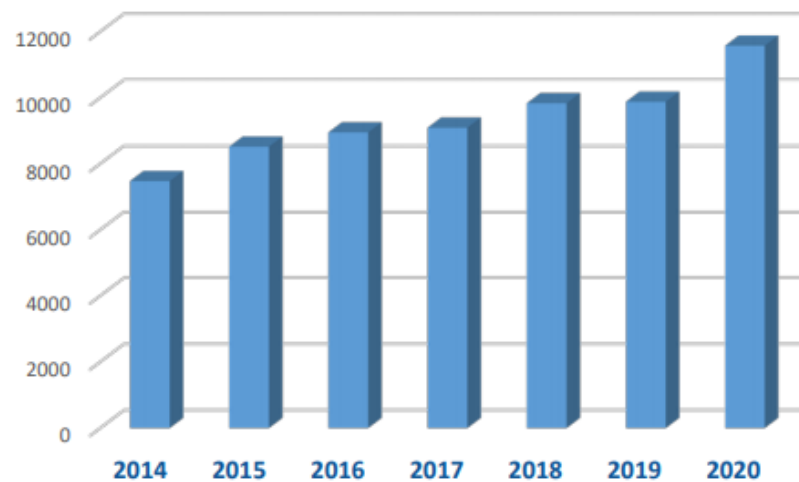
Evaluation criteria

Resubmission  
restriction

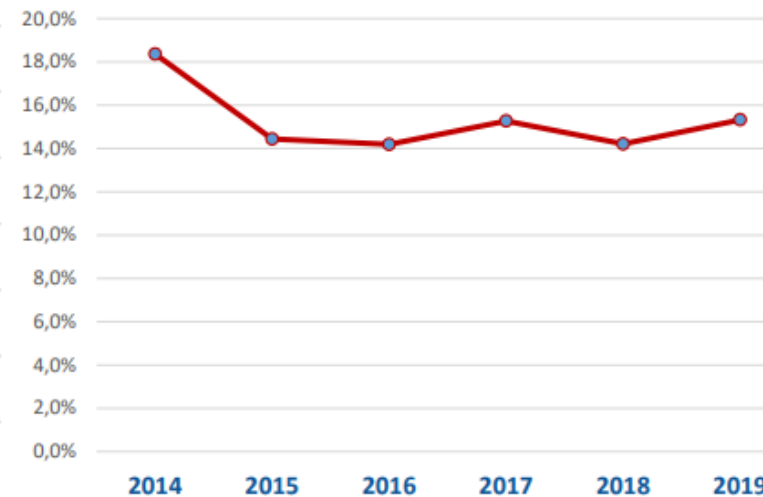
# MSCA PF 2021: SOME STATISTICS MSCA H2020

## IF - summary 2014-2020

IF submission evolution



IF Success rate



	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
<b>Proposals submitted</b>	7472	8514	8946	9089	9830	9875	11573
<b>Proposals evaluated</b>	7409	8380	8829	8957	9676	9709	
<b>Budget (WP) M€</b>	240,5	215	218,71	248	273	296,49	328
<b>GA signed</b>	1361	1210	1253	1368	1375	1488*	
<b>Success rate</b>	<b>18,3%</b>	<b>14,4%</b>	<b>14,2%</b>	<b>15,3%</b>	<b>14,2%</b>	<b>15,3%*</b>	

\*Based on the proposals in GAP

# MSCA PF 2021: SOME STATISTICS MSCA H2020

ACCIÓN	PANEL	NOTA DE CORTE 2014	NOTA DE CORTE 2015	NOTA DE CORTE 2016	NOTA DE CORTE 2017	NOTA DE CORTE 2018	NOTA DE CORTE 2019	NOTA DE CORTE 2020
EF - ST	CHE	89.6	90.8	91.8	91.4	92.8	92.4	93.0
	ECO	86.6	89.8	90.6	89	89.4	91.6	95.0
	ENG	88.6	90.6	91.8	91.4	93.0	92.4	94.0
	ENV	90.4	91.2	92	92.2	92.4	93.4	93.6
	LIF	90.6	92.4	92.2	93	93.6	92.6	94.4
	MAT	90.2	91	91.6	91.6	92.6	91.2	93.8
	PHY	90.4	91.2	91.2	90	90.8	91.4	92.4
	SOC	92.8	92.2	92.8	91	92.6	93.0	93.4
<b>EF - CAR</b>		87.2	91.2	90.8	91.4	91.2	89.4	90
<b>EF- RI</b>		90.8	92.2	92.6	93.4	92.4	93	92.40
<b>EF-SE</b>				80.6	83.6	87.0	82.2	88.60
GF	CHE	93.6	94	93.6	93.2	92.4	92.0	90.2
	ECO	93.2	94	94.4	88.2	93.2	89.4	93.0
	ENG	93.8	93.8	93.6	93	90.0	89.8	92.2
	ENV	93.4	93.6	93.6	92.6	92.6	91.6	91.8
	LIF	91.8	93.8	92	91.4	91.0	91.2	90.8
	MAT	92.2	91.6	88.6	93.2	94.2	94.2	93.8
	PHY	93	93.4	92.6	91.4	90.2	88.4	92.6
	SOC	92.8	93.6	95	92.4	90.4	90.0	90.4



# MSCA PF 2021: EVALUATION PROCEDURE

- Proposals will be evaluated by one of the eight main evaluation panels:

<b>CHE</b> Chemistry	<b>SOC</b> Social Sciences and Humanities	<b>ECO</b> Economic Sciences	<b>ENG</b> Information Science and Engineering	<b>ENV</b> Environmental and Geosciences	<b>LIF</b> Life Sciences	<b>MAT</b> Mathematics	<b>PHY</b> Physics
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- Each panel will establish two ranked lists, one for European and one for Global Postdoctoral Fellowships
- Seals of Excellence will be awarded to applications with a total score **equal to or higher than 85%**, but which cannot be funded due to lack of budget available to the call.

## MSCA PF 2021: EVALUATION PROCEDURE

- Only one proposal per individual researcher can be submitted.
- In case of several proposals involving the same individual researcher, only the last submitted one will be considered eligible.
- If proposals with the same research objectives and work plan are submitted for different researchers, only the first submitted one will be considered eligible

# MSCA PF 2021: OVERVIEW OF THE PROCESS



## MSCA PF 2021: CRITERIA AND EQUAL SCORES

- PART A
- PART B
  - ✓ B1 (10 pages)
  - ✓ B2

Criteria	Weight	Priority (ex.aequo)
Excellence	50%	1
Impact	30%	2
Implementation	20%	3

The priority order for **ex-aequo proposals** will be established as follows:

- Score awarded for the criterion ‘Excellence’
- In case of equality, scores awarded for the criterion ‘Impact’
- If necessary, the gender balance among PF fellows
- If a distinction still cannot be made, the panel may decide to further prioritise by considering other factors, such as:
  - *gender and other diversity aspects in the research activities*
  - *participation of the non-academic sector (including involvement of SMEs)*
  - *geographical diversity*
  - *favourable employment and working conditions*
  - *relationship to the Horizon Europe objectives, in general.*

# MSCA PF 2021: AWARD CRITERIA

EXCELLENCE	IMPACT	QUALITY AND EFFICIENCY OF THE IMPLEMENTATION
Quality and pertinence of <b>the project's research and innovation objectives</b> (and the extent to which they are ambitious, and go beyond the state of the art)	Credibility of the measures to <b>enhance the career perspectives and employability</b> of the researcher and contribution to his/her skills development	Quality and effectiveness of the work plan, assessment of risks and appropriateness of the effort assigned to work packages
<b>Soundness of the proposed methodology</b> (including interdisciplinary approaches, consideration of the gender dimension and other diversity aspects if relevant for the research project, and the quality of open science practices)	Suitability and quality of the measures to maximise <b>expected outcomes and impacts</b> , as set out in the dissemination and exploitation plan, including communication activities	Quality and capacity of the host institutions and participating organisations, including hosting arrangements
Quality of the <b>supervision, training and of the two-way transfer of knowledge</b> between the researcher and the host	The magnitude and importance of the project's contribution to the <b>expected scientific, societal and economic impacts</b>	
Quality and appropriateness of the <b>researcher's professional experience</b> , competences and skills		
50%	30%	20%

# MSCA PF 2021: AWARD CRITERIA NOVELTIES

## Excellence:

### Changes to H2020

- H2020 subcriterion 1.1 split in two parts in HE (now 1.1 and 1.2)
- H2020 subcriteria 1.2 and 1.3 merged into one in HE (now 1.3)

### New in HE:

- Optional placement in non-academic sector assessed under HE criterion 1.3
- Gender dimension and open science to be addressed

## Impact:

### Changes to H2020

- H2020 subcriteria 2.2 and 2.3 merged into one in HE (now 2.2)

### New in HE:

- Addition of subcriterion 2.3: Impact assessed not only in scientific area, but also on societal and economic levels

## Quality and efficiency of the implementation:

### Changes to H2020:

- Re-arranging and merging of three H2020 subcriteria into 2 HE subcriteria

## M S C A P F 2 0 2 1 : I M P A C T S ≠ R E S U L T S

Be sure to avoid a common mistake: **the impact of a project is not the results of the project**. Of course, they contribute to the impact, it but it goes much further than that!

The impact are the **effects** the project's results will have on the scientific community, the European citizens, the European economy, your institution, the companies involved in your consortium...

For example, if the result of your project is a new treatment against cancer, the impacts could be the cure of xxx millions of persons in the next 10 years and the creation of a new company to commercialize your treatment.

Ask yourself what is the **value** your project will bring to the society.

You can base your reflection on this list of impacts:

**Scientific:** definition of a new state-of-the-art in your field, scientific publications, better reputation and increased visibility of the institutions involved, new collaborations...

**Societal:** how your project will affect the quality of life, health, safety of the EU citizens, will contribute to the preservation of the environment, will raise awareness of citizens on a specific problem, change their behaviours...

**Socio-economic:** job/company creation, company growth, leading position in the field in Europe, increase of Europe competitiveness...

**Exploitable:** new products, new techniques, new services provided by the institution, patent...

## RESULTS: OUTPUTS – OUTCOMES – IMPACT

- **Outputs** are immediate results achieved **soon after the completion of** an activity. For example, in a project training locals on human rights, the output might be **“20 community workers trained in basic human rights concepts.”**
- The **outcomes** are the results achieved **after a period of time**. These are the short-term effects of the immediate outputs. If after some time a change occurs because of the project activity, it can be called an outcome. The outcome might be: **“the participants used their training to inform other community members about their human rights.”**
- The **impact** is the **long-term result** that came about because of the activities undertaken in the project. The impact of the project might be that one year later, the **whole community is aware of human rights issues and in the next election the community largely voted against a leader with a history of human rights violations.**



# MSCA PF 2021: RELEVANT CONCEPTS

## Responsible Research and Innovation



### Open Access

- Obligation to provide open access when publishing
- "As Open as Possible, as Closed as Necessary"
- Data Management Plan (DMP) is a deliverable in the first 6 months
- Is an explicit evaluation criteria under Excellence

### Gender

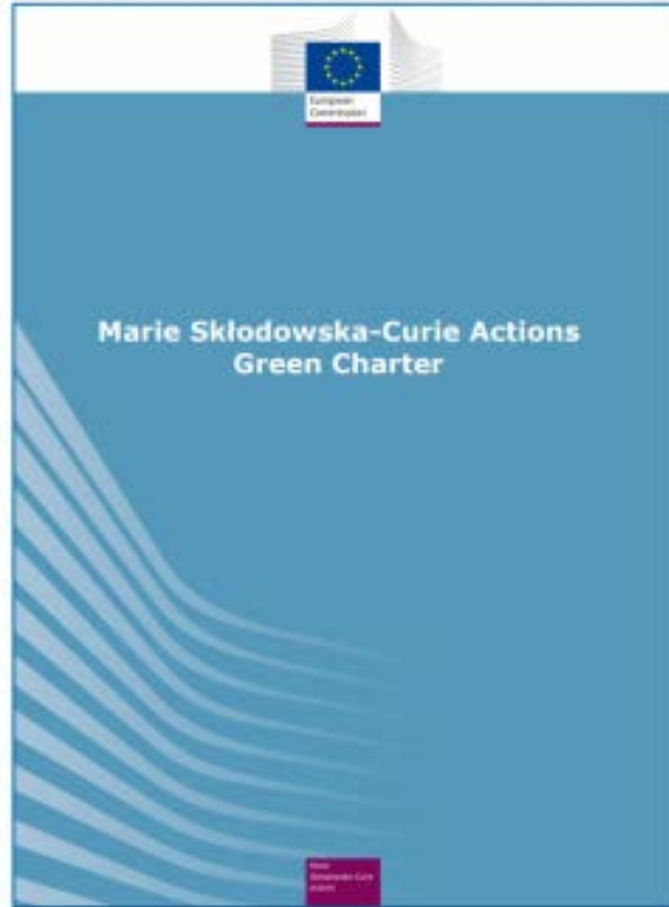
- Is an explicit evaluation criteria under Excellence
- Equal Opportunities among seconded staff and decision-makers/supervisors
- Consider whether and how the gender dimension is relevant to your research (Gender Dimension of Research)
- Consider gender dimension in project management and networking activities

Focus on 6 policies:

1. **Public engagement**
2. **Gender equality**
3. **Science education**
4. **Open access**
5. **Ethics**
6. **Governance**

# MSCA PF 2021: RELEVANT CONCEPTS

## MSCA Green Charter

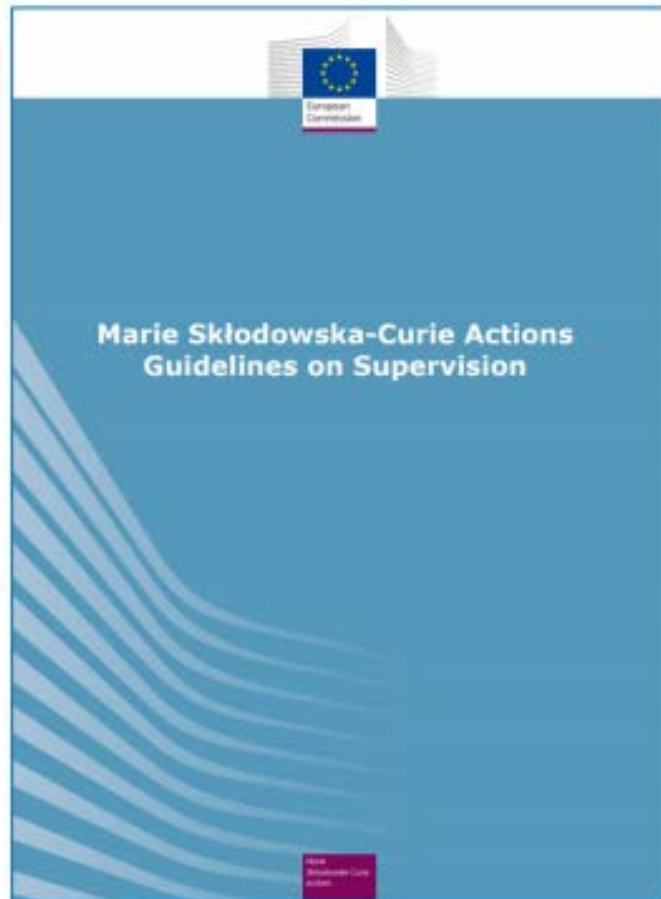


- Code of good practice for MSCA recipients
- Promotes the mainstreaming of environmental considerations in all aspects of project implementation
- Aims to:
  - Reduce the carbon footprint of MSCA projects
  - Raise awareness of environmental issues
  - Promote sustainable research management best practices
- Not an evaluation criteria as such

[Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Green Charter - Publications Office of the EU \(europa.eu\)](https://ec.europa.eu/euro-iss/programmes/msca-2021/publications/msca-green-charter)

# MSCA PF 2021: RELEVANT CONCEPTS

## Guidelines on supervision



- Appropriate level of supervision depends on the career stage of both parties and the expectations of the project
- Supervisors need to be committed and involved for the full duration of the fellowship
- Make sure the supervisor is on board with the career development plans

[Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions guidelines on supervision - Publications Office of the EU \(europa.eu\)](#)

# MSCA PF 2021: GENERAL TIPS FOR PROPOSAL WRITING

## About the project :

- A PF proposal is **not a research proposal** as such, but a **proposal for training in research**
- **Don't be over-ambitious** –it is a common flaw that the work plan is not realistic
- Be precise – less is sometimes more; structure the proposal well
- Try to have the best match researcher/supervisor/Host Institution

## About the researchers' CV:

- CV don't have to be perfect, but the **training should mend any shortcomings**
- The **employability** after the fellowship is key



# MSCA PF 2021: GENERAL TIPS FOR PROPOSAL WRITING

## General Approach:

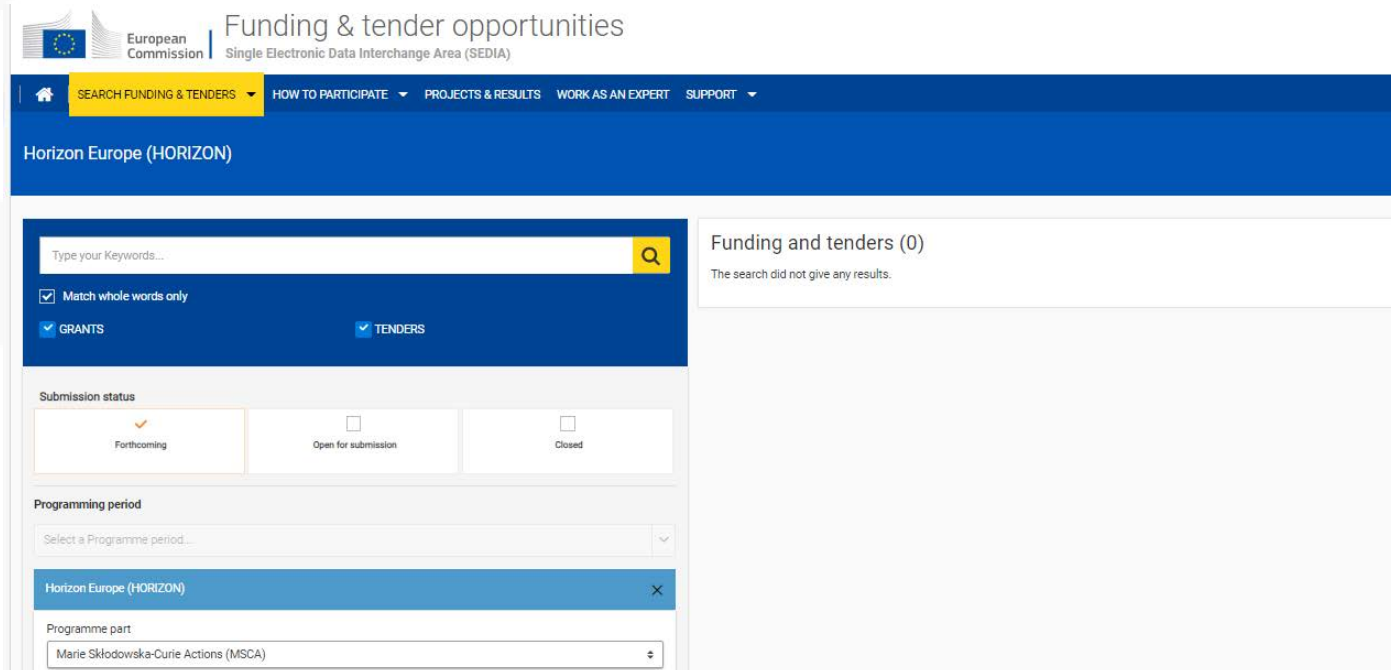
- It is an individual project but a collaborative work.
- **Involve the HOST institution:** European Projects Offices / Transfer of Technology Offices / HR Departments, other colleagues...
- National Contact Points...
- Get familiar with the Funding and Tenders ´ Portal, upload a version, you will be able to rewrite it

## About the evaluation:

- The **weighting of criteria** is 50% -30% -20%. You need to perform at close to 100% on each
- **Follow the template** –the evaluators need to find all key points
- The reviewers may not be specialists in the field
- **“Una imagen vale más que mil palabras”:** use visuals to provide global information at a glance



# MSCA PF 2021: USEFUL LINKS



European Commission | Funding & tender opportunities  
Single Electronic Data Interchange Area (SEDIA)

SEARCH FUNDING & TENDERS | HOW TO PARTICIPATE | PROJECTS & RESULTS | WORK AS AN EXPERT | SUPPORT

Horizon Europe (HORIZON)

Type your Keywords...

Match whole words only

GRANTS  TENDERS

Submission status

Forthcoming  Open for submission  Closed

Programming period

Select a Programme period...

Horizon Europe (HORIZON) X

Programme part

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)

Funding and tenders (0)  
The search did not give any results.

[Search Funding & Tenders \(europa.eu\)](https://europa.eu)





Pilar 1: CIENCIA EXCELENTE

Acciones Marie Skłodowska-Curie (MSCA)

Sesiones informativas y documentación de apoyo Convocatoria Proyectos Posdoctorales MSCA 2021

## [Sesiones informativas y documentación de apoyo Convocatoria Proyectos Posdoctorales MSCA 2021 | Horizonte Europa](#)

 [@horizonteeuropa](https://twitter.com/horizonteeuropa)

### Sesiones informativas y documentación de apoyo Convocatoria Proyectos Posdoctorales MSCA 2021

14 de Mayo de 2021

Acciones Marie Skłodowska-Curie (MSCA)

La Convocatoria Proyectos Posdoctorales (MSCA PF 2021) abrirá el próximo 27/05/2021 con fecha de cierre 15/09/2021 y cuenta con un presupuesto de 243 millones de euros (242 M€ MSCA + 1 M€ Programa Euratom). Estos datos son provisionales a falta de fecha de aprobación del Programa de Trabajo.

La convocatoria MSCA PF 2021 está abierta a personal investigador de cualquier nacionalidad que cuente con un máximo de 8 años de experiencia investigadora y que desee adquirir nuevas habilidades a través de la formación avanzada y la movilidad internacional, interdisciplinar e intersectorial.

Las actividades de difusión y promoción están dirigidas al personal investigador y al personal de supervisión/gestión encargado de apoyar las solicitudes en las instituciones españolas.

Las sesiones informativas son las siguientes:

Convocatoria MSCA PF 2021  Proyectos Posdoctorales	21/05	Webinario nacional. Aspectos generales de la convocatoria
	26/05	Webinario autonómico Andalucía
	01/06	Webinario autonómico País Vasco
	09/06	Webinario autonómico Castilla y León
	17/06	Webinario autonómico Galicia
	22/06	Webinario nacional. Aspectos prácticos preparación propuestas
	Mes de Julio:	Cafés con los Puntos Nacionales de Contacto (actividad abierta a personal de gestión y supervisión centros)

La documentación se irá actualizando a medida que tengan lugar las diferentes sesiones.

Webinario nacional 21/05/2021.

En esta sesión se ofrecerá información sobre las novedades, reglas de participación, aspectos de elegibilidad y demás aspectos generales de esta primera convocatoria MSCA en Horizonte Europa. Se contará igualmente con el testimonio de una investigadora y supervisora en un centro español beneficiaria de una Acción Individual (MSCA-IF) en el anterior programa marco, que nos contarán su experiencia. Finalmente, explicaremos el apoyo que los Puntos Nacionales de Contacto vamos a ofrecer para esta convocatoria en España.

La sesión se realizará en español y en inglés y no está prevista ningún tipo de traducción.

Inscripción: <https://bit.ly/2faXmUE>

Webinario nacional 22/06/2021.

Esta sesión se centrará en aspectos más prácticos relacionados con los diferentes criterios de evaluación y pautas para escribir una propuesta competitiva. Los Puntos Nacionales de Contacto de MSCA serán los encargados de impartir este seminario.

Inscripción: <https://bit.ly/2hmVYtT>

Sesiones "Cafés con tu NCP": 2 fechas a fijar en el mes de julio 2021.

Sesiones informales de resolución de dudas concretas sobre cuestiones predeterminadas abiertas al personal de gestión y supervisión de las instituciones españolas. Impartidas por los Puntos Nacionales de Contacto de MSCA.

# DOCTORAL NETWORKS

## Main objective:

- Respond to **well-identified needs** in various R&I areas (bottom-up);
- Expose the researchers to the **academic and non-academic sectors**;
- Offer training in research-related, as well as competences relevant for **Innovation and long-term employability**;
- Focus on **Research and transferable skills**, (inter-sectoral secondments), **career development plan, supervision, internationalisation/attractiveness**





# DOCTORAL NETWORKS: MODALITIES

## Modalities

Multi-beneficiary Action to set up doctoral programmes, including

- **Industrial Doctorates:** Training in academia and industry, Joint supervision
- **Joint Doctorates:** Joint collaborations leading to a joint/multiple doctoral degree, Joint selection and supervision; pre-agreement for joint degrees required
- **Doctoral Networks (standard):** Training in academia and/or industry



# DOCTORAL NETWORKS: FEATURES

## Size

- Up to 360 person-months (standard) + 180 additional person-months for joint or industrial doctorates (incentive)

## Duration

- **Programme:** max. 48 months
- **Fellowship:** between 3 and 36 months
- **Secondments:** worldwide, up to 1/3 of the fellowship duration
- **Industrial doctorates:** 50% in the non-academic sector; academic and non-academic organisations jointly supervising can be in the same country



# DOCTORAL NETWORKS: Eligible participants

## Who applies?

- **Consortia** of universities, research institutions and research infrastructures, businesses including SMEs, and other socio-economic actors
- At least **three independent legal entities**, each established in a different MS or AC; minimum of 1 beneficiary from a MS (on top of this minimum, any entity from any third country can join; no minimum for associated partners)



# DOCTORAL NETWORKS: Eligible participants



## EU COUNTRIES

- Member States (MS) including their outermost regions
- The Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs) linked to the MS.



## NON-EU COUNTRIES

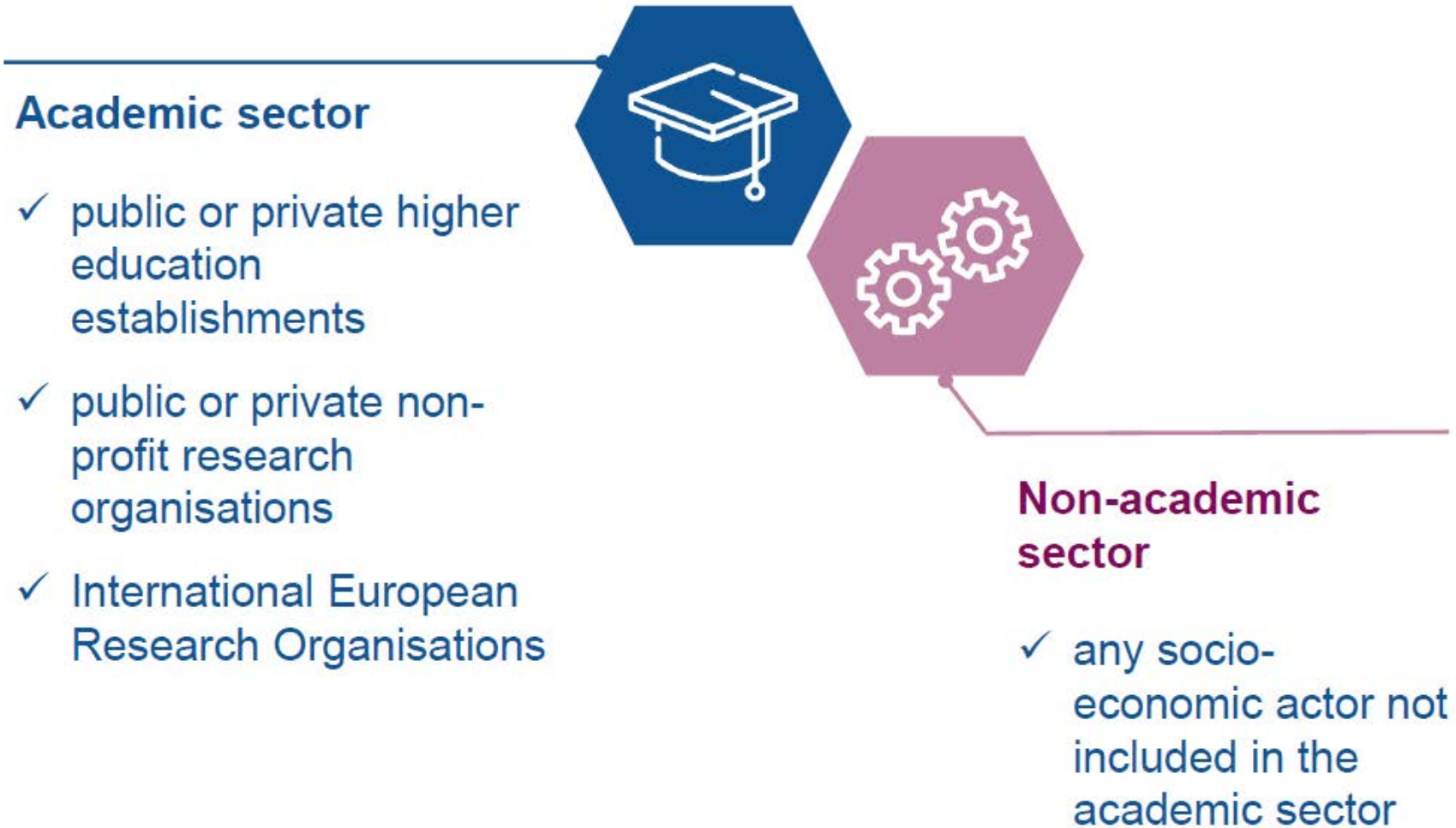
- Countries associated to Horizon Europe (AC)
- Low and middle income countries: See [HE Programme Guide](#).
- Other countries when announced in the call or exceptionally if their participation is essential



## SPECIFIC CASES

- Affiliated entities established in countries eligible for funding.
- EU bodies
- International organisations (IO):
  - International European research organisations are eligible for funding.
  - **Other IO are not eligible (only exceptionally if participation is essential)**
  - **IO in a MS or AC are eligible for funding for Training and mobility actions and when announced in the call conditions**

# DOCTORAL NETWORKS: Eligible participants



## DOCTORAL NETWORKS: Eligible participants

- **All beneficiaries must recruit at least one doctoral candidate.** They are required to host at their premises and supervise recruited researchers, or use associated partners linked to them to do so
- **Not more than 40.0% of the EU contribution may be allocated to beneficiaries in the same country or to a single international organisation.**



## DOCTORAL NETWORKS: Eligible researchers

- Supported researchers must be **doctoral candidates** (not already in possession of a doctoral degree at the date of recruitment)
- Researchers must be **enrolled in a doctoral programme**, in at least 1 EU Member State/Associated Country (at least 2 for Joint Doctorates)
- **Any nationality**
- **Mobility rule:** must not have resided or carried out main activity in the country of the recruiting beneficiary for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately before their recruitment date



# DOCTORAL NETWORKS

Main differences compared to H2020-ITNs:

- **Size of Doctoral Networks:** 360 pm; Industrial Doctorates/Joint Doctorates: up to 540 pm
- **All beneficiaries must recruit** at least one researcher
- Fellow: **only doctoral candidates**
- Secondments: up to 1/3
- Industrial doctorates: 50% in non-academic sector
- **Resubmission restrictions** applying as of 2022 for applications receiving a score below 80%





# MSCA DN 2021: UNIT COSTS

Contributions for recruited researchers Per person-month					Institutional unit contributions Per person-month	
Living allowance	Mobility allowance	Family allowance (if applicable)	Long-term leave allowance (if applicable)	Special needs allowance (if applicable)	Research, training and networking contribution	Management and indirect contribution
EUR 3 400	EUR 600	EUR 660	EUR 4 000 x % covered by the beneficiary	Requested unit x (1/number of months)	EUR 1 600	EUR 1 200

- Budget pre- calculated by EC, base on unit costs
- 100% financing

## MSCA DN 2021: NOVELTIES

### Novelties of HE: reviewed and new cost categories

A living allowance to cover personnel costs for the employment of researchers with full social security coverage.

A mobility allowance to cover additional, private mobility-related costs, e.g. travel and accommodation costs.

**NEW**

A family allowance to contribute to mobility-related costs of researchers with family obligations which can be granted during the project.

**NEW**

A long-term leave allowance to cover personnel costs incurred by the beneficiaries in case of the researchers' leave, including maternity, paternity, parental, sick or special leave.

**NEW**

A special needs allowance to contribute to the additional costs for the acquisition of special needs items and services for researchers with disabilities, e.g. assistance by third persons, adaptation of work environment, additional travel/transportation costs.

## MSCA DN 2021: NOVELTIES

Novelties of HE: reviewed and new cost categories

**Each beneficiary must recruit each eligible doctoral candidate under an employment contract or equivalent direct contract with full social security coverage.**

**When an employment contract cannot be provided (due to national legislation), the beneficiary may exceptionally recruit the doctoral candidate under a 'fixed-amount fellowship'. In this case, the living allowance will be halved and the beneficiary must ensure that the doctoral candidate enjoys minimum social security coverage .**

**Each beneficiary must pay the family and mobility allowances to the recruited fellow.**

**If a fellow has or acquires family obligations during the action duration, the family allowance must be paid to him/her as well.**

**NEW**

## MSCA DN 2021: NOVELTIES

Novelties of HE: reviewed and new cost categories

NEW

The long-term leave allowance contributes to the personnel costs incurred by the beneficiaries in case of the researchers' leave, including maternity, paternity, parental, sick or special leave, longer than 30 consecutive days. .

NEW

The special needs allowance contributes to the additional costs for the acquisition of special needs items and services for researchers with disabilities.

Both long-term leave and special needs allowances should be requested when the need arises.

# MSCA DN 2021: OVERVIEW OF THE PROCESS



## MSCA DN 2021: CRITERIA AND EQUAL SCORES

- PART A
- PART B
  - ✓ B1 (30 pages)
  - ✓ B2

Criteria	Weight	Priority (ex.aequo)
Excellence	50%	1
Impact	30%	2
Implementation	20%	3

The priority order for **ex-aequo proposals** will be established as follows:

- Score awarded for the criterion ‘Excellence’
- In case of equality, scores awarded for the criterion ‘Impact’
- If necessary, the gender balance among PF fellows
- If a distinction still cannot be made, the panel may decide to further prioritise by considering other factors, such as:
  - *gender and other diversity aspects in the research activities*
  - *participation of the non-academic sector (including involvement of SMEs)*
  - *geographical diversity*
  - *favourable employment and working conditions*
  - *relationship to the Horizon Europe objectives, in general.*

# MSCA PF 2021: AWARD CRITERIA

EXCELLENCE	IMPACT	QUALITY AND EFFICIENCY OF THE IMPLEMENTATION
Quality and pertinence of the project's research and innovation objectives	Contribution to structuring doctoral training at European level and strengthening European innovation capacity	Quality and effectiveness of the work plan, assessment of risks, and appropriateness of the effort assigned to work packages
Soundness of the proposed methodology	Credibility of the measures to enhance the <b>career perspectives of researchers</b> and contribution to their skills development	Quality, capacity and role of each participant, including hosting arrangements and extent to which the consortium as a whole brings together the necessary expertise
Quality and credibility of the training programme	Suitability and quality of the measures to maximise expected <b>outcomes and impacts</b> , as set out in the dissemination and exploitation plan, including communication activities	
Quality of the supervision	The magnitude and importance of the project's contribution to the expected scientific, societal and economic impacts	
50%	30%	20%

## MSCA PF 2021: AWARD CRITERIA

‘Excellence’, ‘Impact’ and ‘Quality and efficiency of the implementation’:

- Each criterion includes the ‘aspects to be taken into account’. The same aspect is not included in different criteria, so it is not assessed twice.
- Open Science practices are assessed as part of the scientific methodology in the excellence criterion.

### **Excellence: main novelties**

#### 1.2 Soundness of the proposed methodology

- Gender dimension and diversity aspects
- Open science practices
- Research data management and management of other research outputs



# MSCA PF 2021: AWARD CRITERIA

## Impact: main novelties

2.3 Suitability and quality of the measures to maximise expected outcomes and impacts, as set out in the dissemination and exploitation plan, including communication activities

- Plan for the dissemination and exploitation activities, including communication activities
- Strategy for the management of intellectual property, foreseen protection measures

2.4 The magnitude and importance of the project's contribution to the expected scientific, societal and economic impacts (project's pathways towards impact)

- Expected scientific impact(s)
- Expected economic/technological impact(s)
- Expected societal impact(s)

# MSCA PF 2021: AWARD CRITERIA

## Quality and efficiency of the implementation: main novelties

3.1 Quality and effectiveness of the work plan, assessment of risks and appropriateness of the effort assigned to work packages

- Management structures not assessed anymore
- Risk management at consortium level
- Gender aspects (both at the level of recruitment and that of decision-making within the action)
- Environmental aspects in light of the MSCA Green Charter

3.2 Quality, capacity and role of each participant, including hosting arrangements and extent to which the consortium as a whole brings together the necessary expertise

- Operational capacity fully assessed under criterion 3.2

# MSCA DN 2021: EVALUATION PROCESS

## No major changes compared to H2020:

- use of external experts
- SEP platform
- Three evaluation criteria, scored out of 5, using decimals
- Overall threshold of 70% (cf. resubmissions in 2022)

## Establishment of ranking lists NEW:

- All modes assessed and ranked together under each scientific panel no more dedicated budget for ID/JD

## MSCA DN 2021/22: TIMELINE

Call ID	Opens	Closes	Budget
TMA-MSCA-DN-2021	22/06/2021	16/11/2021	402,5M€



Call ID	Opens	Closes	Budget
TMA-MSCA-DN-2022	3/05/2022	15/11/2022	427,28M€

**PROVISIONAL INFORMATION SUBJECT TO CHANGES**

# MSCA DN 2021: PROPOSAL SUBMISSION



## NEW FIELDS IN PART A

- Researchers table – needed to follow up researchers careers (HE indicator)
- Role of participating organisation
- Self-declaration on gender equality plan



## FIELDS MOVED FROM PART B TO PART A

- Ethics description of the self-assessment
- Security questionnaire (**NEW!** in all HE proposals)



## NEW IN PART B

- Glossary of terms.
- Consistency on the use of terminology is ensured in all project phases (from WP to proposal and reporting)
- Extensive explanations on what exactly should be included in each section.

# MSCA DN 2021: PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

## Gender Equality Plans

[https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/strategy/gender-equality-research-and-innovation\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/strategy/gender-equality-research-and-innovation_en)

Corporate eligibility criterion in Horizon Europe (not specific to MSCA)

Applicable to public bodies, research organisations and higher education establishments from EU Member States and Horizon Europe Associated Countries

Minimum process-related requirements for publication, dedicated resources, data collection & monitoring, and training

Transition/grace period before full enforcement for calls with deadlines in 2022

# MSCA DN 2021: PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

## DN specificities of Part A proposal template:

- **3 submission links**, 1 per modality (standard DN, Industrial Doctorates, Joint Doctorates);
- **Associated partners** register in the tool like beneficiaries (with a validated or temporary PIC);
- **Scientific panel and keywords selection** (similar to H2020, guidance on REA website);
- **Unit-cost budget table**;

# MSCA DN 2021: PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

## DN specificities of Part B proposal template:

### Part B1:

- Follows the **award criteria**;
- **Same page-limit** as in H2020;
- **Instructions** included in the template;
- **Harmonised** with RIA/IA corporate template whenever possible.

### Part B2:

- **Description of participants** (similar to H2020);
- **Letters of commitment** (templates similar to H2020);



## Policy and horizontal considerations



**Open Science across the programme**



**Gender dimension in R&I content**



**Pathway to impact**



**Measures to maximise impact**



**Do no significant harm principle (DNSH)**

**These aspects must normally be considered in all Horizon Europe calls (unless explicitly mentioned in the topic description).**



# Open Science across the programme

## Open Science

Open science is an approach based on open cooperative work and systematic sharing of knowledge and tools as early and widely as possible in the process. Including active engagement of society

**Mandatory immediate Open Access to publications:** beneficiaries must retain sufficient IPRs to comply with open access requirements;

**Data sharing as 'open as possible, as closed as necessary':** mandatory Data Management Plan for FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable) research data

- Work Programmes may incentivize or oblige to adhere to **open science practices** such as involvement of citizens, or to use the **European Open Science Cloud**
- Assessment of open science practices through the **excellence award criteria** for proposal evaluation. Under **quality of participants** previous experience on open sciences practices will be evaluated positively.
- Dedicated support to **open science policy actions**
- **Open Research Europe** publishing platform



# Gender dimension in R&I content

## Gender Dimension

Addressing the gender dimension in research and innovation entails taking into account sex and gender in the whole research & innovation process.

The **integration of the gender dimension** into R&I content is **mandatory**, unless it is explicitly mentioned in the topic description

## Why is gender dimension important?

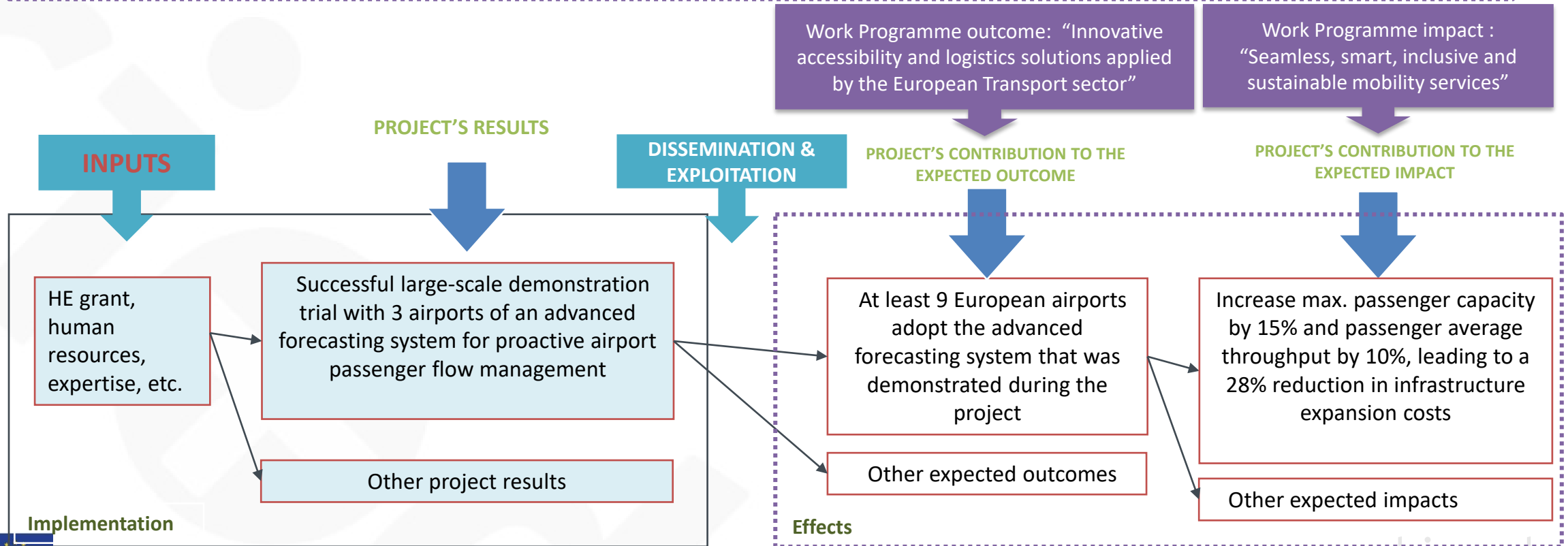
- Why do we observe differences between women and men in infection levels and mortality rates in the COVID-19 pandemic?
- Does it make sense to study cardiovascular diseases only on male animals and on men, or osteoporosis only on women?
- Does it make sense to design car safety equipment only on the basis of male body standards?
- Is it responsible to develop AI products that spread gender and racial biases due to a lack of diversity in the data used in training AI applications?
- Is it normal that household travel surveys, and thus mobility analysis and transport planning, underrate trips performed as part of caring work?
- Did you know that pheromones given off by men experimenters, but not women, induce a stress response in laboratory mice sufficient to trigger pain relief?
- And did you know that climate change is affecting sex determination in a number of marine species and that certain populations are now at risk of extinction?



# Describing the impact of your proposal

Project's pathway towards impact

...by thinking about the specific contribution the project can make to the expected outcomes and impacts set out in the Work Programme.





## Measures to maximise impact

Dissemination,  
exploitation and  
communication

To include a draft plan in proposal is an admissibility condition, unless the work programme topic explicitly states otherwise.

All measures should be **proportionate** to the scale of the project, and should contain **concrete actions** to be implemented both **during and after** the end of the project

### Elements of the D&E&C plan

- **Planned measures** to maximise the impact of projects
- **Target groups** (e.g. scientific community, end users, financial actors, public at large) and **proposed channels** to interact
- **Communication measures** for promoting the project and its findings throughout the full lifespan of the project
- **Policy feedback** measures to contribute to policy shaping and supporting the implementation of new policy initiatives and decisions
- Follow-up plan to foster **exploitation/uptake** of the results
  - Comprehensive and feasible strategy for the **management of the intellectual property** (the provision of a results ownership list is mandatory at the end of the project)
  - If exploitation is expected primarily in non-associated third countries, give a convincing justification that this is still in the Union's interest.



# Do no significant harm principle (DNSH)

## European Green Deal

In line with the European Green Deal objectives, the research and innovation activities should not make a significant harm to any of the six environmental objectives (EU Taxonomy Regulation)

The **DNSH principle** needs to be taken into consideration in the **scientific methodology** and **impact** of the project. However, compliance is not mandatory unless explicitly stated.

The six environmental objectives to which no significant harm should be done:



**Climate change mitigation**



**Sustainable use & protection of water & marine resources**



**Pollution prevention & control**



**Climate change adaptation**



**Transition to a circular economy**



**Protection and restoration of biodiversity & ecosystems**

## MSCA DN 2021: USEFUL LINKS

### Marie Curie Actions Website

<http://ec.europa.eu/mariecurieactions>

### Net4mobility+ Project

<http://www.net4mobilityplus.eu>

### Euraxess Portal (vacancies, more information)

<https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/>

 [marie.curie.actions](https://www.facebook.com/marie.curie.actions)

 [@MSCActions](https://twitter.com/MSCActions)

## MSCA STAFF EXCHANGES

MSCA Staff Exchanges promote innovative **international, inter-sectoral and interdisciplinary collaboration** in research and innovation through exchanging staff and **sharing knowledge and ideas** at all stages of the innovation chain.

The scheme fosters a shared culture of research and innovation that welcomes and rewards **creativity and entrepreneurship** and helps turn ideas into innovative products, services or processes. It is open to **research, technical, administrative and managerial staff**.

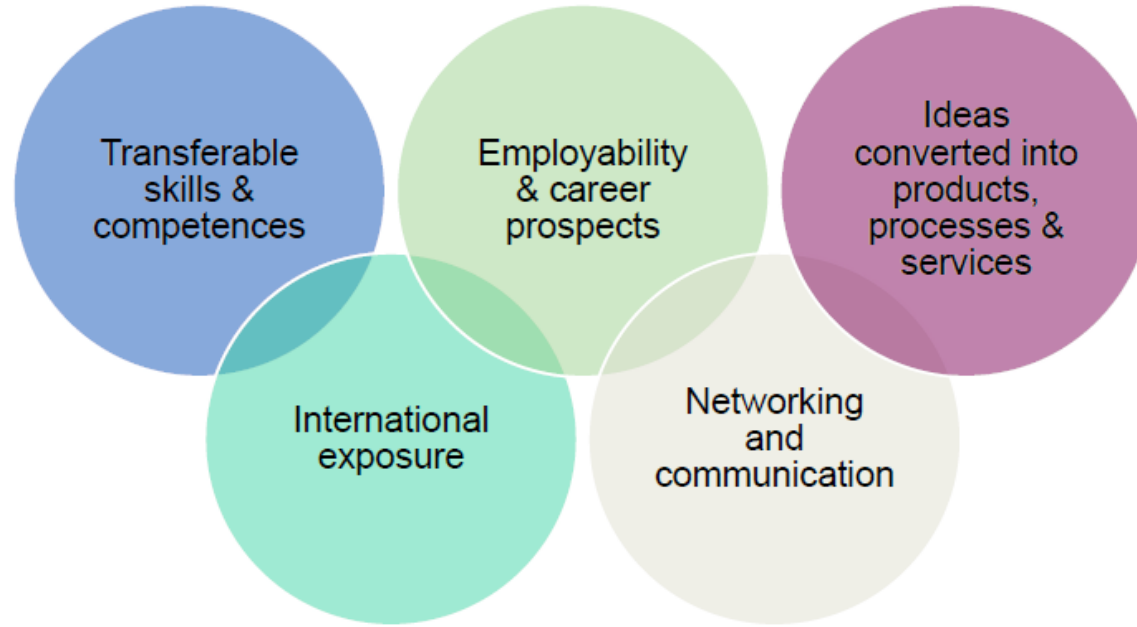


## MSCA Staff Exchanges (1/2)

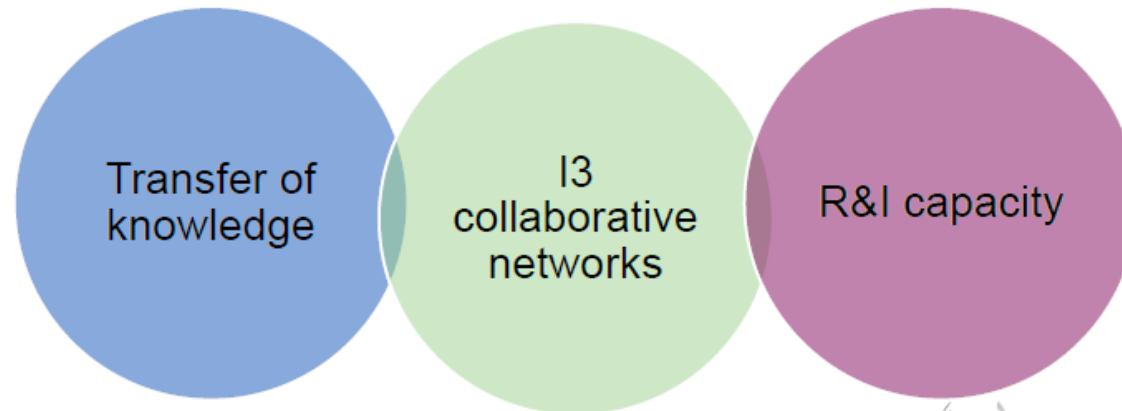
- **Most international action** under MSCA
- Continue supporting staff exchanges, **open to any type of staff contributing to research activities** (researchers, administrative, technicians, infrastructure operators,...)
- **International, intersectoral, interdisciplinary** secondments
- Emphasis on the **added-value of the collaboration** itself
- Lean and flexible tool to support **collaborative R&I projects**
- **4 years** for project implementation (no change)
- Interdisciplinary secondments possible within Europe (max 1/3 of project's person-months)
- Number of person-months reduced to 360 (to make projects more manageable)
- **Calls**
  - ❖ **2021:** 7 Oct 2021 - 9 Mar 2022
  - ❖ **2022:** 6 Oct 2022 – 8 Mar 2023

# MSCA STAFF EXCHANGES OUTCOMES

Outcome for staff members



Outcome for organisations



# MSCA Staff Exchanges (2/2)

- Unit contributions

MSCA Staff Exchanges	Contributions for seconded staff members per person-month		Institutional contributions per person-month	
	Top-up allowance	Special needs allowance (if applicable)	Research, training and networking contributions	Management and indirect contributions
	EUR 2 300	requested unit <sup>58</sup> x (1/number of months)	EUR 1 300	EUR 1 000

<sup>58</sup> The pre-defined categories are as follows: EUR 3 000, EUR 4 500, EUR 6 000, EUR 9 500, EUR 13 000, EUR 18 500, EUR 27 500, EUR 35 500, EUR 47 500 and EUR 60 000.

# ¡Muchas gracias!

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